INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON LUMINESCENCE AND ITS APPLICATIONS (ICLA-2004)

An International Conference on Luminescence and its Applications (ILCA-2004), organised by Luminescence Society of India (LSI), was held at BARC, during February 9-12, 2004. The Conference was inaugurated by Dr Anil Kakodkar, Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission and Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Atomic Energy. It was presided over by Mr B. Bhattacharjee, Director, BARC.

The Conference started with a welcome address by Dr V. Venkat Raj, Chairman, National Organising Committee, ICLA-2004 and former Director, Health, Safety and Environment Group, BARC. In his speech, he expressed happiness about the excellent response evoked by the conference amongst the international community and Indian scientists alike. He pointed out the significance of the conference being held in BARC, during the Golden Jubilee Year of the Department of Atomic Energy. Dr B. C. Bhatt, President, LSI and Convener, ICLA-2004, summarised the various activities conducted by the Luminescence Society of India since its inception in 1990. He also emphasised the need for the International meet on the topic as luminescence plays an important role in many application areas ranging from lamp industry to radiation dosimetry to medical diagnostics.

Dr A.G. Page, Convener, Technical Committee, gave details about the conference. Eight scientists from abroad (USA, Germany, Japan and Switzerland) participated in the conference. In all, thirty invited talks and ninety contributed papers on various topics of interest, were presented during the course of four days. Dr M. Itoh, Shinshu University, Japan, delivered the keynote address.

Mr B. Bhattacharjee, in his presidential address, discussed various applications of luminescence and contributions made by BARC in those areas. In this context, he specially mentioned the role played by BARC in the field of radiation dosimetry and medical diagnosis.

Dr Anil Kakodkar, in his inaugural address, mentioned about the task force set up earlier for R&D on phosphors for medical and dosimetric applications and lauded the work carried out by the members in these areas. He emphasised the need to take up time-bound programmes in other aspects and strive hard to complete them successfully. Dr K. V. R. Murthy, Secretary, LSI, proposed the vote of thanks.

Apart from fourteen technical sessions, a special evening lecture was arranged to highlight the applications of Luminescence in Diamond Industry by Mr Sripalkumar Desai.

The conference was attended by over two hundred delegates.