



## NEWS

### Indo-Italian discussion meeting

An Indo-Italian discussion meeting on programme of cooperation in the field of Synchrotron Radiation research and other related areas was held during Dec. 3-5, 2004. The Italian team included Dr. G. Paolucci, Dr. M. Bertolo, Dr. F. Zanini and Dr. E. Bussetto.

Dr. V.C. Sahni, Director, CAT informed about the Indian interest in the Accelerator Science and Technology. Professor D.D.Sarma, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore gave a talk on the Indian access to Elettra. Dr. Paolucci gave an overview of Elettra activities. Dr. Bertolo talk on 'Introduction to I-3 trans-European joint research activities. Dr. Zanini talk on Application of SR to Archiometry. Dr. R.V. Nandedkar, Professor V.N. Bhoraskar, Dr. S.M. Sharma, Dr. B.K. Godwal, Shri G. Singh, Shri P.R. Hannurkar, Shri A. Banerjee, Shri P. Fatnani & Dr. P. Chaddah delivered the talks from Indian side.

Finally, some additional areas of cooperation were discussed and will be included in the programme of cooperation. The Italian team also visited Indus-1 & Indias-2 complex. Around 60 participants from Universities, UGC-DAE-CSR and CAT attended the meeting.

- R.V. Nandedkar

### One-day discussion meeting "Photonics: Processes, Materials & Devices"

A one-day discussion meeting "Photonics: Processes, Materials and Devices" was organized on 28<sup>th</sup> October 2004. To begin with Dr. S.C. Mehendale, Convener, briefed the participants about the genesis of the meeting. Dr. V.C. Sahni, Director, CAT and Chairman, Organizing Committee welcomed all the participants and inaugurated the meeting. The first session chaired by Dr. V.K. Wadhawan and has talk by Prof. B.M. Arora, TIFR, on the theory and experiment concerning optical probing of the Landau states in quantum Hall regime. The next talks were by Prof. K.L. Narasimhan, TIFR on optical properties of organic semiconductors and Dr. S.K. Deb, BARC on high-pressure phase transitions in porous silicon. In the second session chaired by Shri T.P.S. Nathan, Dr. Lavanya Ramaniah, BARC spoke on ab-initio dynamics of complex systems. Dr. Hema Ramachandran, RRI gave a talk on Levy lasing in a random amplifying medium followed by Dr. S. Rangwala, RRI on linear and nonlinear behavior in cold molecular traps. The third session, chaired by Dr P.D. Gupta, began with Dr. K.S. Bindra's talk on optical

nonlinearities in semiconductor-doped glasses. Dr Mukesh Joshi spoke on fullerenes and other organic materials for photonics and Dr Tarun Sharma on MOVPE growth of quantum structures.

Dr Kailash Rustagi, who had turned 60 in October, gave an overview of some of the exciting research problems he had worked on with an insightful description of 'hits and misses'. As a token of appreciation of his contributions, a memento was presented to Dr. Rustagi by all his colleagues from CAT and BARC who had co-authored research publications with him during his long scientific career. At the end, Dr. S.M. Oak, Secretary, Organization Committee, thanked all the speakers for their interesting talks and Director, CAT for supporting the meeting.

- S.M. Oak

### Graduation function of the fourth batch of CAT Training School

The graduation function of 4<sup>th</sup> batch of CAT Training School (one-year Orientation Course) was held on August 31, 2004. Prof. V S Ramamurthy, Secretary, Department of Science and Technology, was the Chief Guest and Dr. V C Sahni, Director, CAT presided over the function. Prof. Ramamurthy distributed the graduation certificates to the passing out officers and gave away the Homi Bhabha Medal to Kum. Sudeshna Seth who secured the maximum marks among all TSOs. Prof. Ramamurthy said that the progress in the field of science and technology has been made beyond expectation; however, there is a great need for trained manpower and young entrepreneurs to harness the fruits of these developments for the betterment of our society. He mentioned that the department of science and technology had taken several steps to attract bright students and young researchers. Special emphasis is being made to generate interest in science and create scientific awareness in the country. With this consideration, year 2004 was celebrated as the year of Scientific Awareness.

Dr. Sahni presented an overview of various activities of CAT. He emphasized the importance and need of the team spirit to succeed in major R&D projects. He also mentioned about the contributions of Prof. Ramamurthy and DST in fostering CAT's activities in lasers, accelerators and other areas of research. The 4<sup>th</sup> batch of CAT Training School had a total of 18 trainees, which included 11 physics and 7 electronics/electrical engineering trainees.

- AK Nath