

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

(2004-2006)

NEWS LETTER – August 2006

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Members

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Prof. D. C. Nath

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Dr. A. Subbiah

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Prof. Sudesh Nangia

Co-Opted

Prof. K. Srinivasan

Mr. S. K. Das

Dear Fellow Members,

WISH YOU ALL A VERY HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS DUSSEERA and DEEPAWALI

I am pleased to inform you that the 28th Annual Conference of IASP was held successfully at the Center for Development Studies, Trivandrum during 7th through 9th June 2006. I would like to extend information on all the important matters and events happened since my last Newsletter in March 2006.

- ❖ The EC Meeting was held at Ruby Arena Hotel, on 6th June at 6.30 pm. The minutes of the meeting are enclosed herewith.
- ❖ The General Body Meeting was held at the Center for Development Studies, Trivandrum on 8th at 5.30 pm. The minutes of the GBM are also attached.
- ❖ The Annual Report presented by the General Secretary in the GBM is also attached.
- ❖ A summary of proceedings of the Conference is attached.

☐ Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting

The following members attended the meeting

- Prof. S.C. Gulati, President.
- Mr. C.V.S. Prasad, General Secretary
- Prof. Pradeep Mishra, Treasurer
- Prof Vivekananda Murty
- Prof. C.P Prakasam
- Prof. Audinarayana
- Prof. A. Subbiah
- Prof K.K. Singh
- Prof. D.C. Nath
- Prof. Usha Ram
- Prof K Srinivasan
- Prof. Sudesh Nangia

Prof .G Rama Rao and Mr. S K Das communicated their inability to attend the meeting.

The President chaired the meeting and welcomed the members present. The agenda deliberated upon in the meeting and decisions taken are summarized below:

Agenda:

Item-1: Confirmation of the minutes of the last EC Meeting:

The minutes of the last EC Meeting were approved.

Item-2: General Secretary's Annual Report for 2005-06:

The Annual Report presented by the General Secretary was approved for presentation in the General Body Meeting.

Item-3: Presentation of the Balance Sheets ending 31-03- 2005 and 2006:

The treasurer circulated the balance sheets pertaining to the two financial years ending 31st March 2005 and ending 31st March 2006. The members noted and expressed satisfaction over the administrative expenses being kept at minimum. However, expenses related to the publication of the Demography India were discussed at length. It was informed that a loss of about rupees one lakh per year was incurred on this publication. In this regard, several suggestions came up from the members towards reducing the cost of publication. Some members suggested replacing the hard copy by CD, as it would cost a maximum of Rs 35000/- only, while others wanted to continue with the hard copy of the Journal. A Suggestion came up that the current publisher should possibly be asked to reduce the publication cost. This suggestion was based on the feeling that the publisher might be making enough profits out of the sale to non-members in the national and international market. The EC authorized the President and the GS to explore various ways to contain the costs in this regard.

Item 4: Admission of new members:

The EC reviewed the membership applications of the following persons and admitted them as annual/life members of the Association. In all four were admitted as life members, 17 were admitted as annual members and one annual member's status was upgraded to life membership.

The list of memberships approved by the EC is as follows:

Life Members:

- 1 Dr. B.P. Mohanty
2. Ms. Ruby Alambusha Singh
- 3 Ms Meena
- 4 Mr. K.D Maiti
- 5 Mr. Balasubramaniam (Annual to life membership)

Annual Members:

- 1 Dr. G. Vikasha Verma
- 2 Mr. K Vergheese
- 3 Mr. SP Gaur
- 4 Mr. Manoj Patel
- 5 Mr. Subrata Kundu
- 6 Dr. CR Ranganathan
- 7 Ravi Kumar Kommuri
- 8 Mr. Partha Saradhi Datta
- 9 Mr. Ram Prakash
10. Mr. Ashish Kumar Gupta
- 11 Mr. Shelly Tara
- 12 Mr. Anup Kumar Jha
- 13 Mr. Alok Kumar Pandey
- 14 Dr. Suresh Tripathi

Item 5: Other matters discussed with the permission of the chair:

