

NGRI organises 17th International Workshop on Electromagnetic Induction in the Earth

THE National Geophysical Research Institute (NGRI), Hyderabad and the International Association of Geomagnetism and Aeronomy jointly organised the 17th International Workshop on Electromagnetic Induction in the Earth, at NGRI recently. International bodies such as the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics, International Association of Geomagnetism and Aeronomy and National Science Foundation, USA and national organisations such as the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), Indian Institute of Geomagnetism (IIG), Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC), Department of Science and Technology (DST), Department of Ocean Development (DOD), OIL, Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology (WIHG) and Indian National Science Academy (INSA) supported the workshop.

Shri Surjit Singh Barnala, Governor, Andhra Pradesh inaugurated the workshop. In his inaugural address, he outlined the necessity to explore the ways and means for exploiting the ocean resources and urged the scientists at NGRI to initiate a major programme on the Ocean Electromagnetic Studies for Oil Exploration in problematic areas. He said that India is spending billions of dollars on import of oil. He expressed his confidence that the deliberations on geothermal and volcanic studies would help exploit non-conventional energy sources for the benefit of all. He opined that India would be a major techno-power in the coming decades with its large



Shri Surjit Singh Barnala, Governor, Andhra Pradesh, delivering his inaugural address during International Workshop on Electromagnetic Induction in the Earth

number of scientists and technocrats.

In his Presidential remarks, Dr V. P. Dimri, Director, NGRI, said that the workshop that is held once in two years was being hosted in India for the first time. He reviewed some of the state-of-the-art facilities available at NGRI for geophysical surveys and the recent scientific developments at NGRI. He said that the institute was carrying out surveys for the delineation of fracture zones in hard rock terrain for groundwater exploration and assessments in fluoride affected areas of Nalgonda District of Andhra Pradesh.

In his welcome address, Dr T. Hari Narayana, Co-ordinator of the workshop, said that the meeting was expected to develop Human Resources for Electromagnetic Research and investigations in the developing countries and that this would go a long way in improving the quality of research in these areas and ultimately benefit the people. Prof. B.R. Arora, Director, WIHG and Convenor of the workshop said India had been waiting to organise the workshop for the last four years and

that the scientific deliberations would go a long way for the development and application of electromagnetic techniques in the various institutes, industries and organizations in the country. Prof. Andreas Junge, Institute for Meteorology and Geophysics, Germany spoke about the scientific features of the workshop and Prof. George Jeracek, Department of Geological Sciences, USA, summarized the R&D activities of NSF. Dr S.K. Verma, Scientist G, NGRI proposed the Vote of Thanks.

The 4 days workshop served as a premier platform for EM researchers around the world to exchange research results and new developments. About 80 papers were presented in the oral sessions and 200 papers in the poster sessions spread over the 9 sessions dealing with (a) Local, Regional, Seismic and Volcanic studies, (b) Modelling, Inversions, (c) Oil, Geothermal Environment, (d) Anisotropy-Lab-*In situ*, (e) Lithos, Asthenos, Deep Studies, (f) Multi-techniques, (g) Continent-Continent collision, (h) Response function and (i) Ocean and other studies. 135 delegates from 35 countries besides India participated in this International Workshop.

During the workshop a geological excursion was organized to Nagarjuna Sagar to show the experimental studies in Marine MT and to study the structures in and around the Nagarjuna Sagar water body. □