



# INDIAN METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY

## AHMEDABAD CHAPTER

Issue: April – June

MEGHA

2010

### From Chairman's Desk

'I take this opportunity to thank all members of IMSA for making Annual General Body Meeting a success and for reposing faith in the current executive. I highly appreciate the spirit of cooperation and willingness to carry out voluntary work for the society demonstrated during the AGBM. The executive committee is taking up action items related to initiation of discussion forum and a workshop during first week of November, 2010 with the help of volunteer members of IMSA. *Megha* has an enhanced team as a result of enthusiasm shown by IMSA members. I welcome the new members and wish them a mutually enriching experience of editing a new look *Megha*. And, by the way, along with good monsoons we would like the Delhi Commonwealth Games to be successful and we do wish India to demonstrate its improved status in the world of sports.'

Dr. PK Srivastava <[pradeep@sac.isro.gov.in](mailto:pradeep@sac.isro.gov.in)>

### Secretary's Report

In this quarter, IMSA AGBM held on June 30, 2010 at SAC Bopal Campus Auditorium. In the next quarter IMSA plans to have a tree plantation drive along with quiz and painting competitions. Around first week of November, a workshop to mark 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of first weather satellite launch is planned by IMSA. Details will be announced soon. Apart from these, Prof. Satish Dhawan Lecture, Monsoon Lecture, etc are also planned. A Photography contest is announced by IMSA in this issue of *Megha*. IMSA requests all the members to send their entries without fail. IMSA plans to add few interesting sections in *Megha* and tries to make it more interactive. Members are requested to send their suggestions.

Dr.V.Sathiyamoorthy <[v.sathiyamoorthy@gmail.com](mailto:v.sathiyamoorthy@gmail.com)>

### News / Events

- ◆ 30<sup>th</sup> IMSA AGBM met on June 30, 2010 at SAC Bopal Campus.
- ◆ The Eyjafjallajokull volcanic eruption injected large amount of ash in the atmosphere and disturbed air-traffic throughout Europe.
- ◆ The ozone hole was identified 25 years ago and after international cooperation on replacing CFCs with alternative substances the ozone hole appears to be healing.
- ◆ Cryosat-2 was launched by ESA on April 8, 2010 from Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan.
- ◆ According to IMD, Monsoon onset took place on 31<sup>st</sup> May 2010 over Kerala coast
- ◆ Three cyclonic storms formed over the seas flanking India during this cyclonic season.

### Monsoon Forecasts

Associated with the formation of cyclone *Laila* over Bay of Bengal, southwest monsoon set in over Andaman Sea around May 17, 3 days before its normal date. According to IMD prediction the monsoon onset date over Kerala was on May 30 with a model error of  $\pm 4$  days. First stage of IMD long range forecast issued on April 23 for months of June to September is that the rainfall is likely to be normal over the country. It is around 98% of Long Period Average (LPA) with model error of  $\pm 5\%$ . LPA (1941-1990) monsoon rain for the country is 89 cm. The updated forecast on June 25 however showed a normal rainfall over the country is likely to be 102% of LPA with a model error of  $\pm 4\%$ .

### IMSA Photography Contest

IMSA organizes a photography contest on the theme 'Monsoon Magic-2010'. All IMSA members are requested to participate. Original digital photos taken during 2010 monsoon season over Ahmedabad and its surrounding are welcome. Maximum 2 photos per person are allowed. Send the entries to [sathya@sac.isro.gov.in](mailto:sathya@sac.isro.gov.in) and [suchandra@sac.isro.gov.in](mailto:suchandra@sac.isro.gov.in). Best entries will be awarded.

**Cyclonic Season of 2010**

This premonsoon season was marked by 3 major cyclonic storms. On May 17 the severe cyclonic storm *Laila* was formed on Bay of Bengal, 930 km east-southeast of Chennai. The storm made landfall near Bapatla, Guntur District on May 20. It caused loss of 65 lives and major devastations in India.

Cyclonic storm *Bandu* formed on May 19, over the Arabian Sea. The storm started dissipating initially as it moved to Somalia coast. But from May 21 it strengthened and finally dissipated on May 23 making landfall near island "Abed Alkorey" in Yemen. It destroyed many houses and took one life in the island. Very severe Cyclonic storm *Phet* formed on May 31 over the Arabian Sea. This storm intensified caused death of 44 people. By 5 June, the cyclone was downgraded to a cyclonic storm by the IMD as it passed over the Gulf of Oman. On the 6 June, *Phet* dissipated.

**MONSOON ONSET AND IT'S ADVANCEMENT**

This year monsoon onset over the Kerala coast took place on May 31, 2010 and it was marked with normal advancement towards the central part of India in June. During the last week of June SW monsoon advanced into some parts of Chhattisgarh, entire West Bengal & Sikkim, some parts of east Madhya Pradesh, most parts of Jharkhand and Bihar. The northern limit of monsoon as on 25 June, 2010 passed through Rajkot, Ahmedabad, Indore, Seoni, Pendra, Ambikapur, Daltonganj, Gaya, Muzaffarpur and Raxaul. The cumulative seasonal rainfall for the country during June 1 to 24 was 11% below the Long Period Average rainfall (LPA). Out of 36 meteorological subdivisions, the rainfall was excess over 9, normal over 11 and deficient over 16 sub-divisions.

**Advances of Monsoon during June 2010**

Source: IMD

**AWARD**

Dr Parantap N. Pathak (LM-234), has been awarded KUMAR gold medal for his extraordinary research work and contributing a series of 32 articles on global warming and its long term effects in reputed Gujarati Magazine 'KUMAR'. He has been a science writer in Gujarati for about 30-35 years. IMSA congratulates him for his achievements.

**IMSA Executive Committee (2009-2011)**

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**Obituary****Prof. B. H. Subbaraya****IMS-LM 277**

Prof. B. H. Subbaraya joined PRL on 1962. He first worked on aeronomy of equatorial region. He initiated several new programmes in PRL. He significantly contributed on the understanding of vertical distribution of aerosol, ozone and trace gases. He was associated with IMAP and I-GBP programmes. He was chairman of IMSA during 1989-1991.

IMSA, joins the Subbaraya family in this hour of grief, and pray to the God to give strength to his family to bear this loss. May his soul rest in peace.

### IMSA ANNOUNCEMENT

**1) Invited articles from members**

IMS invites short articles (half to one page) on any of the interesting articles on recent advancements, challenges, etc in field of meteorology and related topics. This will be published in *Megha* after the approval of editorial board.

**2) Kids corner**

We would like to bring out news and articles which will be of interest to children. Any suggestion in this regard is solicited.

**3) Forthcoming Seminars/Symposiums/Conferences and Workshops**

A dedicated section for forthcoming seminar, symposium, etc is planned. IMSA requests the members to send the details of forthcoming such events to editorial board.

**4) Photography Contest**

IMSA plans to have a permanent photography section in *Megha* named as *Photo of the Quarter*. The photos should feature some interesting aspect of meteorology. The selected photographs will be published in *Megha*. Best photograph of the year will be chosen from these entries.

**5) Fun corner**

Jokes and cartoon on Weather, Climate and related fields are welcome from members. Selected jokes and cartoon will feature in the *Fun Corner of Megha*.

**6) New look for Megha**

*Megha* in the present electronic form is completing three years. On this occasion we would like to give it a new look. New designer backgrounds and outlook are welcome from the members. The selected design will be suitably rewarded.