1. The General Secretary reported about the pending court case filed by Mr. Suresh Kataria, who was appointed on contractual basis during 1994 by Dr. M K Premi and Dr. Sudesh Nangia the then President and G.S., respectively for their secretarial assistance. Mr. Suresh Kataria was allowed to continue on similar terms and conditions for some more time by the subsequent team of office bearers headed by late Prof. Pravin Visaria. However one fine morning Mr. Kataria disappeared from the scene and resurfaced in 2003, When Dr. Gulati was GS, making claim for salary dues for all the months through court of law. Since then Dr. Gulati has been handling the case through lawyers on very nominal fee. However, recently the Court sent the summons to appear in the court and explain the IASP's stand regarding his undue claims. The EC was reported that Mr. Kataria had also produced some communication/letters signed by the then President Dr.M.K.Premi and countersigned by the then General Secretary Prof. Sudesh Nangia, who is presently ex-officio member of the Executive Committee, in support of his claims, which of course have been challenged by our lawyer in the court. The EC was of unanimous view that Prof. Sudesh Nangia should look into the matter and, if possible, use her motivational skills to impress Mr. Kataria. Prof. Sudesh Nangia agreed to do the needful on an urgent basis because, if the Court summons are not responded and the court case is not handled properly then the EC

- members will be held responsible for the legal proceedings connected with the affairs of the Association and might be put to unnecessary harassment in the court of law.
2. The EC also decided that the age restriction for admitting the aspiring scholars for life membership might be removed.
 3. The EC decided that the balance amount under the item 'Population Council Fellowship Fund' might be transferred to the 'Publication Fund.'
 4. The EC members expressed their concern for not bringing out the conference volumes despite availability of funds and time deadlines set in various executive meetings. The EC decided to select some quality contributed papers presented in conferences at Annamalai, Chandigarh, Trivandrum, Lucknow, Delhi and Goa and bring out a compendium in the near future. The three office bearers agreed to work in this direction.
 5. The EC decided to request the Registrar General and Census Commissioner of India to appoint the Returning Officer for conducting the elections of the President, members of the Executive Council and the Board of Trustees of IASP for the term 2006-08.

The President, before closing the meeting, extended sincere thanks to the members present and complimented profusely Prof. Irudya Rajan, the local Organizing Secretary of the 28th Annual Conference to be held at the Center for Development Studies.

The meeting ended by paying thanks to the chair by the members present and the General Secretary.

S/d

Prof. S.C.Gulati, President

Mr. CVS Prasad, General Secretary

□ **General Secretary's Report:**

Dear Fellow Members,

The academic activities conducted or being conducted during 2005-2006 are as follows:

Fifth Regional conference:

IASP organized a two-day Regional Conference at Goa on 22-23 December 2005 with the full financial support from UNFPA Delhi. The broad theme of the conference was "Emerging Issues on Population and Health in the Western States of India." Dr. Audinarayana and Dr. Usha Ram constituted the local organizing committee. The conference was benefited by the participation of UNFPA, MOHFW and Goa state government officials. There were four plenary sessions. The first plenary session was devoted to NRHM. The officials from MOHFW and an official from UNFPA, who were involved in drafting of various aspects of NRHM explained and responded to questions posed by the audience. These were followed by presentations by young scholars on the sub themes based on their research work in the western states of India including Goa, Gujarat, Maharashtra and Rajasthan. In all about 30 scholars presented their papers. A summary of the deliberations made in the conference along with the recommendations were submitted to UNFPA. They would review the recommendations and discuss with the concerned policy makers at the center. Summary of the presentations has also been put on the IASP website www.iasp.ac.in.

28th Annual Conference:

Usually we hold our annual conference in the month of February/March. However this year we could not do the same because of two important reasons:

For quite some time we have been receiving full or partial financial support from UNFPA. The others being MOHFW, Planning Commission USAID etc. Our major contributor UNFPA had supported the Goa Regional conference, which was fifth in series. Immediately after return from Goa, we started negotiating with our regular supporters but nothing concrete had happened till March. Our President has got verbal assurances from UNFPA, MOHFW but the amounts that would be sanctioned were not known till May.

Secondly some of the IASP members have been busy with NFHS-3 and requested for possible postponement of the Conference.

