

## INTROMET-2017

The International Tropical Meteorology Symposium (INTROMET-2017) was organized by the Indian Meteorological Society, Ahmedabad Chapter and Space Applications Centre (SAC), Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) at SAC campus in Ahmedabad. The symposium which lasted for four days from November 7<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup>, 2017, was inaugurated on 7<sup>th</sup> November at the New Auditorium of SAC in the august presence of the Chief Guest, Shri A S Kiran Kumar, Chairman, ISRO & Secretary, DOS, GoI and the Guest of Honour, Dr. M Rajeevan, Secretary, MoES, GoI. The inaugural function was attended by many of the distinguished invitees including Dr. K J Ramesh, DG, IMD, AVM Dr. Ajit Tyagi (IMS President), Shri O P N Calla (Director, ICRS), Dr. George Joseph (Ex-Director, SAC) Dr. R. Krishnan (IITM) and Prof. Sulochna Gadgil (Emeritus Prof. IISc). INTROMET-2017 got its international flavor with the participation of about 25 foreign delegates which includes eminent meteorologist Prof. T N Krishnamurti, Dr. Ramesh R Kakar (Program Scientist at NASA-HQ), Dr. Mark Bourassa, Dr. Ad Stofflen, Prof. Guosheng Liu, Dr. Upendra N Singh (NASA Technical Fellow), Dr. Z Haddad, Dr. Svetla Hristova Veleva and several other dignitaries. The symposium also attracted a huge gathering of over 500 national delegates including practicing meteorologists, academia, researchers and students, coming from across the country. Members of the industry sponsored and showed keen interests in utilizing the forum to their benefit.

Shri A S Kiran Kumar, Chairman, ISRO expressed his delight in being a part of the INTROMET-2017, complimented the organizing team and wished a grand success to the symposium. While encouraging the participants, he expressed his optimism for the deliberations during the four days to bring out the specific observational needs of the meteorological community across the globe which can be translated to the design and development of meaningful satellite payloads for critical applications.

The symposium, based on the theme of “Advances in Space-based Earth Observations and Services for Weather and Climate”, comprised of four plenary sessions with a total of 12 talks by distinguished speakers. An overview of Indian Earth Science Program by Dr. M Rajeevan, Monsoon teleconnection with Arctic Ice Melt by Emeritus Prof. T N Krishnamurti and Shri D R Sikka Memorial Lecture by Prof. Sulochna Gadgil were the attractions of the symposium. A special lecture by Dr. Ramesh R Kakar was delivered on “The NASA Airborne Convective Processes Experiment (CPEX)”.

The symposium presentations were organized into several parallel technical sessions under the following themes- Advances in monsoon studies, weather forecasting, hydrometeorology, air-sea interactions, cloud and precipitation, atmospheric process studies, meteorological data archival and dissemination, extreme events monitoring and forecasting, tropical cyclones, climate change, emerging trends in retrieval of geophysical parameters, air quality, agro-meteorology, ocean studies, aerosol-cloud interaction and special sessions on SCATSAT-1 and INSAT-3D/3DR. Young researchers from as far as Jammu and Kashmir to Nagaland participated enthusiastically. A dedicated session was conducted for undergraduate students specially selected by IMS local chapters and sponsored by IMS to attend and present in the symposium.

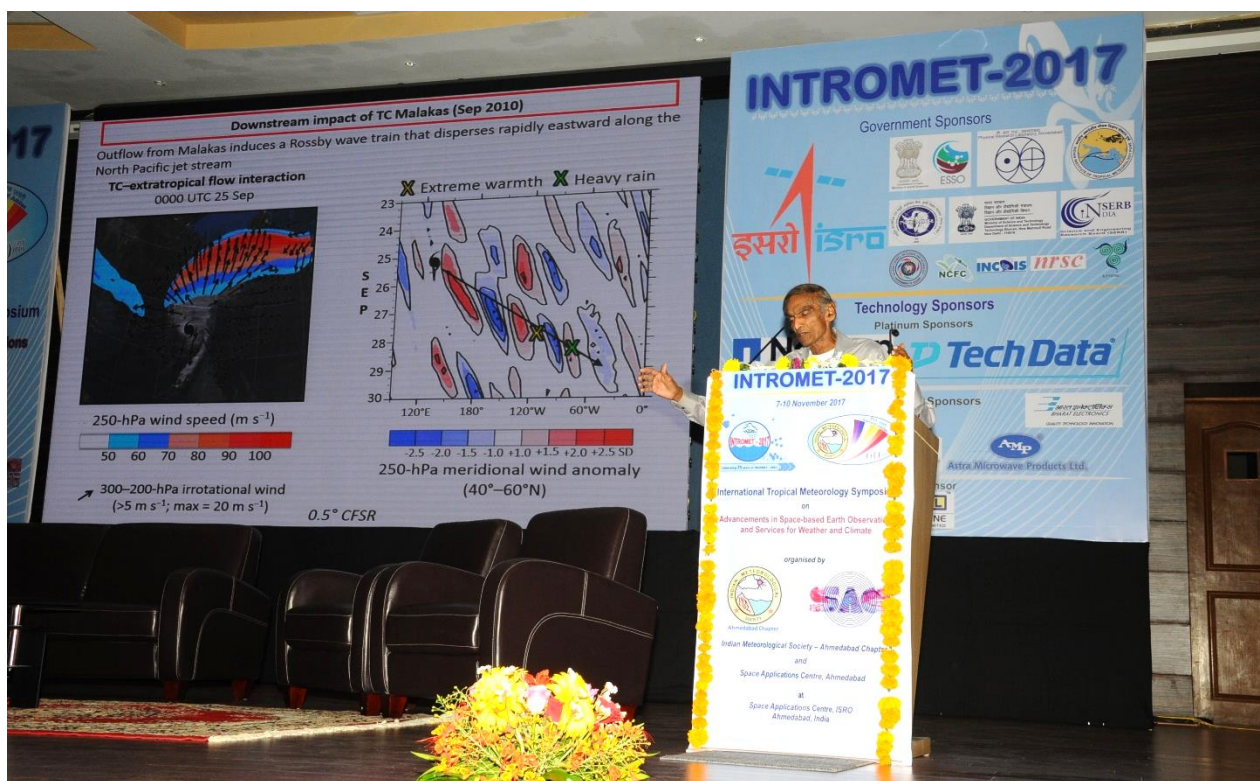
The concluding session of the symposium was chaired by Director, SAC in a panel discussion involving eminent delegates on the theme of extreme events-observations, modelling and dissemination. There was a unanimous agreement on the need to spruce up the communication system for disaster information dissemination to the last mile in a user-friendly language and dialects for better actionable strategies on the ground. Awards were distributed for best papers in students and young scientist categories. Students nominated by IMS local chapters were also awarded. The symposium concluded with an announcement about carrying the message forward to the next TROPMET to be held in 2018 at BHU, Varanasi. A huge appreciation was conveyed from all the participants to the INTROMET-2017 organising committee for making the event a grand success.



Chief Guest Shri A S Kiran Kumar, Chairman, ISRO and Secretary, DOS, GoI lighting up the Lamp during the inaugural function.



Dignitaries releasing the souvenir



Emeritus Prof. T N Krishnamurti at Florida State University, USA delivering a plenary talk.



Guest of Honour Dr. M Rajeevan, Secretary, MoES, GoI delivering a plenary talk.



Dr. D Ram Rajak, Organising Secretary, INTROMET-2017 proposing a Vote of Thanks during the inaugural function.