Propagation
A Journal of Science Communication

Editorial

The current issue of *Propagation* contains eleven papers of contemporary relevance in selected fields contributed by eminent science centre professionals, science communicators, museologists, science historians, scientists and technologists.

The authors of the paper 'Marketing Science Centres', based on their long standing experience, draw our attention to the pros and cons of this challenging task. Their findings, we believe, will immensely help the new entrants to science centre profession. The article 'Scientific Discoveries, Technological Innovations and Modern Warfare' reviews the influence of science and technology on progressive development of accurate, powerful and deadly weapons and their use in three major modern wars. 'Engineering Education in India: past, present and future' presents a detailed analytical survey of technical education imparted through Universities, IITs, Polytechnics between 1900 and 2005. The paper on 'Stone Technology in India' seeks to capture man's intelligent use of stone through ages for utilitarian and non-utilitarian purposes. The story begins with the distant stone age and comes down to contemporary period.

The article 'Social Inclusiveness of Indian Science Centres & Museums ....." establishes through questionnaire surveys, statistical analyses and auditing the fact that the Indian Science Centre/Museum community has proved its relevance in the changing environment of society especially in terms of physical, cognitive, and economic accessibility. 'Science Broadcasting' explores the problems and prospects of science broadcasting in India and suggests strategies for improving the quality of science communication through electronic media. The paper, 'Portrayal and preservation of indigenous methods of Visual Communication' traces the evolution of various methods of visual communications through the ages and argues that Indian museums should utilize such methods for communication.

There are two short but comprehensive and informative articles in this issue, 'The Amazing World of Nanotechnology' and 'Tribology: A Potential Source of Energy Saving in Industry', contributed by experts from the respective fields.

The paper 'Glimpses of cosmic menagerie through S. Chandrasekhar's eyes' provides an exposition to Subrahmanyan Chandrasekhar's seminal contributions in astrophysics - from white dwarf mass limit to black holes and gravitational waves. The article is our homage to the legendary astrophysicist on the occasion of his birth centenary celebrated in 2010. The article 'Sir M. Visvesvaraya – An engineer par excellence' is a 150th birth anniversary tribute to this towering personality of India whose contributions have helped in the social and economic well being of the nation.

We sincerely hope that the variety and richness of the contents of this issue will be of interest to readers.

Jayanta Sthanapati
Chief Editor