Keeping in view these in mind, it was first planned to hold the conference at ISEC, Bangalore in the month of May. After obtaining some verbal assurances from UNFPA, MOHFW, we took up the matter and the News Letter-6 was dispatched giving necessary details about the conference. Unfortunately, due to unavoidable reasons the venue of the conference had to be shifted from ISEC Bangalore to CDS Trivandrum. We are thankful to the Director and his team specially Dr. Irudya Rajan for agreeing to host the conference at their Center.

The theme of the three-day conference was decided in consultation with UNFPA and MoHFW. The theme decided was: **“Emerging Social Sector Programme Environment-Evolving Role of Population Scientists.”** It was also decided that for each of the following sub themes, there would be one plenary session where the invited scholars would present their papers followed by parallel sessions where the authors of the selected papers would be presented.

1. Population: Health and Nutrition
2. Migration, Urbanization and Urban Health
3. Water Supply, Sanitation and Environment
4. Education and Employment

About 150 papers were received in response to the calls for papers. The screening Committee set up for this purpose selected about 45 papers. A special session on Kerala on the request of CDS is being planned as fifth session during the conference.

Demography India: Four Issues of the journal have been released clearing the backlog.

Applications for Membership

We received 15 applications for Annual membership, one application for upgrading from annual to life membership and 5 for life membership.

S/d

Mr. CVS Prasad, The General Secretary

☐ Minutes of the IASP's General Body Meeting held on June 8th 2006 at the Center for Development Studies, Trivandrum

The GB Meeting started at 5.30 pm as scheduled. However, the quorum was not complete. Thus, as per the constitutional provision, the meeting was adjourned and reassembled after five minutes. Prof.S.C.Gulati, the President, IASP welcomed all the members present in the meeting. The list of members who attended the meeting is enclosed.

The following agenda items were deliberated and decisions were taken up during the meeting.

Item 1: The minutes of the last General Body

The minutes of the last General Body Meeting held on 11th February 2005 at Punjab University, Chandigarh were confirmed.

Item 2: The General Secretary's Report

Mr. CVS Prasad presented The General Secretary's Annual Report. Was approved.

Item 3: Approval of the Balance Sheets ending 31st March 2005 and 2006.

Prof. Pradeep Mishra, the Treasurer presented the Balance Sheets for the years ending 31-03-2005 and 31-03-2006. While discussing the income and expenditures of the Association, the points discussed in the EC Meeting with regard to Demography India were reported to the GB.

The members endorsed the decisions taken in this regard and suggested to constitute a committee to look into the matter. A Committee was set up with the following as members:

Dr. K Srinivasan
Prof. S.C. Gulati
Prof.P.N.Mari Bhat
Mr. CVS Prasad

The Committee was entrusted the job to explore various possibilities and empowered them to finalize the matter and take the decision and report in the next annual meeting of the General Body.

After item wise detailed discussions, the balance sheets were approved.

Item 4: It was decided that the Same Auditors were retained for the year 2006-07.

Item 5: The following matters were also discussed and decided with the permission of the Chair

- The GS reported the Kataria episode, which was discussed in the EC Meeting and the decision taken in this regard. Members appreciated Dr. Sudesh Nangia accepting to negotiate the matter for the withdrawal of the case by Kataria.
- The President and General Secretary were asked to initiate the election process of election of the post of President, 10 EC Members and 2 members of the Board of Trustee for the period 2006-2008.
- The communication system should be improved. Make the website up to date and functioning.
- The conference volume should be brought out
- Several suggestions and offers for venue came up for holding the next Annual Conference and the General Body decided to vest the powers for deciding the venue with the President and other Office Bearers. The suggestions came for holding the conference at Dharwad, Patna, Simla, Bhopal, etc. The new team of EC was expected to finalize the decision about the venue for the next Annual Conference.

