



PHYSICS ACADEMY OF THE NORTH EAST

GUWAHATI, ASSAM, INDIA
<https://www.paneindia.org/>

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Minutes of the PANE (Executive Body) meeting, held on 11th February, 2026.

Members present: Prof. N. Nimai Singh, Dr. Samrat Dey, Dr. Ranjan Kalita, Dr. Debajyoti Dutta, Dr. Yajnya Sapkota, Prof. Kushal Kalita, Dr. Debasish Borah, Dr. Abhijeet Das, Dr. Yubaraj Sharma, Dr. Rupak Mukherjee, Dr. Lalthakimi Zadeng, Dr. Nabendu Kr. Deb

Members absent:, Dr. Ratan Das, Dr. Manos Pratim Chakrapani Kalita, Prof. Pradip Kumar Kalita, Prof. Thongam Gomti Devi, Dr. Shanta Singh Naorem, Prof. Syed Arshad Hussain, Mr. Himanshu Bora

Also present: Prof. Heremba Bailung, Dr. Kalyan Dey

The meeting was held in online mode on the Google Meet platform. The chairman, Prof. Kushal Kalita (Prof. Kushal Kalita chaired the meeting at the outset, as the President, Prof. N. Nimai Singh, joined slightly late due to unavoidable circumstances), called the meeting to order and welcomed the members. He asked Dr. Samrat Dey, the General Secretary, to take up the matters on the agenda. Dr. Dey then placed the agenda items serially for detailed discussions by the members.

PANE(EB):2026:11FEB:01: Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 30 December 2025
– Dr. Samrat Dey

Dr. Samrat Dey presented the minutes of the PANE (Executive Body) meeting which was held on 30th December, 2025. Since the minutes had been circulated among the members before the meeting, the minutes were presented in brief, and the gathering approved the minutes of the meetings.

PANE(EB):2026:11FEB:02: Matters arising out of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 30 December 2025 – Dr. Samrat Dey

Dr. Dey reaffirmed the members that PANE would soon approach various governmental agencies and education ministries to explore funding opportunities aimed at strengthening and sustaining its activities.

Dr. Sapkota informed the members that he has written to Heads of Departments and faculty members of various higher educational institutions offering postgraduate degrees in Physics, requesting them to inform students about the opportunity to apply for Life Membership of PANE.

PANE(EB):2026:11FEB:03: 28th Foundation Day of PANE and preparations thereof – Dr. Samrat Dey

Dr. Dey proposed that, in consultation with the President and the Executive President, the 28th Foundation Day celebration of PANE be organised at Gauhati University. This was also in line with the suggestion of Dr. Debasish Bora that hosting the programme outside IIT Guwahati would be beneficial to a wider academic audience. Dr. Dey further proposed that Prof. Bhupendra Nath Goswami be invited as the speaker for the occasion. The proposals were unanimously accepted.

PANE(EB):2026:11FEB:04: Recommendation of the sub-committee for drafting the rules and procedures for selection of, and proposing the constitution of the advisory committee for PANE Young Scientist Award and PANE Woman Scientist Award – Dr. Samrat Dey

Recommendations of the sub-committee were placed before the members. The rules and procedures are as follows:

The PANE Young Scientist Award and the PANE Woman Scientist Award are instituted to recognise outstanding contributions made by young scientists and women scientists who are either born in the North-Eastern region of India, or born outside the North-Eastern region but continuously engaged in scientific work in the Northeast.

Each award shall consist of a citation, a plaque and a cash award of Rs. 10,000/-.

A nominee must fulfil the following conditions:

- 1. The nominee shall have achieved a high level of excellence in the field of Physics.*
- 2. For the PANE Young Scientist Award, the nominee's age shall not exceed 40 years as on the prescribed cut-off date.*
- 3. For the PANE Woman Scientist Award, the nominee shall be a woman scientist.*
- 4. The nominee shall have been continuously engaged in research and/or innovation for at least five years.*
- 5. The nominee has published original research articles in reputed national and/or international journals, and/or authored quality books in the relevant field of research.*
- 6. The nominee was either born in the North-Eastern region, or born outside the North-Eastern region but has been engaged in scientific work in the Northeast continuously for at least five years.*

Nomination and Forwarding Rules:

- 1. Nominations may be self-nominated or nominated by others, subject to forwarding as specified in point 2.*
- 2. Every nomination shall be duly forwarded and signed by any one of the following:*
 - Head of a Higher Educational Institution or Research Institute where the nominee is presently working or has worked earlier; or*
 - A Fellow of NASI, INSA, IASc, or PANE.*
- 3. Each nomination shall include:*
 - Name, institutional affiliation, gender, and date of birth supported by a scanned copy of valid proof of date of birth.*
 - Category of award for which the nomination is made (PANE Young Scientist Award / PANE Woman Scientist Award).*
 - A summary not exceeding 500 words, clearly outlining the nominee's major contributions.*
 - A chronological description of contributions, with year-wise details.*
 - Details of major achievements, awards, and fellowships.*
 - A list of publications of original research articles.*
 - A list of published books in the relevant field of research, if any.*
 - Details of research project grants received from various funding agencies.*
 - Names and contact details of two eminent referees.*
 - Complete contact details of the nominee, including postal address, email address, and contact number.*
 - A summary of the most significant work of the nominee on which the recommendation is based.*
 - A scanned copy of the forwarding letter, as specified under point 2 above.*

The completed nomination shall be submitted to the General Secretary, PANE, through the prescribed email address, within the stipulated time frame.

