

54th Annual Convention of Indian Geophysical Union (IGU): A Report

The 54th Annual convention of IGU was jointly organized by CSIR-NGRI and IGU at CSIR-NGRI, Hyderabad during December 3-7 2017 on the main theme entitled "Recent Advances in Geophysics with Special Reference to Earthquake Seismology".

The convention was inaugurated by Dr. Girish Sahni, Director General of CSIR, and Secretary, DSIR, New Delhi. Prof. Shailesh Nayak, President of IGU presided over the function and presented the IGU awards to both the young and senior geo-scientists for their excellent contribution to Indian Earth Sciences. The Technical Program was meticulously designed under the supervision of Prof. Shailesh Nayak. Proper guidance was also provided by Prof. Harsh K. Gupta, Former President of IGU. Various activities were executed by a group of CSIR-NGRI Scientists with the needed support and guidance by Dr. V.M. Tiwari, Director, CSIR-NGRI. The Exhibition was inaugurated by Prof. V.L.S. Bhimasankaram, a renowned Professor of Geophysics. Prof. Mrinal K Sen, former Director of CSIR-NGRI inaugurated the poster session. Reputed scientists from different research institutes, universities and industries chaired the sessions covering several disciplines of Solid Earth & Marine Geo-sciences and Planetary & Atmospheric Sciences. Concerted efforts were made by Drs. D. Sri Nagesh, Ajai Manglik, Kirti Srivastava, E.V.S.S.K. Babu, Sandeep Gupta, Devender Kumar, Kusumita Arora, N. Satyavani and many others for making the five-day convention successful in all aspects. Dr. V.P. Dimri, Past President of IGU, Dr. D. Atchuta Rao and Dr. P.R. Reddy both Past Hon. Secretaries of IGU extended unequivocal supports in many ways.

After having welcomed the delegates, Dr. V.M. Tiwari highlighted the importance of Earth Sciences and its influence on the Society. Dr. Kalachand Sain presented the secretary's report and briefed about the convention. Prof. Shailesh Nayak emphasised the need of integrating the Geosphere, Biosphere and Atmosphere in understanding the important issues related to Earth's dynamics and climate change.

He also stressed upon the importance of Borehole Geophysics and Earthquake monitoring studies at Karad. Dr. Girish Sahni remarked that Earth Sciences, particularly Geophysics, is a very important branch of Science having direct relevance to society in terms of Energy, Minerals, Ground water, Geo-hazards etc, and it can provide solution to industry-challenges. He advised young researchers to achieve excellence through hard work and come out with innovations to meet the societal requirement.

There were about 250 delegates from different parts of the country as well as from abroad. Besides 3 Plenary and 16 invited talks, the convention had 80 oral and 118 poster presentations, apart from Prof. K. R. Ramanathan Memorial lecture and talks by the Decennial awardee and Krishnan medal awardees. Two special sessions were conducted on commemorating the 50 years of 'Seismological Observatory' and 'Airborne Geophysics' and Reservoir Triggered Seismicity. A Special lecture was also delivered in memory of Dr. J.G. Negi. Additionally, an over view session on Extreme Physics & Chemistry-Reservoirs & Fluxes and Deep Energy and Deep Life was conducted on 7th December.

Young researchers and students showed lot of enthusiasm in presenting their scientific results through posters and gained insights by interacting with experienced geoscientists. A special feature of the convention is the Young Researcher Programme organized for the benefit of young researchers those who submitted or about to submit their theses. To encourage the young brains in pursuing Earth sciences, young researchers were selected with the 'best oral presentation award'. To motivate the project assistants and post graduate students from different universities and institutes to come into the realm of Earth sciences, they were also selected for the 'best poster presentation awards'. The delegates thoroughly enjoyed the scientific proceedings and excellent hospitality provided by CSIR-NGRI. In this regard, Dr. Srinagesh, Dr. Kirti Srivastava and other team members deserve the compliments. Chair persons of various technical sessions are thanked

for conducting the proceedings as scheduled. Special thanks are due to Mr. Rafique Mohammad Attar, Treasurer of IGU for executing various works related to this Convention.

The closing session was presided over by Dr. Satheesh C. Sheno, Vice-President of IGU & Director, INCOIS. He advised the students and researchers to achieve excellence in whatever field they pursue their research. He handed over the Cash Prizes and Certificates to the Students and Research Scholars for their best performance in the 54th Annual Convention of IGU. Dr. VM Tiwari, Director, CSIR-NGRI handed over the Certificates to the Students who participated in the quiz competition earlier organized by the IGU-NGRI student Chapter.

