

PRITHVI 2011 – A Brief Report

PRITHVI 2011 with theme "**The Interdependency of geology and geophysics in the sphere of exploration and production**" was an initiative by the IIT Kharagpur Student Chapters of the Society of Exploration Geophysicists (SEG) in association with the American Association of Petroleum Geologists (AAPG) and the Society of Petroleum Geophysicists (SPG), along with the students of the Department of Geology and Geophysics of the Institute. This year's edition was a grand success with participation of students exceeding 150, from over 18 colleges all over India.

The symposium was brought out beautifully with the culmination of several enlightening guest lectures and events.



Distinguished Invitees lighting the inaugural lamp. Prof. Damodar Acharya, Director IIT Kharagpur, Prof Biswajit Mishra, Dr Asim Samanta lighting the lamp.

Almost all the lectures were aimed at bringing out the importance of this thought provoking theme. The result left us all with an innate realisation that geology and geophysics are, indeed, like two peas in a pod. Industry and academia today need an efficient integration of these two branches to succeed.

Seminars and Lectures

The following talks were organised during the Symposium.

1. **“Interdependency of Geology and Geophysics through well logging in exploration and exploitation of hydrocarbons”** By Mr. K. Venkatraman, Chief Geophysicist (W), ONGC.
2. **“Impact of technology growth in well logging for exploration and exploitation of Hydrocarbons”** by Dr. Asim Samanta GM (W), ONGC.
3. **“Geology and Geophysics Trend-A Focus to development”** by Mr. Subrato Bag, Chief Geophysicist(S), ONGC.
4. **“Earth velocity estimation-Bridges the gap of interdependency between Geology & Geophysics ”** by Mr. D P Sinha, GGM(GP), ONGC.
5. Workshop on Exploration & Exploitation of Hydrocarbons from Shale. A talk by Dr. Deepender Bora on **“Shale Gas Overview- Exploration and Exploitation”**, Schlumberger, India.
6. **Career talk** – A unique and first of its kind interactive session on “Career Talk” was organised where participants were from industry, academia and research organisation. There were representatives from various industries including ONGC, Oil India, Schlumberger, Chevron, etc. The event saw a very fruitful and lengthy discussion among eager students and academicians. It even prompted Shri. Apurba Saha, SPG India President to make a sudden and exciting offer to any student participating in the discussion – a guarantee of full funding for PhD in any Indian Institute on topics an Indian E&P industry is facing the challenge following their present degree. The only assurance they would have to give would be that they will indeed pursue research once they finish their degree. The amazing offer saw a couple of takers too.



7. Key note address by Mr. Apurba Saha, ED-AM MH Asset, ONGC & President, SPG, India on **“SPG India – In quest of excellence in Geophysics”** and on the theme **“The Interdependency of geology and geophysics in the sphere of exploration and production”** during the inaugural ceremony of SPG Student Chapter, IIT Kharagpur.
8. **“Rock Physics for 4D by integrating well data, cores and production data”** by Dr. Dhananjaykumar, Geophysicist, Chevron, Houston.
9. Case Studies on **“Integration of Geology and Geophysics for prospect evaluation”** by Dr. Rahul Das Gupta, GM-Head Geophysics, OIL India.
10. **“Static to Dynamic Model for Oil Exploitation”** by Mr. Shyamal Bhattacharya GGM (R), ONGC.
11. **“Building up a case study for mineral exploration, from geological-geophysical information”** by Dr. Kusumita Arora, Scientist E, NGRI.



“Prithvi 2011”, witnessed tremendous participation in various events, making it a perfect platform for pondering different realm of earth sciences.

“**Mineralogique**”, an event demanding wit of a wizard and sight of a witch, marked the beginning of this year’s Prithvi. Almost every participant tried their intellect at the hand of this event. Some looked bellicose while other bemused. After an hour of tough testing, a dozen qualified for the final round which took place on final day.



With a war cry of “beaten paths are for beaten people” contestants began their endeavour for Geophysical treasure hunt competition “**Indiana Geones**”, this was to continue throughout the symposium.

Twinkling sunlight in chilling spring morning marked the beginning of the second day of Prithvi. This beautiful morning was honoured by two noted event, “**Geospectrum**” (Prelims) – Quiz on earth sciences and Case Study Problem by cairn energy. Though the problem statement was quite decent, crucial guidance by cairn energy officials made the life a bit easy for the contestants. The day ended with an executive dinner.



Innovation is the cornerstone for the sustainability of any industry. “**Geincognito**” (B-Plan Competition) showcased a very different idea exploring a new dimension in consultancy. “**Panel discussion**” and “**Poster presentation**” were other pick of the day.

There was tough competition among the top Earth Science colleges all over India. And students from more than 18 colleges including BHU, ISM Dhanbad, St Xavier's College, Mumbai, Pune University, UPES Dehradun etc tried their knowledge and skills for the title. The show ended with the decoration of winners with maximum events won by IIT Kharagpur



Alumni Meet and Cultural Night

History was created this year in “Prithvi 2011” with the grand inauguration of the Student Chapter of Society of Petroleum Geophysicists (SPG), India, IIT Kharagpur by Mr. Apurba Saha, President, SPG, India himself. With constant support and collaboration we expect our symposium to grow by leaps and bounds every year.



Following the inauguration all the alumni present to grace the occasion were honoured a token of appreciation in the form of a shawl.



Proceedings were interspersed with plenty of entertaining cultural programmes such as a “Micheal Jackson” dance and beautiful duet dances by students from the department. The Eastern Technology Music Society (ETMS), IIT Kharagpur also put

up an amazing show Hindi music with aplenty variety – ranging from Kannada classical to “Tu Hi Re.”.



All the Academicians of the department and our honourable guests and alumni thoroughly enjoyed the spirit of the cultural night. They shared our enthusiasm and were a big part of making the cultural and total event itself a huge success.