

Regional Report of India for ISE Annual Meeting in The Hague, The Netherlands

July 2016

1. ISE Members from India

I was elected on December 21, 2013 as Regional Representative of India for the period 2014-2016. The total number of ISE Members was 29 in July 2014. The importance of ISE and the benefits of the ISE membership (e.g., *Electrochimica Acta* and ISE Travel Awards for Young Researchers) were also addressed by Prof. Christopher Brett from Coimbra, Portugal to the Indian participants of the ISEAC International Discussion Meet, 11th ISEAC-DM-2014, held at Amritsar during February 20-25, 2014 organised by Indian Society for ElectroAnalytical Chemistry (ISEAC). Presently, there are 31 members, which is quite close to previous number. Several electrochemistry groups working in India are being informed of the benefits of joining ISE. Individuals are being contacted through emails also. One of the reasons is the limited funds availability with research scholars and other researchers. We would suggest some of them with active interest in electrochemistry and real funding difficulties, to approach ISE for assistance through ISE President's fund to pay for annual membership fee. An analysis of the interest of these 31 ISE members from India showed that 15, 16, 14, 3, 4 and 9 ISE members from India expressed their interest in the programs of Division 1 (*ANALYTICAL ELECTROCHEMISTRY*), Division 3 (*ELECTROCHEMICAL ENERGY CONVERSION AND STORAGE*), Division 4 (*ELECTROCHEMICAL MATERIALS SCIENCE*), Division 5 (*ELECTROCHEMICAL PROCESS ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY*), Division 6 (*MOLECULAR ELECTROCHEMISTRY*), and Division 7 (*PHYSICAL ELECTROCHEMISTRY*), respectively. Some members are interested in the activities of more than one Division of ISE.

2. Activities in India during the Reporting Period

16 abstracts were shortlisted during 11th ISEAC-DM-2014 held at Amritsar, by an international expert committee evaluating the posters as well as oral presentations. Of these, complete manuscripts of 15 abstracts were brought out as a Special Issue of "*Electroanalysis*" entitled "*Electrochemistry in India*" with Prof. Suresh Kumar Aggarwal, President, ISEAC as the Guest Editor, with the support and cooperation of Prof. Joseph Wang (Chief Editor of *Electroanalysis*), and the international reviewers.

Indian Society of ElectroAnalytical Chemistry (ISEAC) with its headquarters at Fuel Chemistry Division, Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, Trombay, Mumbai was to organize 12th ISEAC-DM-2015 in Kochi during January 2015. However, some reasons beyond the control of ISEAC executive committee members forced to postpone this event. Now we are organising 12th ISEAC-DM-2016 in Mumbai in December 2016. This is preceding the ISAEEST-11 Conference at Chennai during December 8-10, 2016.

One of the Indian ISE members, Dr Ruma Gupta, from FCD, BARC, attended the 65th Annual Meeting of ISE held at **Lausanne, Switzerland** during 31 August- 5 September 2014. Two other Indian colleagues **Dr. V. Ganesan from BHU, Varanasi** (ISE Member),

and **Dr. Subir Kumar Ghosh from BARC, Mumbai** attended this ISE Meeting. None of the ISEAC life-members could attend the 66th Annual Meeting of ISE at Taipei, Taiwan in 2015. However, the ISE website shows that one Indian participant **Balwinder Kaur from IIT, Ropar** got the best Poster Prize in this meeting. One of the main reasons for poor participation from India is the large number of International Conferences in various fields, large number of applicants applying for funding support to various Government funding agencies, and limited money available with these Government funding agencies to provide support to participate in various Conferences.

3. Activities Planned in India for 2016-17

It is proposed to hold the event “12th ISEAC Discussion Meet (**12th ISEAC-DM-2016**)” on December 7, 2016 at Mumbai. Detailed information about this International event is available on ELAC Discussion Group on “facebook” as well as final program will be posted on the ISEAC website (www.iseac.org). It is proposed to invite internationally known experts in different areas of electrochemistry.

All efforts will be made to increase the number of ISE members from India in future. We will also encourage the needy scientists to approach ISE for membership fee support from ISE Presidential fund. ISEAC also provides partial funds to its life-members for participation in the International Annual Meetings of ISE. Hopefully, the Indian participation will improve in 68th ISE Meeting at Providence, RI, USA (2017), 69th ISE at Bologna in Italy (2018) and 70th ISE at Durban, South Africa.

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