Details of the main awards presented during the convention have been covered in the News at a glance of this issue of JIGU. Details of other awards are given below.

A) IGU-Prof. Jegdeo Singh & Dr. S. Balakrishna Memorial Grant to student toppers 2017

i. Dept. of Geophysics, Osmania University, Hyderabad

1. Ms. N. Mounika
2. Mr. Tabish Khan

ii. Dept. of Geophysics, Andhra University, Visakhapatnam

1. Mr. Chakka. Sathya Datta
2. Ms. Bangaru. Sushma

iii. Dept. of Marine Geophysics, Andhra University, Visakhapatnam

1. Mr. Vankara Pradyumnu
2. Ms. Bulusu Venkata Radha Santhoshi

iv. Dept. of Geophysics, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi

1. Mr. Deepanshu Goyal
2. Mr. Ratnesh Pandey

v. Dept. of Earth Sciences, Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee, Roorkee

1. Nikhil Singh
2. Mulchandani Vishal Haresh &
3. Shubham Singh

vi. Dept. of Geophysics, Manonmaniam Sundarnar University, Tirunelveli

1. Ms. Anagha TJ
2. Ms. Sree Lakshmi A.S.

vii. Dept. of Geophysics, Swami Ramanand Teerth Marathwada University, Nanded

1. Mr. Lutte Sudhakar Balaji
2. Mr. Mohmad Salah Ahmad

viii. Dept. of Geophysics, Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra

1. Ms. Neha
2. Mr. Hardeep

ix. Dept. of Geosciences, Dr. B.R. Ambedkar University, Srikakulam

1. Ms. A. Amani &
2. B. Maneesha
3. Mr. K. Venugopal

x. Dept. of Earth Sciences, Indian Institute of Technology Bombay, Mumbai

1. Tumul Rai
2. Madhuri Chauhan

xi. Dept. of Applied Geophysics, Indian Institute of Technology (ISM), Dhanbad

1. Sayan Mallick, 3 Yr. M.Sc. Tech
2. Avanie Jain, 5 Yr. Int. M.Sc. Tech

7. IGU-Anni Talwani Memorial Grant to Women Researchers

1. Ms. Indu Chowdhary, ISR, Gandhinagar
2. Ms. Laxmi Pandey, CSIR- NGRI, Hyderabad
3. Ms. Saranya Jayachandran, CSIR-NIO, Goa
4. Ms. Seema Kumari, IIT, Kanpur

The convention was co-sponsored by ESSO-Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS), ESSO-National Centre for Antarctic and Ocean Research (NCAOR), ESSO-National Centre for Earth Science Studies (NCESS), Indian Institute of Geomagnetism (IIG), CSIR-National Institute of Oceanography (NIO), National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC), Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES), SERB-Department of Science & Technology (DST), Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), Himalayan Heli Services Pvt. Limited, New Delhi, and SBI, Hyderabad.

The convention was concluded by rendering National Anthem.



Inauguration function: Lighting of traditional lamp and releasing of abstract volume by Dr. Girish Sahni, Chief Guest, Director General of CSIR & Secretary, DSIR. Prof. Shailesh Nayak, President of IGU & Distinguished Scientist, Dr. VM Tiwari, LOC Chairman & Director, CSIR-NGRI, Dr. Kalachand Sain, Hon. Secretary of IGU and Dr. Srinagesh, LOC Convener & Chief Scientist, CSIR-NGRI are also seen on the dais.



Prof. V.L.S. Bhimashankaram is inaugurating the Exhibition in presence of Prof. Harsh K Gupta, Member, Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) & Past President of IGU, Prof. Shailesh Nayak, President of IGU, Dr. VM Tiwari, Director, CSIR-NGRI, Dr. Anil Bhardwaj, Director, Physical Research Laboratory, Dr. ASSRS Prasad, Organizing Secretary of IGU. Group Photo of Delegates.



Prof. Mrinal K Sen, Jackson Chair in Applied Seismology at the University of Texas at Austin, USA is inaugurating the poster session in presence of Prof. Shailesh Nayak, President of IGU. Prof. Sen is interacting with the delegates



Concluding Session: Dr. Sateesh C Sheno, Vice- President of IGU & Director along with Dr. VM Tiwari, Director, CSIR-NGRI, Dr. Kalachand Sain, Hon. Secretary of IGU and Dr. O.P. Mishra, Joint Secretary of IGU. Dr. Tiwari is giving certificates to winners of Quiz Competitions organized by IGU Student Chapter of CSIR-NGRI.

Dr. K. Sain & Dr. A.S.S.R.S. Prasad