S/d

Prof. S.C.Gulati, President

Mr. CVS Prasad, General Secretary

□ Summary Proceedings of the Annual Conference at the Center for Development Studies Trivandrum during 7-9 June 2006

The XXVIII Annual Conference of the Indian Association for the Study of Population (IASP) was inaugurated by Dr. Thomas Isaac, Hon'ble Finance Minister of Kerala at the auditorium of Center for Development Studies (CDS), Trivandrum on June 7th morning 2006. The main theme of conference is *"Emerging Social Sector Programme Environment: Role of Population Scientists"*. Dr. K.Narayana Nair, Director, CDS welcomed the participants to the conference. In his inaugural address Dr. Thomas Issac gave a critical view on the newly started National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) and discussed the role of state policies and programmes pertaining to health, ageing, etc. His address had set the tone for the conference. In his presidential address Prof. S.C. Gulati explained the background of the Conference and the main theme. He further brought out some issues of national importance like family planning, ageing and urbanization; which should have been duly emphasized in the NRHM document. He cautioned that the importance of Family Planning should not be lost in the euphoria of the New Population Programmes like NRHM and RCH. Dr. S. Irudaya Rajan, the Organizing Secretary of the conference, had briefed the audience on the IASP and its activities. Dr. Pradeep Mishra, Treasurer, IASP has given the introduction of the conference for the benefit audience and participants. Shri CVS. Prasad proposed the vote of thanks on the inaugural session.

Briefings on Plenary Sessions and Parallel Sessions on Sub-Themes:

Prof. K. Srinivasan chaired the first Plenary Session on "Population and linkages with Health, Nutrition and Environment in India" wherein 4 Panelists presented their Papers. Shri C V S Prasad in his paper on *"Socio Economic Determinants of Fertility in India"* explained the role of the Asset Index and Education in influencing fertility with the help of Census / SRS data for all the states as well as district level (for Uttaranchal and Tamil Nadu states). This was followed by Prof. Arvind Pandey's presentation on *"Does ICDS Offer an Opportunity for Preventing Micronutrient Malnutrition among Children? – An Assessment of Impact of Food Fortification in Selected States in India"*. Dr. Pandey dwelt on role of ICDS in bringing down micronutrient malnutrition among children. He concluded that the intervention of fortified food by ICDS has led to decline in levels of anemia and VAD (Vit. A Deficiency) in the experimental block. The 3rd panelist Prof. Chaurasia presented a Paper on *"Mortality Transitions in Urban India from 1970 – 2002"*. His analysis showed that female life expectancy is rising rapidly than that of males. The changes have occurred mostly in young and old age, while the working age group's e_0 remained unchanged. The fourth speaker, Prof. S.C. Gulati focused on *"Fertility, MCH-Care and Poverty in India"*. Prof. Gulati through his simultaneous structural analysis relationships among the variables and MCH and Contraception variables come out strongly. He emphasized the need for contraception in the present Population Programmes. After these presentations, the participants have raised questions and sought clarifications from the panelists, which were clarified by the panelists.

In the afternoon of the 1st day, 3 parallel sessions were held on the Sub-theme

I: Population and Linkages with Health, Nutrition and Environment in India"

In all, 14 papers were presented and fruitful discussions had taken place in these sessions.

On the evening of the inaugural day Prof. Mari Bhat gave the George-Simmons' Memorial Lecture on **Childlessness and Infertility in Different States of India** using recent Census and NFHS Data. In an absorbing deliberation Prof. Mari Bhat has explained that childlessness and infertility is higher in Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Orissa. He further pointed out that these states are historically having this phenomenon.

On the second day (June 8, 2006), began with the II Plenary Session on the Sub-theme **"Population and Linkages with Migration, Urbanization and Urban Health"**. Prof. Gulati chaired this session and there were four panelists. The first panelist, Dr. Shanti Johnson presented paper on **"Ageing and Health"** using the data from Kerala Ageing Survey. In her analysis, she showed that the elderly are increasing globally. She felt that 'Longer Life is a Prize and Penalty' due to double burden of disease and disability. This was followed by Dr. Siddarth Agarwal's presentation on **"Urbanization, Urban Poverty and Health of Urban Poor"**. Explaining that urbanization is likely to be doubled in next 25 years, Dr. Agarwal dwelt on 6 Challenges and 7 Action Policies. The next panelist, Dr. K.M. Sathyanarayana presented a paper on **"Urban Planning Prospects in India"**. Dr. Sathyanarayana showed that about 2/3 of urban people live in Class I cities, which is a skewed urbanization. Touching upon INNURM and PURA, he maintained that basic services should be provided to urban poor. The last panelist, Dr. K. Pushpangadhan presented a paper on **"Drinking Water and Well-being in India"**. He has made use of the census data on sources of drinking water and explained that Kerala has distinct advantage because of handling of water by boiling. After all these presentations, the participants have raised some queries and sought clarifications for which the panelists clarified.

