



सह वीर्य करवावहै

IETE NEWSLETTER

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FROM PRESIDENT'S DESK

With the inauguration of 40th Sub-Centre and announcement of Examinations for DipIETE (Computers) & AMIETE (Computers) IETE has started well in the first year of Millennium. We now need to put our best efforts in the direction of having our own secure Internet communication to provide nationwide Distance Education Programme. Special efforts are needed to give emphasis to e-commerce and e-governance that would increase the efficiency of organisations and improve quality of products & services along with the reduction in cost.



In cyber world one great danger is interception by hackers & competitors which can be countered through security and regulatory measures. Government has initiated formulation of cyber laws and intellectual property rights act. Let us join in and as professionals, devise security systems for e-commerce & e-governance within the country.

Convergence is another issue. The future lies with the data communication. Voice communication would play secondary role. Lots of avenues will open-up for the computer & IT business. It is expected that the inventory will shrink and the customers will drive the market forces. There will be new business alliances and mergers with greater thought on convergence and e-commerce. Govt. has already set up a Task Force. Let us do our bit and add to the national drive.

The existence of e-commerce will depend upon honest implementations of the norms and standards set for its' conduct. The security of servers, channels and quality of service will play the major role. With greater openness and transparency, efficiency and accountability will grow.

IETE is organising its Mid Term Symposium in April, 2000 and Annual Technical Convention in September 2000 around these issues. We invite all IETEians to contribute their part in creating secure network communication through their views and ideas in IETE publications and Programmes.

Cdr (Dr) H S SHARMA, IN (Retd)

NEWS FROM HEAD QUARTERS

Society of EMC Engineers India, Delhi Chapter recently conducted 6th International Conference on Electromagnetic Interference and Compatibility INCCEMIC-99 during 2-8 Dec, 1999.

A pre conference workshop on EMI/EMC was conducted during 2-4 Dec 99 at the Delton Hall, jointly sponsored by IETE, New Delhi and the Society of EMC Engineers Delhi Chapter. It was attended by 105 participants from 43 organisations. Among faculty members from abroad were- Dr Hugh Denny from Georgia Tech Research Institute Atlanta, USA, Dr Oren Hartal from RAFAEL, Israel, Dr Klaus D Gopel from Rohde & Schwarz, Germany, Mr Erimer Chun from VDE, Germany and Dr Michael Rehfeldt from Schaffner-MEB, Germany. The other member in the faculty was Prof A K Agarwala from IIT, Delhi.

The workshop was inaugurated by Dr V P Kodali, Fellow IETE and also Ex-Adviser Ministry of Information Technology. Dr H S Sharma, President, IETE and Dr S L Sarnot, DG, STQC were the Guest of Honour. During the valedictory Session of the workshop on Dec 4th, a 'Compendium on EMC Standards' was released by Shri P S Das, DG, Bureau of Indian Standards and Dr S L Sarnot, DG, STQC.

The three-day International Conference INCCEMIC-99 was inaugurated by Shri N Vittal, Central Vigilance Commissioner during 6-8 Dec 1999 at India Habitat Centre. The Theme of the Conference was 'EMC for Optimal

Spectrum Utilisation'. Shri R N Agarwal, Wireless Adviser to the Govt. of India, delivered the theme address. Shri V P Sandlas, Chief Controller R&D, DRDO, and Shri PNAP Rao, Chairman of the Society of EMC Engineers, were the other Guest of Honour.

217 delegates from 69 organisations attended the Conference. The Conference Proceedings had 107 technical papers which were released on the inaugural day of the conference. There were 23 technical sessions held parallelly at three conference halls in the India Habitat Centre. 105 papers including 12 printed papers were presented. One special Plenary Session was conducted on 'Advanced Technology and Product Appraisal' in which seven leading manufacturing agencies of EMC equipment and accessories gave presentations on the state-of-the-art instrumentation and technology for EMI Metrology.

On the concluding day, a special panel with eminent panelists headed by Shri R N Agarwal, Wireless Adviser discussed on 'Indian Perspective Policy on Global EMC Obligations'. Discussions were regarding immediate need of a domestic policy to improve EMC quality of equipment being manufactured in India for both domestic and export market.



