

65TH BRNS-IANCAS NATIONAL WORKSHOP ON RADIOCHEMISTRY AND APPLICATIONS OF RADIOISOTOPES

The Indian Association of Nuclear Chemists and Allied Scientists (IANCAS) organized the 65th BRNS National Workshop on Radiochemistry and Applications of Radioisotopes from 29th November to 8th December 2007 at the University Department of Physics, Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra.

The workshop was inaugurated by the Chief Guest Mr. S. A. Bhardwaj, Director (Technical), NPCIL at

a function presided over by Prof. Nand Lal, Dean, Faculty of Science, Kurukshetra University. The welcome address was given by Prof. Shyam Kumar, Director of the Workshop. Dr. V.K. Manchanda, President, IANCAS, explained the role of IANCAS and its activities to the participants. An introduction to the course content of the Workshop was given by the Workshop Coordinator, Dr. P.C. Kalsi.



At the inauguration function, seated from left to right: Dr. Anu Sharma, Secretary, Dr. Sanjeev Aggarwal, Convener, Prof. Shyam Kumar, Director of the Workshop, Prof. Nand Lal, Dean Faculty of Science, Univ. of Kurukshetra, Mr. S.A. Bhardwaj, Director (Technical), NPCIL, Dr. V.K. Manchanda, President, IANCAS and Dr. P.C. Kalsi, Coordinator, IANCAS.

Mr. Bhardwaj in his inaugural address gave an overview of Nuclear Energy programme in India. Prof. Nand Lal in his presidential address elaborated on the uses of radioactivity and isotopes. He urged the participants to derive maximum benefit out of this workshop. Dr. Sanjeev Aggarwal, who was the Convener of the Workshop from Kurukshetra University, gave the vote of thanks.

Eighty participants from all over Haryana as well as nearby States participated in the workshop. Mr. Bhardwaj gave the key-note address on the opening day on "Nuclear Energy in general and Nuclear Reactors in particular".

Dr. Manchanda delivered a special lecture on "DAE activities at a glance." The lecture and practical sessions were conducted by eight resource persons from DAE. The lectures consisted of: Introduction to Radioactivity, Nuclear structure and stability, Nuclear Reactors, Interaction of radiation with matter, Nuclear detectors, Solid state nuclear track detectors, Accelerator-based multidisciplinary research, How to set up a Radioactive Lab, Introduction to radiation chemistry, Applications of radioisotopes in Physical and Chemical Sciences, Industry, Agriculture and Medicine. The lectures were held during the morning sessions and the afternoon sessions were reserved for the practicals. Seven practical sessions were conducted to give the participants a feel of handling and counting radioactivity and the use of tracers for radiochemical work. The experiments

generated wide interest amongst the participants.

A special lecture was given by Dr. S. Kailas, Associate Director, Physics Group, BARC on the role of Accelerators in frontline research.

The Valedictory function was held on 8th December, 2007. Prof. Shyam Kumar, Chairman, Department of Physics, Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra presided over the function. Feedback was arranged in this session. The participants were highly appreciative of the Workshop. Dr. P.C. Kalsi, Coordinator of this Workshop responded to the queries of the participants. He also gave a brief report about the Workshop. He particularly felt the need of propagating this branch of science in Universities.

Prof. Shyam Kumar in his presidential address explained the benefits of conducting such workshops to the teachers. The four top scorers in the test conducted after the completion of the Workshop were given cash prizes. Dr. P. C. Kalsi and Prof. Shyam Kumar distributed the certificates to the participants. Dr. P. C. Kalsi also presented one G.M Counting setup and a NaI(Tl) detector assembly to Prof. Shyam Kumar, Chairman, Department of Physics, Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra for use in their M Sc course and for research work. The workshop concluded with a vote of thanks by Dr. Anu Sharma, Secretary for the Workshop.