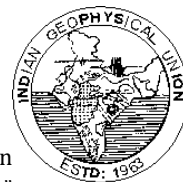


NEWS AT A GLANCE



FORTH COMING EVENTS:

- * 1st Triennial Congress of Federation of Indian Geosciences Association (FIGA), 53rd Annual Convention of Indian Geophysical Union (IGU) & 34th Annual convention for Association of Hydrologists of India (AHI) on "Geosciences for Sustainability" will be held at Indian School of Mines, Dhanbad during November 8-10, 2016.
- * 2nd International Conference on Green Energy & Expo will be held during November 28-30, 2016 at Atlanta, USA.
- * A seminar on HS_DT — Hydrodynamic Stability and Dynamo Theory, ID 833012 will be held during 09 Dec 2016 - 20 Dec 2016 at Warangal, Telangana State, India. For details visit

Event website: http://nitw.ac.in/media/uploads/HS_DT_Brochure_2.pdf

Awards and Recognition

Ministry of Earth Sciences presented the following awards to Earth system scientists of India during its annual convention. Awards were presented by Hon. Minister of Govt of India Shri Dr. Harsh Vardhan on July 27, 2016, during the Celebration of 10 Years of Ministry of Earth Sciences (2006-2016) & Foundation Day Function held at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.

- * **Life Time Achievement Award 2016**

In recognition of her outstanding contribution to Earth System Science Prof. Sulochana Gadgil was honoured with "Life Time Excellence Award in Earth System Science" for the year 2016.
- * **National Award in Ocean Science & Technology for the year 2016**

Dr. M. Dileep Kumar was awarded, in recognition of his outstanding contribution to Ocean Science & Technology with "National Award in Ocean Science & Technology" for the year 2016.
- * **National Award in Atmospheric Science & Technology for the year 2016**

Prof. P.V. Joseph was awarded, in recognition of his outstanding contribution to Atmospheric Science &

Technology with "National Award in Atmospheric Science & Technology" for the year 2016.

- * **National Award in Geoscience & Technology for the year 2016.**

Prof. Shyam Sundar Rai was awarded, in recognition of his outstanding contribution to Geoscience & Technology with "National Award in Geoscience & Technology" for the year 2016.

- * **National Award in Polar Science & Cryosphere for the year 2016.**

Dr. S. Shivaji was awarded, in recognition of his outstanding contribution to Polar Science & Cryosphere with "National Award in Polar Science & Cryosphere" for the year 2016.

- * **Young Researcher Award in the field of Earth System Science for the year 2016.**

Dr. Anoop Kumar Mishra was awarded, in recognition of his outstanding research contributions in the field of Earth System Science with "Young Researcher Award in the field of Earth System Science" for the year 2016

- * **Young Researcher Award 2016**

Dr. Kunal Chakraborty, was awarded Young Researcher Award-2016 for his outstanding scientific contributions in the field of Bio-Physical Coupling Process in Indian Ocean.

- * **Certificate of Merit for 2016**

Shri. N. Kiran Kumar, Scientist & In-charge Web Based Services was awarded Certificate of Merit-2016 for his outstanding scientific contributions in the field of Ocean Sciences.

- * **Certificate of Best Employee for 2016**

Shri. Dasari Prasad, Asst. Manager, INCOIS was awarded Best Group-B Employee Award-2016.

- * Dr. P.M. Kessarkar, Scientist of National Institute of Oceanography, Goa has been awarded Raman Research Fellowship -2016.

News Item: Prof. Boyd's 90th Birthday Celebrations



I am happy to publish this important news item. Dr. D. Atchuta Rao, former Honorary Secretary of IGU (1983-1993), communicated this information for my use. I have taken the liberties to publish this mainly to motivate the students and young researchers seeing the details.....P.R. Reddy

"During 25th Geophysical Conference of ASEG-PESA-AIG 2016 held at Adelaide from 21st to 24th August, my revered Guru, Prof. David Boyd's 90th birth day was celebrated by his students and admirers and he was also honored by the ASEG(Australian Society of Exploration Geophysicists).

I was in Adelaide(South Australia) during 1974-76 as a post doctoral fellow at the University of Adelaide and worked with Prof. David Boyd, a very respected and eminent Geophysicist, and again visited in 1990 & 1995 attending conferences.

On the invitation of my friends and a number of Prof. Boyd's students, who have now attained high stature in the Geophysical profession in Australia, my wife and I went to Adelaide and attended the conference and was present at this momentous occasion of the 90th birth day celebrations and paid my respects to my teacher, who enriched my life in many ways. It was really an exciting experience to be with him and other friends after a gap of 20 years".....D. Atchuta Rao

Outstanding Contribution to Indian Space Programme



Dr. Krishnaswamy Kasturirangan was born on 20 October, 1940, in Ernakulam, Kerala, India. He graduated in Science with Honours, and obtained his Master of Science degree in Physics, from Bombay University. He received his Doctorate Degree in Experimental High Energy Astronomy in 1971, working at the Physical Research Laboratory, Ahmedabad.