Shri N Vittal, Central Vigilance Commissioner inaugurating INCEMIC-99 conference

Visit of Mr Yoshio Utsumi, Secretary General, ITU

Mr Yoshio Utsumi, Secretary General ITU visited IETE HQ at New Delhi on 8 Feb 2000. He addressed the gathering of IETE Council Members, Past Presidents, Distinguished Fellows and Corporate Members. On arrival he was briefed by Dr H S Sharma, President IETE on the activities of IETE in the field of Electronics, Telecommunication and Information Technology. Dr Sharma stated that the IETE was helping the Policy Makers by providing suitable inputs through

discussions in Apex Forum. IETE is also promoting telecommunication engineering and IT through its continuing education programmes for human resource development. He said under socially relevant programmes, IETE has trained 4800 lower-income group urban women in computer operation. IETE is bringing out quality publications for all levels of readership and is also promoting formulations and implementation of national standards of products and services.

In his address Mr Yoshio Utsumi expressed his happiness to be in India in the new millennium to see for himself the developments in the field of telecommunication. He informed the members that ITU has the largest membership base of 189 and has about 600 telecommunications companies contributing to its growth. India is a founder member of ITU. He felt that India is a strong telecommunication and IT power. He said India has excellent potential for software development and would like to convey to the world what he saw in India. Mr Yoshio Utsumi informed the IETE gathering that ITU has finalized some standards for global roaming, multiple excess chip and multimedia facilities. Additional allocation of frequencies have been decided in Istanbul conference. He was happy to see modernization of telecommunication facilities in India and ITU will do its best to help in this direction.

Shri R N Bhardwaj, DDG (IR), Dept of Telecommunication also highlighted the contribution of IETE towards advancement in the field of Electronics, Telecommunication and Information Technology including socially relevant programmes for educating women from economically weaker section of the society.



Visit of ITU Secretary General to IETE. Seated L→R: Mr Yoshio Utsumi, Secretary General, ITU, Dr H S Sharma, President, IETE, Maj Gen K B Jhaldiyal, AVSM (Retd), Secretary General, IETE and Shri R N Bhardwaj, DDG (IR), DoT

NEWS FROM LOCAL CENTRES

AHMEDABAD

The valedictory function of NORAD 98-99 batch was held on 9th December 99. The certificates were distributed to the successful candidates by the course coordinator Ms Sangeeta Nagrare. Instructor Nayna Trivedi proposed the vote of thanks.

BANGALORE

Technical lectures held by the Centre during the month of December 1999 are as follows:-

- 4/12/99 - Multiple Documents & Multiple Views VC++ by Shri Raghunath
- 5/12/99 - Design for Test and Testability VLSI by Prof Srinivas
 - Multimedia, Internet/ Intranet, E-mail by Shri S B Viswakumar
 - Debugging Visual C++ Programme by Shri Raghunath
- 12/12/99 - Application of DSP to Image Processing by Capt Pranesha
 - Microcontroller Instruction Set by Shri G R Joshi
 - LAN, MAN, NAN by Prof C Murali
 - Visual C++ by Shri Raghunath
- 19/12/99 - Network Components & Basics of Network Security by Prof C Murali
 - VLSI Building Box Processor by Shri D V Poornaiah
 - Microcontrollers by Shri G R Joshi

DEHRADUN

The Centre organised a technical lecture on "Glaciology and its Application in Defence" by Dr J T Gergan, Principal Investigator-Glaciology Projects, Wadia Institute of Himalayan Glaciology, Dehradun on 10th December 1999. At the outset, the speaker told the audience about the different existing glaciers, their formation and discussed the results of the studies carried out by his team at the Dhokrani glaciers in UP hills. He gave an account of the recession taking place in the different glaciers and its causes. He elaborated on the use of Ground Penetration Radar (GPR) for study of the glaciers & detection of hidden crevasses and told that the GPRs can possibly be used for the detection of crevasses on operational

basis in Siachen glacier and thus preventing loss of lives of troops.



Dr J T Gergan delivering the Invited talk

DELHI

The IETE, Delhi Centre organised the following technical lectures during the month of Feb 2000 at Delton Hall.

- Bits that will Ignite the Future by Prof E Mamadani of Imperial College of Science, Technology and Medicine, University of London on 4th Feb, 2000
- Recent and Future Trends in Optical Communication by Shri A K Srivastava, Director (RR) Telecom Engineering Centre on 11 Feb, 2000.

GUWAHATI

A 5 day Training Programme on Computer Awareness with Hindi Computing was organised from 31 Jan- 4 Feb 2000 at the IETE, Guwahati Centre. The training was conducted by the Instructors of Electronics Research & Development Centre of India (ER&DCI), Noida, Ministry of Information Technology, Govt of India.

Certificates to the successful participants were handed over by Shri Prasanta Saikia, Hony Secretary, IETE Guwahati Centre.

