

Indian National Young Academy of Science (INYAS)

1. It is widely recognized that India has a very large proportion of young people. Sometimes called the 'demographic dividend', this offers us great potential for development, especially in the context of international competition. This is as true in science as in any other domain.
2. Because India has established a number of new institutes such as IISERs, new IITs and several new Universities, we are in the happy situation of having a very large number of outstanding young scientists (in the age group 30-45 years), more than ever before. These young scientists have no mechanism to raise funds, implement programmes that are of interest to them, interact with and help each other and express their opinion about matters that concern them.
3. In recognition of similar situations, there is a world-wide effort to establish 'Young Academies'. There is now a Global Young Academy (GYA) and there are national young academies in over 22 countries, including Germany, Denmark, Israel, Malaysia, Egypt, Pakistan, Sri Lanka etc.
4. The President of INSA constituted a committee with Rajesh Gopakumar, FNA as chair and Ranjini Bandyopadhyay (RRI, Bangalore) and Anindita Bhadra (IISER- Kolkata) as members, to advise INSA on if and how we should establish a young academy in India. This committee has submitted a report. Rajesh Gopakumar also made a presentation to the officers of INSA.
5. In this backdrop the Council of INSA which met on 20th December, 2014, has approved the establishment of an academy of young scientists in India, as an activity of INSA. An outline of the approved procedures is given below.
6. The young academy will be called 'Indian National Young Academy of Science (INYAS)'.
7. Twenty new members, not exceeding the age of 40 years at the time of induction, shall be inducted as members of INYAS each year.
8. Each person may remain a member for a fixed period of 5 years; thus at equilibrium the INYAS will have 100 members.
9. The first 20 members will be selected by the council of INSA; this will be done by calling for applications from among INSA Young Scientist awardees up to the age of 40 years. A committee consisting of the President, six Vice-Presidents and Executive Director will select 20 members among the applicants for final approval by the council.

10. Subsequently the INYAS will evolve their own procedures of adding new members each year.
11. INSA will allocate Rs. 10 lakh per year for the organizational activities of INYAS.
12. INSA will provide modest office space and administrative assistance to INYAS. Additional funding may be provided for specific programmes that fall within the broad activities of INSA.
13. Members of INYAS shall elect a 7 member working group, from among their members (with one chair and 6 members) that will run the day-to-day activities of INYAS.
14. INSA President, the six Vice-Presidents and Executive Director shall act as an Advisory Board for INYAS.
15. An annual report of the activities of INYAS, including utilization of funds, shall be presented to the council of INSA every year in the December council meeting.
16. It is proposed that INYAS will come into existence in the year 2015.