Dr. Kasturirangan was responsible for directing the Indian Space programme for over 9 years, as Chairman of ISRO and the Space Commission and as Secretary to the Government of India in the Department of Space, before laying down office on 27 August 2003. He was subsequently nominated as a member of Rajya Sabha, the Upper House of Indian Parliament from 2003 to 2009. During this period, he also served as Director of National Institute of Advanced Studies, Bangalore. Between June 2009 and May 2014, he was a member of the Planning Commission of Government of India.

Dr. Kasturirangan is presently the Chancellor of Jawaharlal Nehru University, Satish Dhawan Chair of Engineering Eminence of Indian National Academy of Engineering, Professor Emeritus at NIAS and Member, Atomic Energy Commission.

He was earlier the Director of ISRO Satellite Centre, overseeing the development of new generation spacecraft, the Indian National Satellite (INSAT-2) and the Indian Remote Sensing Satellites (IRS-1A and 1B) as well as scientific satellites. He was also the Project Director for India's first two experimental earth observation satellites, Bhaskara-I and II.

Under his leadership, the programme witnessed several major milestones including the successful launching and operationalisation of the India's prestigious launch vehicles, the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle and the Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle. Studies on the advanced version of the GSLV, GSLVMk-III, were also completed including defining their full configuration. Further, he also oversaw the development and launching of some of the world's best civilian remote sensing satellites, IRS-1C and 1D, realization of new generation INSAT communication satellites, besides ocean observation satellites IRS-P3/P4. He also lead the initiative for India to enter the planetary exploration era by an extensive studies leading to the definition of Chandrayaan-I. These efforts have put India as a pre-eminent space-faring nation among the handful of six countries that have major space programmes. As an Astrophysicist, Dr. Kasturirangan's interests include research in high energy X-ray and gamma ray astronomy as well as optical astronomy. Defining India's most ambitious space based High Energy Astronomy observatory and initiating a related activities was also an important milestone under his leadership. He has made extensive and significant contributions to studies of Cosmic x-ray and gamma ray sources and effect of cosmic x-rays in the lower atmosphere.

He has published more than 250 papers, in international and national journals, in the areas of astronomy, space science and space applications. He is a Fellow of the Indian Academy of Sciences, Indian National Science Academy, National Academy of Sciences of India, Indian National Academy of Engineering,

Astronautical Society of India, National Telematics Forum, The Indian Meteorological Society and The Third World Academy of Sciences.

Dr. Kasturirangan is a member of several important scientific academies and educational institutions, both within India and abroad. He is a recipient of the three civilian awards from the Government of India, the Padma Shri (1982), Padma Bhushan (1992) and Padma Vibhushan (2000).

Dr. Kasturirangan is the recipient of Honorary Doctorate from 16 universities;

Banaras Hindu University (1994), Andhra University (1995), S. V. University, Tirupati (1996), Sri Krishna Devaraya University, Ananthpur (1998), Anna University, Chennai (1998), Roorkee University, Roorkee (1999), IIT, Bombay (2000), ChatrapatiShahujiMaharaj University, Kanpur (2000), GurunanakDev University, Amritsar (2001), University of Calcutta, Calcutta (2002), Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), New Delhi (2003), Punjab University, Chandigarh (2003), Visvesvaraya Technological University, Belgaum (2004), Alagappa University, Karaikudi (2006), Mysore University, Mysore (2007); SRM University, Chennai (2008).

He is an Academician of the Pontifical Academy of Sciences, Vatican, a Honorary Fellow of Cardiff University, a Member of the International Astronomical Union and the International Academy of Astronautics. He has chaired some of the prestigious international committees, such as, the International Committee on Earth Observation Satellites (CEOS), Panel for Space Research in Developing countries of COSPAR/ICSU and the committee meeting at senior

official level of UN-ESCAP, that led to the adoption of the "Delhi Declaration" by the Ministers of the region (1999-2000). He has won several awards including Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Award in Engineering, Shri Hari Om Ashram Dr. Vikram Sarabhai Prerit Award in Aerospace, M.P. Birla Memorial Award in Astronomy, Shri M.M.Chugani Memorial Award in Applied Science, H.K.Firodia Award in Science Technology, Rathindra Puraskar and Desikothama from Visvabharati, Shantiniketan, Dr.M.N.Saha Birth Centenary Medal for outstanding contributions in the field of Space, Aryabhata Award of ASI, Aryabhata Medal of INSA, ISRO Lifetime Achievement Award, GM Modi Award by GM Modi Science Foundation, Asutosh Mookerjee Memorial Award by the Indian Science Congress, Award of Jewel of Ruia, Ruia College Alumni Association, Maharana Udai Singh Award by Maharana of Mewar Charitable Foundation, Rajayogindra Award, Maharaja of Mysore, Vikram Sarabhai Memorial Gold Medal, Indian Science Congress, Dharma Vira Memorial Citation & Gold Medal and JK Lakshmipat University Laureate Award.

International recognitions include 'Brock Medal' of International Society of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing, Allan D Emil Memorial Award of the International Astronautical Federation, Lifetime Achievement Award of Asia-Pacific Satellite Communications Council, Singapore and Theodore Von Karman Award by International Academy of Astronautics. He has been conferred the Award of "Officer of the Legion d'honneur" by the President of the French Republic.

Dr. Kasturirangan was felicitated by Indian Geophysical Union (IGU) with "Millennium Award" in December, 1999, for his outstanding contribution to Indian Space science.

P.R.Reddy