GWALIOR

The Institution of Electronics and Telecommunication Engineers (IETE) began its activities in the new millennium on a very promising note of expansion by opening a Sub-Centre at Gwalior which happens to be the 40th centre of IETE. It is the 4th centre in Madhya Pradesh besides the existing ones at Bhopal, Jabalpur and Mhow.



Inauguration of the Gwalior Sub-centre: L→R Er P P Khare, Chief Guest, Dr H S Sharma, President IETE, Prof R R Das, Guest of Honour and Er D K Agrawal Secretary, IETE Gwalior Sub-centre

The IETE Gwalior Sub-Centre was inaugurated on 5 February 2000. On this occasion the IETE Gwalior Sub-Centre heralded its opening with organising a two day All India Conference on "Intelligent Systems" (IS-2000) on 5-6 February 2000 at DRDE auditorium Gwalior jointly with the Computer Society of India (CSI), Gwalior Chapter. Both the events were inaugurated in the presence of IETE Council Members and a galaxy of invited dignitaries from all over the country. The IETE Gwalior Sub-Centre also hosted 3rd council meeting of IETE (1999-2000).

Er P P Khare, CGM (MP Telecom), the Chief Guest, highlighted in his inaugural speech the role of IETE in today's world of speedy and efficient telecommunication technology. He also insisted on the development of infrastructure for imparting instructions in our national language HINDI for AMIETE and DipIETE students. He wished smooth development of this centre and extended his full cooperation for the upliftment of IETE in this region.

Prof R R Das, Vice-Chancellor of Jiwaji University, as the Guest of Honour, congratulated IETE for opening the Sub-Centre at Gwalior and assured his full assistance for its growth. He also discussed about Intelligent Systems and their existence.

Dr H S Sharma, President of IETE, in his presidential address narrated the aims and objectives of IETE and informed about the new streams and courses introduced. He inaugurated the conference IS-2000 by releasing Conference Souvenir. He discussed at length the necessity of Intelligent Systems and the bounds associated with cognitive systems.

Er R K Khetan, Chairman CSI Gwalior Chapter, gave a memorable remark by describing IETE Gwalior Sub-Centre

as a sister organisation in the town and hoped that now they are eleven not two. He described the activities of CSI in and around Gwalior.

Er D K Agarwal, Secretary, IETE Gwalior Sub-Centre and GM (Telephones), proposed vote of thanks to all invitees, guests, delegates and sponsors.

In the first technical session of the conference, 7 technical papers were presented. The session was chaired by Prof J P Gupta, IIITM, Gwalior. Prof Neeraj Jain, JU, Gwalior, acted as rapporteur. The second session on 5 February 2000 was chaired by Dr H S Sharma, President IETE, in which 9 papers were presented. Dr A S Saxena assisted the Chairman. In the two sessions on 6 February 2000 Prof Y M Gupta, Head SOS, JU, Gwalior acted as Chairman and Prof A S Saxena assisted again as rapporteur.

HYDERABAD

The following lectures were conducted by the Hyderabad Centre:-

- A lecture by Shri M V S Birinchi, Special Officer, AP Transco, Hyderabad on 'SCADA and RESMAC in Sub-Transmission and distribution Automation' on 9th Dec 99. Shri K Laxminarayana, Chairman of the Centre presided over the programme. Engineers and Industrialists from the related field attended the lecture.
- On 24th Dec '99 another lecture by Shri M Siva Ramaiah, Consultant in Power Electronics, Hyderabad on 'UPS Systems - Design, Selection and Maintenance' was organised. Dr E V R Rao, Vice-Chairman, IETE, Hyderabad Centre presided over the programme.

JAIPUR

The inaugural function of the Students' Forum of IET was held at Malviya Regional Engineering College, Jaipur on Dec 6th, 1999. Dr Ken Laker, President IEEE was the Chief Guest on the occasion. Prof V K Bhargava, University of Victoria, Canada was the Guest of Honour. The ceremony was presided over by Prof S C Agarwal, Principal, MREC. Also present at the ceremony were Dr Sandeep Sancheti, Advisor, IETE Students' Forum, Shri M S Gaur, HOD Computer Engg Department and Shri Sunil Rana, Student Chairman besides a host of Head of Deptts and other faculty members. The highlight of the event was a lecture on "Switched Capacitor Filters for Precise Analog Signal Processing" by Dr Ken Laker. During the interactive session Dr Laker answered various queries regarding the IETE students' branch, its activities, the problems faced by the members and hinted at the forthcoming changes and facilities that would provide online access to the various journals and other magazines. He also envisaged the impact of cooperation

between the IEEE, IETE and other professional societies.

