
The DAE-BRNS Symposium on “Emerging Trends in Separation Science and Technology (SESTEC-2010)” was held in the Vikram Sarabhai Auditorium of the Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research (IGCAR), Kalpakkam, during March 1-4, 2010. Dr. T.G. Srinivasan, Chairman LOC, SESTEC-2010 and Head, FCD, IGCAR welcomed the delegates. Dr. V.K. Manchanda, Convenor, SESTEC-2010 and Head, Radiochemistry Division, BARC outlined the programme of the Symposium and acknowledged the overwhelming response received from delegates within the country as well as from overseas. Prof. G.D. Yadav, Director, Institute of Chemical Technology (ICT), Mumbai in his inaugural address, highlighted the importance of forging alliances between academia and research institutes for national benefit. Dr. V. Venugopal, Director, Radiochemistry and Isotope (RC&I) Group, BARC highlighted the important role of separation science in the nuclear fuel cycle. Mr. S.C. Chetal, Director, Reactor Engineering Group, IGCAR in his Presidential address emphasized the challenges in

At the inaugural function from left to right are: Dr. T.G. Srinivasan (Head, Fuel Chemistry Division, IGCAR & Chairman-LOC, SESTEC-2010), Mr. S.C. Chetal, Director, Reactor Engineering Group, IGCAR, Prof. G.D. Yadav, Director, ICT, Mumbai, Dr. V. Venugopal, Director, RC&I Group, BARC, Dr. V.K. Manchanda, Head, Radiochemistry Division, BARC & Convenor, SESTEC-2010, Dr. P.N. Pathak, Secretary, SESTEC-2010
the area of separation science and technology for the fast reactor fuel cycle. Dr. P.N. Pathak, Secretary, SESTEC-2010 proposed the vote of thanks.

DAE-BRNS sponsored SESTEC symposium series was conceived in 2004 to provide a platform to researchers for exchanging ideas and emerging trends in the area of Separation Science & Technology. In a short span of 6 years, this symposium has gained importance and is now recognized as a major event in the area of Separation Science & Technology in the country. Special volumes of “Desalination” based on contributions at SESTEC-2006 (Vol. 232, 2008) and of ‘Desalination and Water Treatment’ (Vol. 12, 2009) based on contributions at SESTEC-2008 have been published. It is heartening to note that 227 contributory papers (17 Oral and 210 Poster presentations) in SESTEC-2010 were authored by scientists from 5 National Laboratories and 16 academic institutions apart from various DAE units. The invited speakers (31 including 16 from overseas) in SESTEC-2010 were outstanding scientists/technologists and represented 11 countries. Approximately seventy-five delegates from BARC participated in the Symposium. All the posters were rapporteured by young scientists.

Apart from solvent extraction and ion exchange, a wide range of topics related to separation science and technology were covered. It included: design, synthesis and characterization of solvents and resins, design and development of separation equipments, separation science and technology in the nuclear fuel cycle, emerging separation technologies, electrochemical and pyrochemical separations, treatment of industrial effluents, isotope separations, membrane science and technology, radiochemical separations, and water treatment and recycling. There was a very lively interaction between the young scholars and the experts during Poster sessions.

Mr. A.L.N. Rao, Chief Executive, Heavy Water Board, Mumbai delivered an evening special public lecture on “Difficult Separations – Heavy Water Board’s Four Decade Journey” on March 1, 2010.

In the concluding session, a panel discussion was conducted where Dr. P.R. Vasudeva Rao, Director, Chemistry Group, IGCAR, Dr. G.D. Jarvinen, Los Alamos National Laboratory, USA, Prof. G. Cote, ENSCP - Chimie ParisTech, France, Mr. S.K. Ghosh, Director, Chemical Engineering Group and Dr. V.K. Manchanda, Convenor SESTEC-2010 participated. All the speakers provided their perspective about SESTEC-2010 and on the future directions of separation science and technology. The prizes for best Oral and Poster presentations were also distributed by Association of Separation Scientists & Technologists (ASSET). A feedback session was arranged to seek suggestions for future programmes.