The Board of Research in Nuclear Sciences (BRNS) in collaboration with the Indian Desalination Association (InDA) organised a three-day Trombay Symposium on Desalination and Water Reuse (TSDWR-07) from February 7-9, 2007 at Mumbai (India). The forum provided an interface, wherein policy makers, users, suppliers, technical experts and researchers together deliberated on various issues concerning technical and executional aspects of water management schemes to formulate strategies and identify problem areas for further research and development. The International Journal on Nuclear Desalination (IJND) will publish relevant papers presented in the symposium.

The topics covered in the symposium included:
- Water Scenario in India and Current Status
- Impact of Climate Change on Water Resources
- Sea water Desalination Technologies
- Brackish water Desalination Technologies
- Waste Water Treatment, Water Recovery and Reuse
- Nuclear Desalination
- Innovative Desalination Technologies
- Water Purification Technologies
- Integrated Water Resource Management
- Rain Water Harvesting
- Safe Drinking Water in Rural and Remote Areas
- Research & Development Scenario
- Water Quality Assurance & Monitoring.

Dr. R. Chidambaram, Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India and Homi Bhabha Professor inaugurated the symposium. He said that energy security and water security are critical issues in India's
development. He outlined the efforts made by his office to bring together different agencies working in the field of desalination and water purification technologies. He referred to isotope hydrology being applied to address the problem of water scarcity in Gaucher area of Uttarakhand and the need for long term research and development studies in the field of advanced membrane development including nano tube embedded membrane for desalination and water purification.

Dr Anil Kakodkar, Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission, highlighted the increasing demand for water due to changing lifestyles and increasing population. He referred to the barge-mounted desalination unit developed by BARC which is useful for supplying safe drinking water along the coastal region. There is a strong need for involving local NGOs to use the desalination and water purification technologies for common good of people.

Dr S. Banerjee, Director, BARC, said that BARC has been in the forefront in this field including design, development and deployment of desalination and water purification plants, both for domestic and industrial water applications. The experience acquired over the years has indicated that there are still some areas where technologies have to be upgraded or some innovations are required.

Dr P.K. Tewari, President, Indian Desalination Association (InDA) and Chairman, Organising Committee welcomed the participants from India and abroad. He mentioned that promotion of desalination, water reuse and water purification technologies is one of the main objectives of Indian Desalination Association. InDA has more than 175 life members and 20 corporate members. Dr. S. Prabhakar, Secretary, Organising Committee proposed the vote of thanks.

The technical sessions included invited talks, oral presentations and poster papers. A preprint volume of the proceedings and a souvenir was brought out. The technical papers cover a wide range of topics from water resource management to different aspects of desalination and water purification. A technical exhibition of products, instruments and equipment relevant to desalination, water recovery and recycle including water purification technologies was also organised. The Symposium had an excellent response from the water community. There were about 300 delegates including participants from abroad. In all, about 70 papers were accepted for presentation and grouped into nine technical sessions with each one of them having invited talks from eminent experts in the field, along with oral and poster presentations spread over three days.

The speakers emphasised the need to keep pace with rapid growth in economy and aspirations of growing population for good quality water including safe drinking water. Also the issue relating to site-specific strategies for upgradation of technologies and innovations was addressed. The strategies discussed involved a combination of methodologies such as rain-water harvesting, water purification technologies, sea-water and brackish water desalination, waste-water treatment and reuse leading to distribution of fresh water at affordable cost. The symposium brought together desalination technologists and water management experts from government sector, industries, research and development organisations and academia from within the country and abroad to share their experiences with the end objective of availing water at affordable cost.