After this panel session, 2 parallel scientific sessions were held on the **Sub-theme II: Population, Urbanization and Urban Health**. 12 papers were presented in these two sessions wherein most of the young demographers presented their ongoing / recently completed research findings were presented as papers, which were followed by mind-blowing discussions.

In the afternoon, of the 2nd day, the 3rd Panel Session was held on the **Sub-theme III: "Populations and Gender Issues"**. Prof. Mari Bhat chaired this Session and there were 5 Panel Speakers. Firstly, Dr. Usha Ram presented a paper on **"Gender and Population Change"**, wherein she dwelt with the conceptual framework of gender empowerment, autonomy and equity. The second speaker, Dr. C.P. Prakasam presented a Paper in **"Gender selection in Accepting of Family Planning in South India"**. Dr. Prakasam's analysis points out that gender selection has an impact on the acceptance of family planning in South India. He also mentioned about the female infanticide in general, and also about the sex selective abortion in Salem district of Tamilnadu in particular. The third panelist, Dr. Mala Ramanathan spoke on the need for **Incorporating Gender and Ethics in Population Research**. She earmarked demographers studied gender differentials assuming the roles of women. The next panelist, Dr. Sudesh Nangia presented a paper on **"Population and Gender – The Indian Perspective"**. Dr. Nangia gave a comprehensive sketch of the gender related priorities through all the Five Year Plans of India. The fifth speaker of the Panel, Dr. James presented a paper on **"Demographic Transition and Pattern of Migration in Kerala"**. He explained that there was large-scale migration in 1980s and 1990s and it is perpetuating. He also showed that there is concentration of migration from only two districts. The session came to an end, after a fruitful discussion amongst the participants and the panelists.

After this panel session, one scientific session was held on the **Sub-theme II: Population and Gender Issues** and another Scientific Session was a **Special one on Kerala**. While 6 papers were presented in the former one, 5 papers were presented in the latter one. Absorbing discussions among participants and paper presenters followed both the sessions.

In addition to the academic deliberations, in the evening of 2nd day, the members of IASP met in its General Body to discuss the administrative and management issues in an elaborate manner. A cultural programme wherein the glimpses of Bharathanatyam and Mohiniattam were performed followed this. All the participants have enjoyed these greatly and gave a thunderous applause and appreciation for the artists.

The third and final day (June 9, 2006) started with the Plenary Session on **"Population and Education & Employment"** which was chaired by Prof. S.C. Gulati. Three speakers presented their papers in this session. Firstly, Prof. K. Srinivasan presented a paper on **"Non-workers seeking work in India – Trends and Differentials"**. Based on the analysis of data from 1991 and 2001 Censuses, Dr. Srinivasan has explained that there is an increase of unemployment and those seeking work among non-workers (SWNW) has risen by four folds. He lamented about the swelling numbers of graduate unemployed. The second speaker of the panel, Dr. Bhagat presented paper on **"Changes in Structure of Workforce in 1990s"**. He analyzed the data from 55th round of NSS and 2001 Census and thereby, came to the conclusion that the growth rate of employment has decreased in the post-reform period. He also dwelt on the paradox of increase in employment of urban females and also the unemployment of this category. The third speaker on this panel, Dr. Audinarayana presented his views on **"Does Government Health Facilities Losing their Charm in Extending MCH Servicing? A Critical Review of Studies from Tamil Nadu"**. Based on the studies conducted in the recent past, he came to the conclusion that people in Tamil Nadu are slowly leaning towards private health facilities, in spite of they are

costlier. This is because of the perceived quality of services and greater satisfaction derived by using services from private health centers. All the papers were well received and there was a fruitful discussion. At the end of this session, 2 more presenters made their presentations on the Sub-theme IV: "Population and Education and Employment". Both the papers were interesting.