An invited talk on 'Mobile Cellular Communications' was organised under the aegis of IETE, Rajasthan Local Centre and IETE Students' Forum, MREC, Jaipur on Dec 17, 1999. Col B S Jaggi, GM, Hexacom Pvt Ltd and Vice-Chairman of the local centre was the invited speaker. Another highlight of the event was the announcement of the 'Zonal IETE Conference' on the topic 'Information Technology & E-Commerce' during the month of April/May 2000.



Chief Guest Prof Ken Laker lighting the lamp at the IETE Students' Forum inaugural function at MREC, Jaipur

MHOW

A seminar on "Information Security: The Road ahead" 'INFOSEC-99' was held by the Sub-Centre at the MCTE, Mhow on 10-11th Dec '99. The Chief Guest, Lt Gen Sudhir Kumar, Commandant, MCTE inaugurated the seminar. Highlighting the importance of the subject, he cautioned about the security of computer systems, software, data and the communication media. Dr H S Sharma, President IETE, in his presidential address said that giant strides are needed for India to realize itself as an Information Superpower of the next millenium. Delivering his keynote address, Dr D B Pathak, Head of the School of Information Technology, IIT, Mumbai enlightened the audience with the salient aspects of Information Security and related issues.

Other notable speakers included Commodore Premchand (WESEE, New Delhi), Dr Sandeep Oberoi (Tata Infotech Ltd., Mumbai), Dr R K Khardekar (Centre of Advanced Technology, Indore), Dr G S Singh (BARC, Mumbai), Dr D K Garg (SAG, New Delhi), Dr V Ch Venkaiah (IIT, Delhi), and Dr P D Vyawahare (SGSITS, Indore).

The seminar was attended by luminaries in the field from all over the country. Computer professionals from government

organisations, educational institutes, public /private sector establishments as well as from the industry & business establishments attended in large numbers.



Chief Guest Lt Gen Sudhir Kumar, Commandant, MCTE, Mhow releasing the souvenir

MUMBAI

IETE Mumbai Centre organised a seminar on "Telecommunication Scenario in the Next Millennium" on 10.12.99 at Westend Hotel, Mumbai.

The delegates of the seminar were from DoT, MTNL, VSNL, IIT, BARC, AAI, Indian Rlys, Punjab Communications, Tata Cos, etc.

In his welcome address Shri S K Saraswati, Chairman, IETE Mumbai Centre briefed the gathering on the various activities/functions of IETE which was very useful for the Non-Members.

Shri B G Kale, in his introductory speech, highlighted the various developments in the telecom field in this millennium and stressed that strong "Good Infrastructure" was essential for progress of any country.

Shri H P Wagle, in his opening speech, discussed the rapid growth that had taken place from the initial stages. He stressed that reliability and quality would be the two key words for any development. He said, "The new services should be affordable by every one in the society and IT should become part of human rights as Telecom improves the quality of life. Next millennium will have more reduction in tariffs and tariff plays vital role in deciding the services".

Shri Ramani Iyer, CGM, (MTNL, in his key address, indicated how the fusion of telephony, TV (Video) and computer had led to the development revolution.

Shri P Pande DGM, MTNL, in his presentation on network

technologies, informed the various network topologies in use. He stressed on the security aspects of various networks. He said, "Every organisation should have a security policy with well defined security responsibility, network security and disaster management".

Shri T K Sridharan from IRIDIUM, India Ltd the drivers for SAT phone, discussed various sat phone technologies. Salient features of LEO, MEO, GEO ORBITS, INMARSAT PHONES and security limitation and other service providers in the field were discussed.

Shri Chacko, GM (Marketing), MTNL, in his presentation on "Emerging Trends in Telecommunications", started with a quote "The only limit we feel today is geographic boundaries, otherwise technology has merged the world". He emphasised that still our tele density was only 2.1/100 people with 15/100 people in Mumbai. 62% of our telephone connections were still in urban areas. Presently, 75% top internet domains were in USA with only 0.3 in India. A lot of investment in health care & education using internet technology would be seen in the next millennium. He explained how a triangle of trust-access-know-how was essential for economic growth.

