

**A REPORT ON 29th MEETING OF
INDIAN ASSOCIATION OF SEDIMENTOLOGISTS (IAS 2012)**

(December 20-22, 2012)

A three day National Seminar on “Sediments and sedimentary rocks: resource potential, depositional processes, implication to ecosystem and environmental changes” & The 29th Annual Convention of Indian Association of Sedimentologists (IAS) was organized by the Department of Earth Sciences, Pondicherry University, Pondicherry during 20th to 22nd December, 2012. The program was jointly sponsored by Department of Science and Technology, Government of India, Ministry of Earth Sciences, Govt. of India, Pondicherry University, Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, ONGC and SEPM. More than 175 delegates representing about 50 Institutions including Universities, Government organizations and private Industries of India attended the Seminar. There were several delegates from the Atomic Minerals Directorate (AMD) and Oil and Natural Gas Commission Ltd. (ONGC). About 80 oral and 20 poster presentations were made in two days of the meeting which was followed by a field trip. 120 abstracts were included in the abstract volume of the conference. A cultural program was organized on 20th December evening by the students of the Department of Earth Sciences, Pondicherry University.

The seminar was inaugurated by the Vice Chancellor of the Pondicherry University Prof. J.A.K. Tareen in presence of Secretary of the Indian association of Sedimentologists, past president of the association Prof. S.M. Casshyap and Head, Department of Earth Sciences, Pondicherry University.

There were eight sessions for the oral presentations which are as follows.

Session-1- Sedimentary processes and geomorphology

Session-2- basin analysis and tectonics

Session-3- Mineral and fossil fuel resources

Session-4- Sedimentary geochemistry and applied Sedimentology

Session-5- Stratigraphy and palaeontology

Session-6- Environmental studies and palaeoclimate

Session-7- Hydrogeology and application of remote sensing & GIS

Session-8- Hydrochemistry and coastal and marine sediments

The Indian Association of Sedimentologists reconstituted the governing council as the term of the existing council was over. The new committee is to be headed by Prof. G.N. Nayak. The Association was determined to regularize the publication of the “Journal of the Indian Association of Sedimentologists” and decided to take effective steps to improve the quality of the papers. The newly elected President of the Indian Association of Sedimentologists addressed the delegates in the valedictory program. The newly elected foreign secretary of the association Prof. Brinda Thusu, UCLA suggested methods to improve quality of presentations.

CDs, journals and books published by SEPM were displayed during the seminar. The organizers thanked SEPM for the financial support and included SEPM in the list of sponsors. Around 40 SEPM publications in CDs, 6 issues of JSR and PALAIOS, SEPM gifts to prospective members and a few hard bound SEPM publications were displayed. Organizers were kind enough to provide a prime space besides the registration desk for the display purpose. Many of the participants expressed interests in joining SEPM.



Inaugural session (from left Prof. Mahshar Raza, Dr. P.S. Parihar, Prof. J.A.K. Tareen, Vice Chancellor and Prof. Balakrishnan, Head Department of Earth Sciences



Display of SEPM materials during the IAS meeting



A section of the crowd in a session of the meeting



Interaction after an oral presentation



Oral presentation by a student delegate



Oral presentation by Dr. Subir Sarkar, Jadavpur University



A section of the crowd during an oral presentation



Dance performance during the cultural program



The newly elected President of the Indian Association of Sedimentologists during the valedictory program