

**A REPORT ON 26th MEETING OF
INDIAN ASSOCIATION OF SEDIMENTOLOGISTS (IAS 2009)**

(December 16-18, 2009)

A three day National Seminar on “Deltas and Other Sedimentary Basins: Their Resource Potential” & The XXVI Annual Convention of Indian Association of Sedimentologists (IAS) was Organized by the Delta Studies Institute, Andhra University, Visakhapatnam during 16th to 18th December, 2009. The main program was organized in Hotel Palm Beach, close to Andhra University Campus, Visakhapatnam. 175 Delegates representing about 30 Institutions including Universities, Government Organizations and Private Industries of India attended the Seminar (<http://www.iasindia.info/newsevents.php>). In all 105 presentations were made in two days besides a special lecture and 6 key note addresses. 121 abstracts were included in the abstract volume of the conference

(<http://www.iasindia.info/images/National%20Seminar%202009%20Abstracts.pdf>). The meeting was jointly sponsored by Ministry of Earth Sciences, Government of India, New Delhi; Oil & Natural Gas Corporation Ltd., Dehradun; Council of Scientific & Industrial Research, New Delhi; Reliance Industries Ltd., Mumbai; Dept. of Science & Technology, Government of India, New Delhi; Heramec Ltd., Hyderabad , Hardy Exploration and Production (India) Inc., Chennai and SEPM, Society of Sedimentary Geology, USA.

For the first time in the history of Indian Association of Sedimentologists meeting, exhibits of SEPM were displayed. The organizers thanked SEPM for the token financial support and included it in the list of sponsors. Around 30 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 this purpose. Many of the participants expressed interest in SEPM. The council of Indian Association of Sedimentologists expressed willingness to be a partner of SEPM in India.

On 16th December the seminar was inaugurated by Prof. S.K. Tandon, President of Indian Association of Sedimentologists and Pro Vice-Chancellor, Delhi University. Prof. S.K. Tandon

delivered a special lecture on disconnectivity in the dispersal pattern along the Ganga River and described the dynamics of the hydrological system of the Ganga River along its path. Dr. Ravi Bastia presented a key note address on the prospects of hydrocarbon exploration along the east coast of India. Dr. V.K. Rao, Advisor, RNRL (Reliance Natural Resource Limited.) delivered a key note address on “The Bengal fan delta system and hydrocarbon potential in the upper, middle and lower Bengal fan area”. This was followed by a key note address by Prof. B.K. Sahu, IIT Bombay on “Physics and Mathematics of Transportation and Deposition of Clastic Sediments”. Subsequently, Dr. B. Kumar, Former Scientist, NGRI presented a detailed account of surface geochemical prospecting during Precambrian to Tertiary period. Prof. A.S. Naidu, University of Alaska, Fairbanks, USA delivered a key note address on coastal and deltaic processes on the Alaskan Arctic region. Dr. Santanu Banerjee, IIT Bombay and an SEPM Global Ambassador presented a key note address on “Microbial mat features resembling Ediacaran fossils: Modern and ancient examples”. Prof. Banerjee also briefly presented information about SEPM, its activities and member benefits at the end of his lecture. The key note addresses were followed by the presentations for Young Sedimentologist’s Award and poster presentations by GSPC, BSIP and students of Delta Studies Institute on their live project work.

On the second day (17.12.2009) of the seminar five parallel sessions were held in two Halls (I & II). In Hall I a total three (3) Sessions were conducted i.e., (Session-I, II & IV). The theme of the session-I was on “Coastal sedimentary basins”. The theme of the session II was on “Offshore sedimentary basins” and that of Session IV was on “Paleozoic and Mesozoic Sedimentary Basins”. In Hall II two sessions were conducted, session-III was on “Archean & Proterozoic Sedimentary Basins” and session-V was on “Cenozoic Sedimentary Basins”.

A valedictory function was organized in the evening with Mr. Anand, Executive Director, Heramec and Prof. S.M. Casshyap as the Guest of Honour. The program was presided over by SEPM ambassador Prof. Santanu Banerjee. The valedictory function was followed by the General Body meeting of the members of IAS. The second day’s (17.12.09) programme concluded with Cultural Programme with classical dancers followed by dinner. On the third day i.e., 18.12.09, a field visit was organized from Visakhapatnam to Bhimunipatnam during which the geomorphological features along the picturesque coast was shown to the participants.



The venue of the Indian Association of Sedimentologists Meeting, Hotel Palm Beach, Visakhapatnam



SEPM posters near the registration desk



Lightning of the Lamp for inauguration of the IAS Meeting by Prof. S.K. Tandon, President IAS, along with Prof. V. Rajasekhara Reddy, Dr. R. Bastia, and Prof. M. Raza (left to right)



Release of the Abstract Volume of IAS Seminar (left to right- Dr. R. Bastia, Prof. S.M. Cashyap, Prof. S.K. tendon, Prof. M. Raza, Prof. V.R. Reddy)



Prof. Santanu Banerjee presiding over the valedictory function (left to right- Prof. M. Raza, Prof. S. Banerjee, Prof. S.M. Cashyap, Mr. Anand Mudigonda and Prof. V.R. Reddy)



SEPM poster in Indian Association of Sedimentologists Meeting



Organizing Secretary, Prof. D. Rajasekhara Reddy delivering his address during the inaugural ceremony, name of SEPM (in red) in the background banner as sponsor



Two halls for presentations



Registration desk with SEPM exhibits



Fieldwork in the coastal area for Quaternary geology



Section of crowd during inaugural ceremony



Prof. Santanu Banerjee delivering the key note address



Section of the crowd during a lecture