Shri A K Chopra, Chief S & T Engineer, W Rly briefed on the various technologies in use in railways and their future plans. He informed the difficulties faced by railways in communications due to limitations of priorities in DoT network. He discussed at length regarding disaster management in railways and thanked VSNL for supporting them with INMARSAT telephones. He stated that spare capacities on railway telecommunication network may be made available to telecommunication service providers.

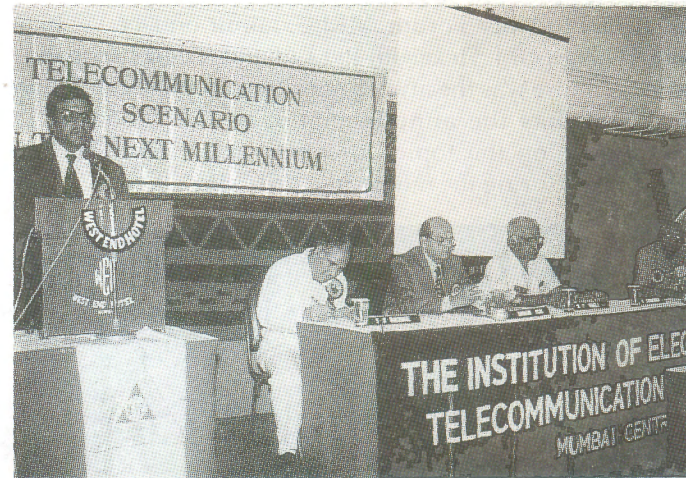
Shri Moppalwar, Director, Information Technology of Maharashtra Govt gave a presentation on Rural Telephony. He described how the technology development would improve the confidence in the minds of public as well as employees of any organisation. He discussed with statistics how the deployment of IT could benefit a small farmer in sending his crop to sugar factory in time.

Shri P V S N Murty, GM, VSNL informed that NET virus is a big problem for all NET users and wished that CYBERLAWS were announced to control all this at the earliest.

He said that with the setting up of webfarms by VSNL, the connections will increase and bandwidth cost will decrease. This would benefit NET users finally. VSNL/DoT should help in improving the rural communication to benefit agricultural industries and farmers.

- NORAD Valedictory Function was organised on Dec 28, 1999.
- Marks sheets and certificates were given during the valedictory function.

- Prizes (computer books) were given to the rank holders by the Chief Guest.



Chairman IETE Mumbai Centre introducing the Chief Guest at the Inaugural Session of the seminar 'Telecommunication Scenario in the next Millennium. From L to R : Shri S K Saraswati (Chairman), Dr T S Rathore (Secretary), Shri S Ramani Iyer, CGM MTNL (Chief Guest), Shri H P Wagle and Shri B G Kale

NAGPUR

A Zonal Seminar along with tutorials and Pannel discussion was held at Dr Panjabrao Deshmukh Krishi Vidyapeeth, Akola (Mah) during 21st-22nd January 2000 with Cdr (Dr) H S Sharma, IETE President presided over the function, Dr Anwar Alam, Deputy Director General (Agri Engg), ICAR as the Chief Guest and Dr M L Madan, Vice Chancellor, Dr PD Krishi Vidyapeeth as distinguished guest.

The special feature of the 3 day programme were visits of delegates to: large farms of Dr P D Krishi Vidyapeeth Akola and Sri Sant Gajanan Maharaj College of Engineering at Shegaon along with planary talk by Dr H S Sharma on "Biomedical Instrumentation-An Alternative Approach". Exhibition of instruments developed by Agri-Electronic Group of CSIO, Chandigarh. Experiments modelled by Agri-Electronic Students of Modern College, Pune and relevant exhibits by some leading industries in the field.

Dr A Alam, in his inaugural talk gave an overall scenario of the growth so far and in near future in agricultural production, Research and Development and extension centre. He brought out several areas on which ICAR is emphasizing by way of ECIT impact on Agriculture. Dr Alam stressed the need for formulating a strategy for the following: (a) Ruggedisation for agricultural instruments used in the field, (b) Development of proper electronic sensors for instant

measurements in fields and their regular marketing, (c) Availability of electronic equipment at Panchayat Level training of personnel for proper adoption and use as above.

Dr MLMadan, Vice Chancellor, Dr P D Krishi Vidyapeeth, Akola in his address stressed the urgency for miniaturisation of instruments to make them portable, battery operated and convenient handling in effective use by farm workers. Costwise they should be affordable to farmers.

Dr H S Sharma, President IETE, emphasized the introduction of more and more Information Technology in marketing strategies, establishing direct linkage between producer and buyer, as well as development of appropriate expert systems to integrate traditional knowledge computer databases and logic and generate software packages for best/optimum cropping methods, processing of crop-produce etc.