Selection Procedure:

- An Advisory Committee of 5 to 7 members, duly approved by the Executive Body of PANE and comprising at least two Fellows of PANE and one woman member, shall examine all valid nominations. Members of the Advisory Committee shall not be nominees, in order to avoid any conflict of interest.*
- The Advisory Committee shall recommend suitable candidates to the Executive Body of PANE for final approval.*

The constitution of the advisory committee are as follows:

Prof. Dhruva Jyoti Saikia, Prof. Sudhakar Panda, Prof. Angom Dilip Kumar Singh, Prof. Nilakshi Das, Prof. Atri Deshamukhya, Prof. Gazi Ameen Ahmed

The recommendations were unanimously accepted.

PANE(EB):2026:11FEB:05: Updates on linking of the PANE PAN Card with the PANE bank account, KYC updation, and opening of a new Fixed Deposit account as per “PANE(EB):2025:4AUG:08” – Dr. Ranjan Kalita

The members were informed that the PANE PAN card has been successfully linked with the PANE bank account and that the KYC updation process is underway. A new Fixed Deposit account of Rs. 1,00,000/- has been opened in accordance with Resolution PANE(EB):2025:4AUG:08.

PANE(EB):2026:11FEB:06: Briefing on the the preparation of 16th Regular PANE Conference (RPC) to be held at Bodoland University – Prof. Heremba Bailung

Prof. Heremba Bailung informed the Executive Body that the Department of Physics, Bodoland University, is preparing to organise the 16th Regular PANE Conference, with full encouragement from the Vice Chancellor. He mentioned that the flyer/brochure would be prepared soon after finalising the Convener and Organising Committee. Dr. Samrat Dey suggested that at least two Executive Body members be included in the Organising Committee and proposed the names of: Dr. Debajyoti Dutta, Dr. Yajnya Sapkota, Dr. Shanta Singh Naorem. The proposal was accepted. Dr. S. Dey further informed that Dr. Naorem could provide guidance regarding funding opportunities, as successfully availed during the previous conference. It was also suggested by the General Secretary that the Conference articles may be considered for publication in books such as Springer Conference Proceedings or journals like Interactions, which publish conference articles without publication charges. He also suggested that the Conference Registration Fees for PANE Life Members may be charged at concessional rates, as was done in the last two conferences. The suggestions were appreciated by all members.

PANE(EB):2026:11FEB:07: Augmentation of the Editorial Board of PJP by inclusion of enthusiastic young members possessing technical expertise along with good research background – Dr. Debasish Borah

Dr. Debasish Borah suggested that technical support would be required for handling PJP articles. Dr. Debajyoti Dutta proposed that Dr. Yajnya Sapkota and Dr. Pritam Das be incorporated for this purpose. It was suggested that both of them can be included in the Editorial Board as technical editors. The proposal was unanimously accepted.

PANE(EB):2026:11FEB:08: Any other matter (with the permission of the chair)

Dr. Nabendu Kr. Deb informed the members about the preparation of the upcoming PANE newsletter. Dr. Samrat Dey informed the members that a PANE delegation met the Education Minister of Assam and apprised him of the various initiatives undertaken by PANE. An application was submitted seeking allotment of space for a permanent PANE office. The Minister appreciated PANE's efforts and suggested approaching Gauhati University for possible office. Accordingly, a PANE delegation met the Vice Chancellor of Gauhati University and submitted an application. The Vice Chancellor assured that the matter would be placed before the appropriate forum. Prof. N. Nimai Singh appreciated the initiative and suggested that, in case of a positive response from Gauhati University, PANE should execute a formal MoU with the University. The proposal was unanimously supported.

Prof. Singh also expressed hope that the selection process for the PANE Young Scientist Award 2026 and the PANE Woman Scientist Award 2026 would be fair and transparent. Dr. Dey assured the members that the Advisory Committee, which also includes members from outside the Northeast (details already shared with the Executive Body), had been constituted after due consultation in the sub-committee formed for that purpose and should ensure a just and credible selection process.

Prof. Singh enquired about the detailed plan for the upcoming Foundation Day celebration. Dr. Dey briefed the members accordingly.

The President, Prof. N. Nimai Singh and the General Secretary, Dr. Samrat Dey, thanked all the members who were present in the meeting. The meeting was then adjourned.

Dr. Samrat Dey
General Secretary, PANE

Copy to

1. All the executive board members of PANE.
2. Prof. Heremba Bailung and Dr. Kalyan Dey