

years of joint work are unlikely to suffer for lack of a visa. Our interaction continues. After all, people, rather than offices build relations. As for technology, our company like many others, is developing instruments that can be controlled through dial-up networking. The

American Physical Society may hold its next meeting on the Net – with active participation of its Indian invitee who did not make it last time. Scientific Enterprise is invincible. Policy makers and the bureaucracy need to be 'Y2K-compatible' and keep pace with the

people they serve – if they really are concerned about public opinion.

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## 'Millennium' meetings

September to February is the 'high-season' for both national and international scientific conferences, in India and this year it would reach its zenith

for the word 'millennium' is now associated with all meetings. Many of us take part in such meetings a couple of times and on an average deliver a talk of

25–30 min duration. There are many oft-repeated phrases;

Statement made	What the speaker actually meant
At the beginning, I thank the convenor for inviting me....	Did not even pay me the full travel; I had to pay 50% of the travel cost from my grant just for the sake of 'Flying returns'.
Before I forget, I want to mention the names of people who actually did the work....	None of them did anything apart from mixing a few things; it is my idea, my protocol, my money.
In first few slides, I will review the background of the work....	Somehow, I need to spend 15 min on it.
I am sorry for the poor quality of this slide....	Thankfully none here would like to see the originals; I wonder how the data can be improved upon these days by photography (computers).
It is OK if the slide is inverted, I can handle it....	I arranged the slides. Nobody should make out anything.
I apologize for not bringing an important slide in a hurry....	It was intentional.
How many more minutes do I have?....	Why do you not ring the bell?
Data looks very interesting so far....	Only, I think so.
You have to wait till the next meeting to listen to the complete story....	Do call me again..... 'Flying returns'.

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