
ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE KARNATAKA ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE (KAAS)

The Association is devoted to the promotion of science including its application to problems of National importance and dissemination of knowledge of pure and applied sciences.

The youth service programmes of the Association are: (1) Training of students in science subjects to take competitive examinations, such as the National Talent Search Examinations, IIT Entrance Examination etc., (2) KAAS Research Awards for Young Scientists: The Association has instituted *five* awards for young scientists below the age of thirty five who belong to Karnataka and preferably have carried out research in Institutions in Karnataka. The research work carried

out should bear evidence of originality and creativity. The award will include a cash prize of Rs. 2,000/- and a citation.

The selected candidates should give a talk on the subject of his research at a meeting of the Association for being eligible to receive the Awards.

Applications for 1984 awards should reach the office of the Association on or before 1st September 1984.

Further particulars may be had from: The Secretary, KAAS Mathematics Building Annexe, Central College, Bangalore 560 001.

R. D. BIRLA MEMORIAL AWARD

The Third R. D. Birla Memorial Award for 1984 has been awarded to Nobel Laureate S. Chandrasekhar of Chicago University.

The Award was instituted by the Indian Physics Association for distinguished contribution in the field of physical sciences; it carries cash award of Rs. 25,000 and a citation. Professor Chandrasekhar is a distinguished theoretical astrophysicist and is an Emeritus Professor in the Chicago University. A concise ac-

count of the scientific achievements of Professor Chandrasekhar appeared in a recent issue of *Current Science* (1983, 52, No. 21, p. 1041).

Incidentally, Professor Chandrasekhar a Founder Fellow of the Indian Academy of Sciences, Bangalore, has been invited to attend the Golden Jubilee Celebrations of the Indian Academy of Sciences at the Raman Research Institute, Bangalore, during November 1984.

SANJAY GANDHI TRUST AWARDS

The Sanjay Gandhi Trust Awards for science and technology for 1983 have been awarded to the following scientists:

Prof. Ramdeo Misra, Institute for Plant Ecology, Banaras Hindu University; for his significant contribution in the field of environment and ecology; The award for Family Welfare and Population Centre will be shared by Dr N. K. Krishna Menon and the Family

Planning Association of India, New Delhi. Dr Menon is Professor emeritus at the Institute of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Madras. The award in the energy field is shared by five people associated with the planning, construction and operation of the Atomic Power Station at Kalpakkam near Madras. They are Dr M. R. Srinivasan, Mr M. Hariprasada Rao, Mr K. S. N. Murthy, Mr C. V. S. Sastry and Mr N. K. Murthy.

INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ON 'GEOBOTANY AND BIOGEOCHEMISTRY IN EXPLORATION FOR GROUND WATER AND MINERAL RESOURCES'

The International Seminar on "Geobotany and Biogeochemistry in Exploration for Groundwater and Mineral Resources", sponsored by the University Grants Commission, will be organised at the Sri Venkateswara University from 27th to 30th November 1984, as part of the Silver Jubilee Celebrations of the Department of Geology of Sri Venkateswara University, Tirupati.

The subject of the Seminar is interdisciplinary in scope and involves the disciplines of geology, geography, botany, agriculture, forestry chemistry, and statistics.

The different topics covered by the Seminar are as follows:

1. *Geobotany*: (a) Floras characteristic of different soils and geological formations—geobotanical mapping, (b) Remote sensing in geobotany, (c) Plants

indicating depth and quality of ground water, (d) Indicator plants and path-finders for mineral deposits, (e) Agricultural and horticultural plant response as indicators of ground water and mineral deposits, (f) Morphological and mutational changes in plants as indicators of ground water and mineral deposits.

2. *Biogeochemistry*: (g) Distribution and mobilization of chemical elements in plants in relation to rock, soil, and/or water, (h) Biogeochemistry and quality of ground water, (i) Biogeochemical survey and prospecting for location of ground water and mineral resources.

Further particulars may be had from: Dr E. A. V. Prasad, (Director of the Seminar), Head, Department of Geology, Sri Venkateswara University, Tirupati 517 502.

INSTITUTION OF CHEMISTS [INDIA] ASSOCIATESHIP EXAMINATION, 1985.

