

Reports from Conferences, Theme Meetings and Training Programmes



Capacity Building for Backend of Fuel Cycle Nuclear Recycle Group conducts Supervisory Training Programme

Nuclear Recycle Group, BARC organized a four-day 'Supervisory Training Programme on Backend of Fuel Cycle' which commenced on September 10th at SCF Auditorium in Trombay. The programme was designed to equip the nuclear energy workforce with requisite skills to oversee operations associated with spent fuel reprocessing and radioactive waste management.

The programme was inaugurated by Clement C. Verghese, Chairman, BARC Safety Council. He emphasised that safe, secure, and efficient management of spent nuclear fuel and radioactive wastes is integral to backend of fuel cycle. In the welcome address, Neelima Singh Tomar, Programme Convenor and Head of PMT&SS (NRG) presented a brief outline of the training programme. Dr. G. Sugilal, Associate Director, NRG delivered the keynote address and Probal Chaudhury, Associate Director, HS&EG addressed the participants during the inaugural function.

The training programme brought together 80 participants and covered best practices, lessons learned from decades of operational experience, and the evolving landscape of science and technology in the backend of the fuel cycle. As a result, participants gained a deeper understanding of the complexities of spent fuel and waste management, enhanced their ability to supervise diverse teams, and reinforced their commitment to nuclear safety and environmental protection.

The valedictory function (on Sept. 13th) was graced by P.D. Maniyar, Head, NRG Projects and Y.C. Shivakumar, Head, TDD as Chief Guest and Guest of Honour, respectively. Meanwhile, Dr. G. Sugilal, Associate Director, NRG encouraged participants to share honest feedback on the training, highlighting that their inputs would help organizers further improve the programme.



Participants and Organizers pose for a Group photograph.



The conference Abstract book and Souvenir inaugurated by dignitaries from IIT Roorkee and BARC, Mumbai. Left to right: Prof. R. Chandra, Dr. D. Bhattacharya, Prof. V.K. Malik, Dr. D.V. Udupa, Prof. K.K. Pant, Dr. S.L. Chaplot, Dr. G.D. Varma, Dr. V.K. Aswal, Dr. Himlal Bhatt, Dr. N.S. Ramgir

69th Solid State Physics Symposium

The annual edition of Department of Atomic Energy's Solid State Physics Symposium (SSPS) was held at the Indian Institute of Technology (Roorkee, Uttarakhand) during December 19-23, 2025. The symposium saw attendance from nearly 800 participants from various parts of the country and few foreign delegates. The symposium comprised 4 plenary lectures, 35 invited talks, 3 evening talks, 6 best PhD thesis talks and 6 Young Achiever talks in addition to 680 poster presentations and 16 oral presentations by students. Director, IIT Roorkee, Prof. K.K. Pant, inaugurated the symposium, highlighting the importance of synergy and strong partnerships between premier science & engineering institutions and national laboratories for sustainable growth and development towards Viksit Bharat

(Developed India) goal. The keynote lecture was by delivered by Dr. S.L. Chaplot, former Director of Physics Group, BARC, who emphasized upon the need of basic research to achieve innovative and challenging targets for applications and the history of this legacy national symposium which started in 1956 after the commissioning of first nuclear reactor in Asia, namely Apsara, which provided neutrons for condensed matter research. Among those who were present at the symposium, Dr. Sakura Pascarelli, from the European XFEL, spoke on the simultaneous evolution of another Mega Facility for solid state physics research, the synchrotron radiation sources, which was complemented with talks by Prof. Olof Karis from MAX-IV another European Centre and Prof. S. Rai on Indian 3rd generation synchrotron facility being set up by DAE in India.



Group photograph of participants to DAE-SSPS 2025 taken after conclusion of inaugural day program.