



INDIAN METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY

AHMEDABAD CHAPTER

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MEGHA

2009

From Chairman's Desk

I feel honored to be elected as Chairman of this versatile scientific society. It is a rare privilege for a person lacking a formal meteorology background. This is also perhaps recognition of the convergence of various scientific and technology disciplines to arrive at operational solutions in meteorology. A number of interesting and educative programs have been drawn up by the executive committee for the year 2009-10 and I hope to, with the help of young enthusiasts from SAC, PRL, IMD and other academic institutions, make it more interesting to be a member of IMSA in coming months. My best wishes to the editorial board of Megha for the good work being put up by them.

Dr. P. K. Srivastava <pradeep@sac.isro.gov.in>

Secretary's Report

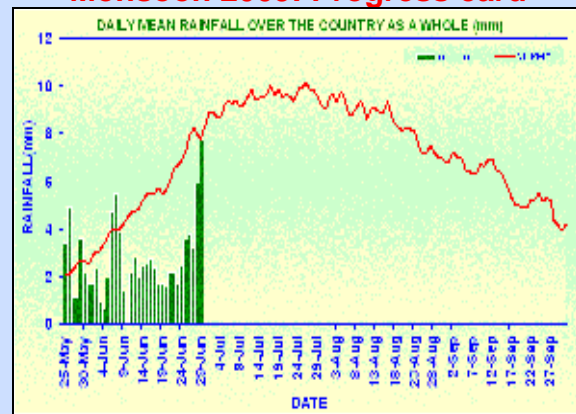
This is the first quarterly newsletter reaching you after the new executive committee has taken charge of IMSA.

- Newly elected executive committee members took charge during the 28th Annual general body meeting of IMSA held on April 27, 2009.
 - A lecture on '28th Indian Scientific expedition to Antarctica' was arranged on World Environment Day. This lecture was delivered jointly by Dr. Sandip Oza and Shri. Dipak A. Maroo at Vikram Hall in SAC main campus. (Photo gallery on next page)
 - Lectures on 'Solar Eclipse' and 'Pollution due to Plastics' are arranged for the benefit of the students of Kendriya Vidyalaya-SAC, Vastrapur on July 18, 2009. This event is aimed at promotion of awareness on climate and nature.
 - Members will soon receive information on tree plantation campaign to be arranged by IMSA.
 - IMSA EC invites suggestions from all members towards forthcoming activities.
- Dr. V. Sathiyamoorthy <sathya@sac.isro.gov.in>

News / Events

- ◆ This year, monsoon onset took place over Kerala on May 23, almost 10 days earlier than normal onset date.
- ◆ Tropical cyclone Aila hit Kolkata on May 25, 2009 with a severe intensity. It is feared that Aila has disturbed the summer monsoon progress.
- ◆ Country received 50% less rainfall during June 2009.
- ◆ An International workshop on *Impact of Climate Change on Agriculture*, will be jointly organized by ISPRS, GEO and ISRS at SAC, Ahmedabad during December 17-18, 2009.
- ◆ An Air-France Airbus A330 crashed in to the Atlantic Ocean on June 1, 2009. The aircraft reportedly went through ITCZ with strong turbulence which might have contributed to the accident. The plane carried 12 crewmembers and 216 passengers.
- ◆ World Environment Day was celebrated with full enthusiasm all over the world on June 5, 2009. IMSA arranged a lecture on this day.
- ◆ New IMSA-EC took over for the tenure 2009-11.
- ◆ The 8th Global Precipitation Mission (GPM) planning workshop was held during June 16-18, 2009 in Paris, France.

Monsoon 2009: Progress card



Courtesy: IMD

Monsoon 2009 – Updated Forecast

IMD's long range forecast update for the 2009 southwest monsoon season (June to September) indicates that the rainfall is likely to be below normal. Quantitatively, monsoon season rainfall for the country as a whole is likely to be 93% of the long period average on basis of 6-parameter ensemble forecasting system with a model error of $\pm 4\%$. The Long period average rainfall over the country as a whole for the period 1941-1990 is 89 cm.

IMSA election results (2009-2011)

The 29th Annual General Body Meeting of IMSA was held on April 27, 2009 at SAC-Bopal Campus. Election for the new IMSA-EC for the tenure 2009-2011 was conducted in this meeting. Dr. P.K. Srivastava is the new chairman while Dr. Y. B. Acharya was elected as new Vice-Chairman.

Dr. V. Sathiyamoorthy, Dr. Kamaljit Ray and Dr. Sanjib Deb were designated as secretary, joint secretary and treasurer respectively. A new editorial board for 'Megha' has also been constituted.

Tropical Cyclone Aila

Tropical cyclone AILA crossed West Bengal coast near Sagar island on May 25, 2009 between 1330 and 1430 IST. The wind speed of 110 kmph accompanied by heavy rainfall preceded the cyclone. The cyclone maintained the intensity even up to 15 hours after the landfall. This cyclone caused loss of about 275 human lives and left several injured in India and adjoining Bangladesh. It is the first cyclone in the month of May to cross West Bengal after 1989.

Photo Gallery – WED Lecture



Superannuation



IMSA Life-member Dr. N.K. Vyas (LM-237), Senior Scientist, SAC superannuated on June 2009. In his student life, Dr. Vyas was the recipient of the prestigious National science talent search scholarship in 1964. Dr. Vyas received his Doctorate degree in Physics from PRL, Ahmedabad. He joined ISRO in 1974. He was the chief architect of the data products systems for Bhaskara I & II. He has also worked intensively on cryosphere and was responsible for bringing out an atlas of Antarctic sea ice. Dr. Vyas has many publications in reputed national and international journals.

Forthcoming event of interest Total Solar Eclipse

The total solar eclipse of July 22, 2009, which will be visible across Southeast Asia and the Western Pacific, will be a spectacular one, lasting over 6 minutes at maximum over a path up to 258 km wide. The total eclipse begins just off the coast of India at 0051 UT on July 22, and ends in Polynesia at 0419 UT on July 22. The maximum eclipse is at 0235 UT on July 22, when the total phase will last a stunning 6 minutes and 39 seconds. The partial eclipse will be visible over Southeast Asia, Malaysia, Indonesia and the Pacific between 2358 UT on July 21 and 0512 UT on July 22.

IMSA Executive Committee (2009-2011)

Chairman	Dr. P. K. Srivastava
Vice-Chairman	Dr. Y. B. Acharya
Secretary	Dr. V. Sathiyamoorthy
Joint-secretary	Dr. Kamaljit Ray
Treasurer	Dr. Sanjib K. Deb
Members	
	Dr. Narottam Sahoo
	Dr. S. M. Bhandari
	Dr. R. P. Singh
	Shri. Munn V. Shukla
	Dr. V. K. Jain
	Dr. B. Simon
	Dr. Vyas Pandey
	Dr. Som Kumar Sharma

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