A two-day discussion meet on the “Role of Electrochemistry in Biosensors, Nanomaterials, Fuel cells and Ionic Liquids” (DM-BNFL-2006) was organised by the Indian Society for ElectroAnalytical Chemistry (ISEAC) and the Board of Research in Nuclear Sciences (BRNS), DAE, Mumbai during September 24 – 25, 2006. The discussion meet was organized as part of the Golden Jubilee year celebrations of BARC, at the Multipurpose Hall, Training School Hostel, Anushaktinagar, Mumbai. The opening ceremony of the discussion meet was held on September 23, 2006. During the opening ceremony, Dr S.K. Aggarwal, President, ISEAC and Chairman of the Organising Committee welcomed all the delegates and highlighted the activities of ISEAC, since its inception in October 2003. Mr. N.Gopinath, Secretary, ISEAC and Convener, DM-BNFL-2006, gave a brief summary and the importance of the topics covered in the discussion meet. Mr. Manoj K. Sharma, Secretary, DM-BNFL-2006 proposed the vote of thanks. As part of the opening ceremony, Dr. Juan M. Feliu, President of the International Society of Electrochemistry (ISE) from Spain briefly described the activities of ISE. He also formally
released a volume containing manuscripts of the invited talks and contributed papers, which were presented during DM-BNFL-2006 and gave a plenary lecture on “Surface Characterization of Platinum Nanoparticles and Electrocatalytic Reactivity”.

About one hundred participants including 11 overseas speakers participated in this discussion meet. There were 16 invited lectures and 15 contributed papers (presented as posters) during the discussion meet grouped under four technical sessions. There were panel discussions on Biosensors and Nanomaterials which were moderated by Dr S.F.D’Souza, Associate Director, Bio-Medical Group and by Dr. J.V. Yakhmi, Associate Director, Physics Group (S) at BARC, respectively. Posters were displayed throughout the discussion meet. Invited speakers from overseas included Dr S.J. Higgins and Dr (Ms) Ritu Kataky (U.K.), Dr J.L.Marty (France), Dr Chee-Seng Toh (Singapore), Dr Marek Trojanowicz (Poland), Dr. Bozidar Ogorevc (Slovenia), Dr Francesco Paolucci (Italy), Dr R.M.G. Rajapakse (Srilanka), Dr (Ms) Carita Kvarnstrom (Finland). The speakers from India included Dr K.C. Pillai (Chennai), Dr R.N. Basu (CGCRI, Kolkata), Dr Julio B. Fernandes (Goa University), Professor S.S. Sekhon (Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar) and Dr (Mrs.) S.R. Bharadwaj (Chemistry Division, BARC, Mumbai).

The valedictory function was held on Monday, September 25, 2006. During the function, some of the delegates presented their impressions about the discussion meet and expressed their satisfaction over the high quality of technical discussions during the meet. Dr. S.K. Agganwal, President, ISEAC thanked all the delegates from India and abroad, as well as all the sponsors, for their keen interest during the deliberations of the discussion meet. He also announced the venue and dates of the Third ISEAC International Conference on Electro Analytical Chemistry and Allied Topics (ELAC-2007) to be held at Shilonbagh, Shimla during March 10-15, 2007. He requested all the delegates to check the ISEAC website (www.iseac.org), for regular updates on ELAC-2007.