One of the important aspects of this Conference was organization of a **Special Plenary Session on Kerala** under the chairmanship of Dr. K.C. Zachariah. Four scholars presented their papers in this session. Firstly, Dr. Vijayanunni highlighted the *Demographic and Socio-economic Background of Kerala* in addition to transport, pollution, water shortage, resources, dependency ratios, etc. Next presentation was by Dr. C.R. Soman on "*Demographic Changes and Disease burden in Kerala*". Based on a study of causes of death among people of selected panchayat in Trivandrum around 2001 he concluded that by and large, the life style diseases are on increase. He supported this contention with some data for the diseases like hypertension, heart attacks, diabetes, cancer, etc. Dr. Devika, presented her views on "*Child Rearing Practices in 21st Century in Kerala*". She highlighted child rearing has become now a days as Child Crafting. The last presented of this session, Dr. Ajit Kumar, focused on "*HIV in Kerala*". He broadly presented the HIV scenario in Kerala followed by economic cost of HIV. Migrants are the major ones to spread HIV rather than sex workers. This session came to an end with an absorbing discussion of participants.

At the end of the Special Plenary session on Kerala, another **Special Scientific Session on Kerala** was held wherein 4 concise presentations have been made by young scholars from Kerala state.

In the afternoon of June 9, 2006, Valedictory Session had been conducted for which the Chairperson was Dr. M. Vijayanunni, Former Secretary, Govt. of Kerala and the Guest of Honor was Dr. K. C. Zachariah. Dr. SC. Gulati in his opening remarks pointed out that the three-days conference had been conducted successfully with the funding from UNFPA, New Delhi, Dept. of Family Welfare, Govt. of India and with the co-operation of the Center for Development Studies, Trivandrum. Dr. Vijayanunni gave his Valedictory address. Later Dr. N. Audinarayana presented the Summary of Proceedings of the Conference. This session came to an end with the Vote of Thanks by Mr. CVS. Prasad, General Secretary, IASP. In all, the three-days IASP Annual Conference had been organized very well and Conference had been made successful and fruitful for the programme managers and policy makers as well as for researchers and academicians.

S/d

Prof. Audi Narayana

Presented in the Valedictory Session of the Annual Conference

Follow up actions over the issues deliberated and decisions taken in the Executive Committee and General Body Meetings during the Annual Conference.

- IASP's election process for the term 2006-08 has been initiated as per decision of the EC meeting and reported to the GB meeting at Trivandrum. The President and the GS took up the matter immediately after return to Delhi. The RGI was contacted and requested to for deputing one of his senior officers as Returning Officer to conduct the elections of President, 10 Executive Committee Members and Two members on the Board of Trustees for the term 2006-08. After formal appointment with the RG in which Prof. S.C.Gulati, President and Mr C.V.S.Prasad, General Secretary were able to get the verbal consent and thereafter a formal request for the same by the President was made on 26th June 2006 for appointing the Returning Officer for the process. However, the RG, perhaps due to his busy schedule and preoccupations, communicated his formal approval on 30th August 2006 and deputed one of his senior colleagues, Mrs. Suman Prashar, the Dy. RG as the Returning Officer for conducting the elections. We have already provided to her the necessary documents like the list of life and annual members, a copy of the constitution, advance money for election expenses, etc. Very soon she will be communicating with you all for the purpose. We earnestly request you for your active participation in the elections.
- Demography India: Immediately we got in touch with the existing publisher of Demography India for negotiations for price reduction. However, we are also attempting other options as suggested in the Executive and General Body meetings at Trivandrum.

☐ **Request for Updating the Addresses of IASP members**

Kindly communicate change of address, if any, to the General Secretary or Treasurer. It helps us to serve you better. Please note that without your letter of request for change, we cannot change your address in our records, though we might know about it.

These days practically every one has e-mail address. If you have one, please do communicate to us by e-mail. If you do not have, you may open a new account and inform us. We will interact better.

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Last time most of the members/participants communicated through e-mail, which proved to be quite efficient.

With best wishes and regards,

Mr. CVS Prasad

General Secretary, IASP

Advisor, ORGCSR

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IASP NEWSLETTER

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