The following two Tutorial Sessions were held:-

(a) Automation in Irrigation Session

- Three resource persons, viz, Dr J H Agarwal, Retired Director of the Instrumentation Laboratory, Jawaharlal Nehru Krishi Vidyapeeth, Jabalpur, Dr (Mrs) V Agarwal, and Prof S M Taley, Project Engineer, Long Farm Project, Dr P D Krishi Vidyapeeth, Akola conducted this session.
- Dr J H Agarwal, gave the cross-sectional view of various methods of soil moisture measurements monitoring of moisture-in-leaf by non-contact methods and advance farming methods like satellite controlled tractor, remote sensing and crop-growth models.
- Dr (Mrs) V Agarwal presented the procedure for designing power system for irrigation using solar photo-voltaic pannel based on modelling using Lin-Jordan software programme.
- Prof S M Talay presented the salient features of the large scale automated drip irrigation system.

(b) Session on Data Acquisition and Management

- Dr Pawan Kapur, head Agri-Electronics Division and Dy. Director, CEERI, Pilani and Dr D S Pandit, Senior Scientist, Regional Remote Sensing and Survey Centre, Nagpur were the resource persons.
- Dr D S Pandit explained the planning and management of crop patterns, water and land use based on remote sensing from Satellites. An overview of various IRS satellites in terms of frequency bands and spatial resolution was given.

Technical Sessions

There were four technical sessions held on 21st and 22nd January 2000.

I. Automation in Irrigation

- Dr Pawan Kapur gave the lead talk on "Instrumentation and Control Systems for crop production", post harvest storage and food processing.
- Contributory papers presented in the session discussed small and large automated irrigation systems. Drip irrigation, A single cable field communication system for automation in Micro-irrigation, development of tension meters for flow-control etc.

II. Microprocessor Based Instrumentation

- Lead talk on, "Near Infra-red Based Instrumentation for Agricultural Applications" (Dr R P Bajpai, Director, CSIO Chandigarh) was presented on behalf of Dr Bajpai by Shri A K Ganju, Senior Scientist and Head Agri-Electronic Division, CSIO. Measurement and analysis of various agro-parameters like moisture, chlorophyll, etc is rendered possible.
- 8 papers contributed by authors for the session included new technique for rainfall measurement, Flow type colorimeter system for seed analysis, Moisture Meter for Grains, Microcontroller and PC based systems for Agricultural Applications, optical fibre and sensors, pH measurement and control in sugar industries, Canal instrumentation etc.

III. Data Acquisition and Management

- Lead talk for this session, "Space Technology in Agriculture Management" (Dr Y V N Krishnamurthy, Director, Reg Remote Sensing and Survey Centre, Nagpur) was presented by Dr D S Srinivasan, Senior Scientist.
- Papers presented in the session included methods of signal processing, data analysis and processing.

IV. Impact of ECIT on Agriculture

- Lead talk for this session was also delivered by Dr Pawan Kapur on, "Data Mining Applications in Agro-Based Industries".
- The papers presented included applications of information technology for MIS in seed distribution, pricing quality and analysis. Networking of farmers, sugar factories, R&D laboratories and financial institutions through Internet could lead to optimum utilisation of inputs to give maximum returns.
- Dr H S Sharma, IETE President, gave his comments on various aspects like need for interaction between concerned scientists, users and suppliers of services and equipment. Teams have to be formed to identify the requirements and technology.

NOIDA

A Seminar on 'Information Technology: Cyber Laws & Challenges of the Internet Economy' organised by IETE Centre and ER&DCI, Noida was held on 24th Dec 1999 at the Power Management Institute, NTPC, Noida. The seminar was attended by a large number of delegates from Govt Deptts both Civil & Defence, private organisations and students. The inaugural session was presided over by Dr H S Sharma, President IETE and inaugurated by the Chief Guest, Prof Yashpal a noted Scientist and Educationist.

The keynote address was delivered by Shri Narendra Sharma, Secretary Telecom Regulatory Authority of India. Earlier Shri R K Verma, Chairman IETE Noida Centre welcomed the Chief Guest, other dignitaries and delegates. A number of papers were presented during the two technical sessions on various issues concerning the theme of the seminar. 'Secure Networks for Internet Economy' was presented by Shri Sudarshan, Project manager ER & DCI Noida, 'Defence Perspective' was presented by Maj Gen B K Kataria, VSM, Addl Director General (Telecom) Signal Dte, 'Secure Electronic Transaction in E-Commerce' by Ms Debjani Nag, Technical Director of NIC, 'Web Based Access' by Shri Pratik Mohan of IIS Infotech and 'Tips for E-Business Success' by Col M K Khera, Head IT, Zee Telefilms Ltd.