The Associateship Examination of the Institution of Chemists (India) will be held in November, 1985. The last date for Registration is 30th November, 1984. This Examination in Applied Analytical Chemistry is divided into the following eleven Sections and each candidate will be examined in two of them in addition to General Chemistry including Organic, Inorganic, Physical and Applied Analytical Chemistry: (1) Analysis of Minerals, Silicates, Ores and Alloys; (2) Analysis of Drugs and Pharmaceuticals; (3) Analysis of Foods; (4) Analysis of Water and Sewage; (5) Biochemical Analysis; (6) Analysis of Oils, Fats and

Soaps; (7) Fuel and Gas Analysis; (8) Analysis of Soils and Fertilisers; (9) Analysis Connected with Forensic Chemistry; (10) Analysis Connected with Leather Chemistry; (11) Analysis Connected with Textile Chemistry. The A.I.C. Diploma obtained by passing this Examination is recognised by the Government of India as equivalent to M.Sc in Chemistry for purposes of recruitment of Chemists.

Enquiries for details regarding this and for Membership may be sent to the Honorary Secretary, Institution of Chemists (India), Chemical Department, Medical College, Calcutta-700 073.

BIRLA AWARD

An International Award to perpetuate the memory of Ghanshyamdas Birla, familiarly known as G. D. Birla, has been instituted.

The Award, carrying a sum of Rs. 5 lakhs, equivalent to about £35,000 would be given annually to an individual for outstanding work in widening the

horizons of science, philosophy, education, literature, culture and theological studies contributing to international understanding. Mr. Aditya V. Birla, grandson of Birla, announced this at a function at London on June 17, 1984.

SECOND CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION ON SENSORS AND THEIR APPLICATIONS

The Institute of Physics, London, is organising the second Conference and Exhibition on Sensors and their Applications at the University of Southampton from 10–12 September 1985.

The topics to be covered at the conference include sensor interface and communication protocol, smart sensors, solid state sensors (including hybrid and integrated devices), sensors for robots and flexible manufacturing systems, sensor systems for sound and

vibration, resonant sensor systems, fibre optic and opto-electronic sensors and novel sensors for specific applications.

An exhibition will be staged in association with the Conference. Enquiries regarding the Conference or the Exhibition should be addressed to: The Meetings Officer, The Institute of Physics, 47 Belgrave Square, London SW1X 8QX.

ASIAN SCIENCE FORUM

Asian countries have joined together to form a Federation of the Asian Scientific Academies and Societies (FASAS) for stimulating regional cooperation and promoting individual competence.

The FASAS aims at collective self-reliance in science and technology, identify problems of regional interest, determine priorities and organise programmes and projects of mutual interest, encourage exchange of scientists and scientific information, organise joint workshops, seminars, symposia training programmes, and promote research programmes in identified areas of interest to the member academies and societies.

FASAS will help prepare state-of-art reports to

provide awareness services and information to the public, the policy decision makers, and enhance the image and impact of academies and societies in national regional and development.

Eleven societies, academies who have become members so far are: (1) Afghanistan, (2) Bangladesh, (3) China, (4) India, (5) Malaysia, (6) Nepal, (7) Pakistan, (8) The Phillipines, (9) Singapore, (10) Sri Lanka, and (11) Thailand.

The FASAS is located presently at the New Delhi headquarters of the Indian National Science Academy (INSA). FASAS affairs will be looked after by the Joint Secretaries, Mr A. K. Bose and Dr S. Radhakrishna.

INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON ENVIRONMENT AND INDUSTRIAL SAFETY

The National Safety Council of India is organising an International Symposium on Environment and Industrial Safety in New Delhi during 13–15 November 1984. Designed to create awareness about the hazards of environmental pollution and accidents in industries, the Seminar will discuss, among others, improvement of environmental and working condition in the small scale sector in developing countries, economic considerations in developing a strategy and

tactics for safety in the eighties, control of pollutants from fertilizer industry, pollution control in the manufacture and handling of pesticides, priorities for control of pollution from petrochemical industry and hazards and control of nuclear pollution.

Further information can be had from: The Executive Director, National Safety Council, Post Box No. 26754, Sion, Bombay 400 022.

INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON DATA COMMUNICATION AND COMPUTER NETWORKS

The International Symposium on Data Communication and Computer Networks will be held during October 19–21, 1984 at The Department of Computer Science and Engineering, Indian Institute of Technology, Madras 600 036.

NETWORKS 84 (19–21 October) is being held in Madras just prior to ICCS 84 (30 October–2 November 1984) so that delegates can plan to attend both the events.

India is launching project INDONET—a data network to link all major cities. Design and implementation of such networks which are vital to the further development of Developing Countries will be the focal point of the symposium.

Further particulars may be had from Dr H. N. Mahabala, Department of Computer Science and Engineering, Indian Institute of Technology, Madras 600 036.

CURRENT PRIMATE RESEARCHES

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