



Planet Earth

94th Indian Science Congress, 3rd to 7th January 2007

Annamalai University, Chidambaram, Tamil Nadu

The Earth, our home planet, is unique. It has provided an environment for the evolution of life and natural resources for its substance. A planet similar to the Earth in the Universe has not been found. Human beings have been exploring the Earth's evolution since time immemorial to understand the processes responsible for the generation of her resources, particularly hydrocarbons, minerals, etc. The everincreasing demand of energy, mineral resources and safe drinking water for the burgeoning population is of great concern due to finiteness of natural resources. The forecast of Indian Monsoon systems is still a big challenge. The issue of climate change associated with global warming leading to serious consequences such as rainfall variability, sea-level changes, glacial melting, frequency of cyclones and hurricanes, etc. needs to be addressed. In the recent past, the earth has been battered with frequent natural and man-made disasters like earthquakes, tsunami, floods, cyclones, droughts, landslides and environmental pollution, which threaten the very existence of our lives. The advances in Earth System Science, like multiparametric imaging, full waveform investigations and climate forecasting using coupled ocean-atmosphere general circulation model to name a few have made positive impact for the betterment of society. However, more integrative investigations of the planet earth are needed to improve the quality of life with least adverse impact on the environment to achieve our goal of developing and sustaining a knowledge society. The 94th Indian Science Congress devotes itself to the theme 'Planet Earth' to address vital issues closely related to our natural habitat.

THRUST AREAS

• Energy Security • Mineral Resources • Water Resources • Ocean Resources • Earth-Ocean-Atmosphere Interactions, Climate Change and Monsoon Forecast • Natural Hazards • Anthropogenic Hazards, Waste Management and Environmental Issues • Education • Synergy of Science and Industry • Space Applications for Planet Earth • Nano-Technology • Bio-Technology • Agriculture • Biodiversity, Bioresources, Erosion of Genetic Pool • Mysteries of Planet Earth • Medical Sciences.

HOST UNIVERSITY

Annamalai University spread over a sprawling campus of 405 ha, is located in Chidambaram town about 75 km south of Pondicherry. It was founded in 1929 by a visionary and Philanthropist the Hon'ble Dr Rajah Sir Annamalai Chettiar of Chettinad. The university grown into a premier, unitary and residential university during the past 76 years and accomplished the academic excellence through teaching, research and extension under the dynamic leadership of Dr M. A. M. Ramaswamy, Pro-Chancellor and the excellent stewardship of Dr L. B. Venkatarangan, Vice-Chancellor. Presently the university has nine faculties which include Arts, Science, Indian Languages, Engineering and Technology, Education, Fine Arts, Agriculture, Medicine and Dentistry located under one roof. The university is actively engaged in both On-campus and Off-campus teaching programmes including diploma, postgraduate diploma, and job oriented certificate courses. The university is offering 360 different programmes through Off-campus mode which is assisted by 76 study centres spread over the country.

LOCAL SECRETARIES, ISC 2007

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