A lively panel discussion chaired by Maj Gen Yashwant Deva, AVSM, was held after the technical sessions. There were two views about the enactment of Cyber Laws. One not to have any and the other in favour. Ultimately, they recommended enactment of some Cyber Laws initially, necessary to prevent fraud, with caution. These Laws could later be amended as we gain experience.



A view of the dias. L to R Shri Anil Bhushan, Vice-Chairman, Maj Gen Y Deva, Council Member, Cdr (Dr) H S Sharma, President IETE, Prof Yash Pal, Chief Guest, Shri Narendra Sharma, Secretary, Min of I T. and Shri R K Verma, Chairman Noida Centre

PATNA

Change of Address of Patna Local Centre

This is to inform the IETE fraternity that IETE, Patna Centre has shifted to the following new address:

**3E/280, New Patliputra Colony
(by the side of Basundhara Apartment)
PO Patliputra, PATNA 800 013.**

Henceforth, the correspondence may kindly be sent to the above new address.

PILANI

- The Centre organised a technical tour for the members and their families to Chaudhury Charan Singh University of Agriculture at Hissar on Dec 11, 1999. The members were shown Medical Plants, Vegetable Research Farm, Veterinary Clinics, Horticulture Research section and Floriculture Nursery Stations.
- A seminar on the importance of e-commerce in millenium 2000 was held on Dec 3, 1999.
- Interactive meet of the EC members with the students was held to encourage them to graduate through IETE courses and avail the examination facility at the Centre.

VIJAYAWADA

A lecture meeting was organised by the local Centre on 21 Jan, 2000. Ms M Padmaja MIETE, Lecturer, VR Siddhartha Engineering College delivered a talk on 'Micro Controllers'. She dealt with the origin, growth and applications of Micro Controllers in her lecture. Dr M C Chandra Mouly, Chairman, IETE Vijayawada Local Centre, in his Welcome Address emphasized the need of continuing education for all concerned in Electronics and Communication Engineering in view of the galloping technology.

Shri A Ravi Kumar, Hon'y Secretary, informed about the activities of the Centre.

ISCA NEWS

87th Indian Science Congress

The 87th session of the Indian Science Congress was held at Pune in January, 2000. The Science Congress was inaugurated on 3 January, 2000 by the Prime Minister, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpai. The Presidential Address on this occasion was delivered by Dr R A Mashelkar, DG, CSIR and Honorary Fellow, IETE. Brig S V S Chowdhry (Retd), Past President, IETE was invited to deliver the prestigious Platinum Jubilee Lecture in the Computer Sciences Section of the Indian Science

Congress on 4 January, 2000. Brig Chowdhry was earlier President of the Computer Sciences Section during the year 1997-98.

The next session of the Science Congress will be held at Delhi in January, 2001. Prof H M Gupta, Council Member, IETE has now been elected as the President of the Computer Sciences Section of ISCA for the year 2000-2001. He will be responsible for organising the technical programme in respect of the Computer Sciences Section during the 88th Session of the Indian Sciences Congress.

EDITOR'S FORUM

This decade will be the decade of communications, computers, VLSIs, signal processing algorithms and the like. Challenges will continue to emerge and will be met for the information age to take shape and stabilize. We are fortunate to have opted for the profession, served by the IETE, wherein the time constant from imagination of a concept to its fructification is really small. No other discipline of engineering comes closer to that of ours in innovation of technologies, products or even their social relevance. But the same aspect also brings with it the need for continuously updating ourselves lest we become vegetables in our own professional spheres.

It is here that we, as an Institution, provide you enormous opportunities to remain on the forefront of technology so that you are well aware of multitudes of developments that are taking place all around us, be it in theory, practice, algorithms, software or product. We provide platforms all around the country where experts assemble for dissemination of knowledge. The experts also learn from these interactions, as knowledge is a two-way street. Our calendar of events gives you a glimpse of our planned and on-going activities. Your Council as well as the local centres and sub-centres are committed to organize such activities on regular basis. These events also provide you opportunities to meet your fellow colleagues having similar interests. However, should you think that we should be pursuing some activity for your professional growth please write to us on ietend@iasdl01.vsnl.net.in (our e-mail address). We shall examine each such request.

—Prof Vishwanath Sinha

APPOINTMENT

Shri P M Dastidar, Fellow Chairman, IETE Guwahati Centre has been elevated to the rank of Inspector General and appointed as IG and Director of Police (Commn) Assam.

NATIONAL AWARDS

The Institution of Electronics and Telecommunication Engineers congratulate the following on being conferred prestigious awards by the Govt. of India.

<i>Recipients</i>	<i>Name of the Award</i>
Dr K Kasturirangan, DFIETE Secy, DOS & Chmn Space Commission	- Padma Vibhushan
Dr R A Mashelkar, HFIETE DG, CSIR	- Padma Bhushan
Prof P V Indiresan, DFIETE Past President, IETE	- Padma Bhushan
Shri Ratan N Tata, HFIETE Chmn, Tata Industries	- Padma Bhushan
Dr V K Aatre, FIETE (Scientific Advisor to Raksha Mantri)	- Padma Bhushan
Lt Gen P G Gokarn, AVSM, FIETE	- Param Vishisht Seva Medal
Lt Gen Sudhir Kumar, FIETE	- Param Vishisht Seva Medal

NOTICE

The Bengal University College (Deemed University) recognised a pass in AMIETE Examination as eligibility for admission its to Post Graduate programmes.

CORRECTIONS

The following Registration fee along with Delegate Registration Form circulated with the Brochure for 31st Mid-Terms Symposium on 'Emerging Wireless Communication Technologies & Systems' to be held at Ahmedabad during 8-9 April, 2000 may kindly be remitted.

Registration Fee:

- | | |
|---|------------|
| 1. Individual IETE Corporate Member (Life) | Rs. 300/- |
| 2. Individual IETE Corporate Member
(Annual) | Rs. 400/- |
| 3. Student Members | Rs. 200/- |
| 4. Nominees of Organisational Members | Rs. 600/- |
| 5. Others | Rs. 1500/- |

The inconvenience caused is regretted.

—Secretary General

OBITUARIES



With profound grief and sorrow we announce the demise of **Shri P M C Lal**, Head Data Communication Techniques Division (DCDT), Space Application Centre Ahmedabad and Senior Fellow member of IETE on 23rd November, 1999. Born in Tirunelveli, he joined SAC in 1971, he was one of the pioneers in the field of Spread Spectrum Techniques in India, and was associated in defence projects, development of GPS receivers & Satellite Navigation Programme. The Institution condoles the passing away of one of its prominent fellow members.

- The Institution also deeply mourns the untimely demise of **Shri H N Bandopadhyaya**, FIETE who was the Past Chairman (1992-95) and an active member of the IETE, Pilani Local Centre. He passed away on October 13, 1999 at Pilani.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Subject	Date	Venue	Contact
• Role of E-Commerce in Accelerating Societal	24-25 Mar 2000	Vishakhapatnam	Shri K Chandra Mohan Scientist E, Computer Centre Naval Science & Technological Lab Vigyan Nagar, Visakhapatnam 530 Q27 Ph: 586083 (O) 712237 (R)
• 31st Mid Term Symposium on	8-9 Apr 2000	Ahmedabad	Shri N Mohanty, Chairman IETE Ahmedabad Centre 206, Umiya Shopping Centre Satellite Road, Ahmedabad 380 015 Telefax: 079-6565938
• Communic Asia 2000 The 12th Asian Intl Communications & Info Tech Exhibition & Conf	6-9 Jun 2000	Singapore	Singapore Exhibition Services Pte Ltd., 47 Scotts Road, 11th Floor Goldbell Towers, Singapore 228233 Ph: (65) 738 6776 Fax: (65) 732 7667 e-mail: jc@sesmontnet.com
• ITU Telecom Asia 2000	4-9 Dec 2000	Hong Kong China	Mr Thomas Frankl, Head, Press & Public Relations for Telecom 99+, Interactive 99, ITU, Telecom CH-1211 Geneva 20-Switzerland Tel: 41 22 730 03 31, e-mail: thomas.frankl@itu.int
• ITU Telecom Americas 2000	10-15 Apr 2000	Rio de Janeiro	Mr Tom Dahl-Hansen, Sr Vice-President, Telecom, ITU, Palace des Nations, CH-1211, Geneva 20, Switzerland. Tel: +41 22 730 6161; Fax: +41 22 730 6444; e-mail: telecominf@itu.int

Note: The Institution of Electronics and Telecommunication Engineers assumes no responsibility for the statements and opinion expressed by individual author and speakers.

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