



ISRS

INDIAN SOCIETY OF REMOTE SENSING

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Dr. Shailesh Nayak

President

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No. ISRS/ISG/2016

Dated: April 22, 2016

Dear Dr. Chen Jun,

Greetings from ISRS.

The 'Indian Society of Remote Sensing' (ISRS) established in 1969 is one of the oldest and largest professional scientific body in India with the main objective to help towards advancement, dissemination and application of the knowledge of Remote Sensing including photogrammetry and GIS in the field of survey, planning and management of natural resources and environment. The society regularly organizes seminars/symposium and publish journal, bulletins, proceedings, etc. It also provides recognition for outstanding contribution in the field of Remote Sensing and GIS by way of Awards, Medals, etc. ISRS presently also has 24 Chapters engaged in promotion of remote sensing and GIS at the local levels. Starting with 56 members, the Society has now grown into a premier professional body with membership of around 4700 members.

ISRS also has a status of an ordinary membership (Category 6) of the International Society of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ISPRS). ISRS has been active in supporting ISPRS in its objectives of promoting international co-operation, co-ordination and advancement of Geo-spatial technology and related sciences to improve quality of mankind by sustainable natural resources development and environmental management. We have hosted four Technical Commissions (TC) and many working groups during last 20 years. We have successfully organised Mid-term symposiums and workshops. Following are the highlights of ISRS contributions to ISPRS:

- Technical Commission I - Sensors, Platforms and Imagery(1996-2000)
- Technical Commission VII – Resource and Environmental Monitoring (2000-2004)
- Technical Commission IV – Geodatabases and Digital Mapping (2004-2008)
- Technical Commission VIII - Remote Sensing Applications and Policies (2012-16)
- Working Groups

Realizing that the India is one of the countries where Capacity Building (CB) of human resource is recognized as a critical element to strengthen not only the organization / institutions but even the people at grassroots level by spreading awareness about the power of space technology and geo-information in spatial planning, development and management including environment and disasters. There is a large gap between demand and availability of trained human resource, who can beneficially utilize the geospatial information. Such trained and educated human resource is needed both as the provider and user of Geo-Information. This is vital for sustainable development so that informed decision making can be done at all levels.

Further, with the advancements of technology and newer systems and data coming through current and future EO missions, the CB requirement is also growing.

The Indian Society of Remote Sensing is keen to bid for Technical Commission V: Education and Outreach for the period 2016-20, which deals with education, training capacity building and outreach in all areas, related to ISPRS. It is also the Home Commission for the ISPRS Student Consortium. In carrying out its tasks, Commission V cooperates intensively with Commissions I – IV, taking advantages of past experiences in hosting majority of other technical commissions and with other international geospatial societies. ISRS therefore nominates following officials for TC-V for 2016-20:

Dr. A Senthil Kumar, Director, Indian Institute of Remote Sensing (IIRS) as President and Prof. PLN Raju, Director, North East Space Application Centre as its Vice President

Dr. Senthil Kumar and Dr. Raju have been actively involved in capacity building in Asia-Pacific region. Brief profiles of proposed Commission President and Vice President are attached as annexure.

I hope that ISPRS will provide us an opportunity to promote ISPRS activities through the Technical Commission V: Education and Outreach.

I on behalf of India and ISRS (as Ordinary Member) herewith submit our request to host commission V: Education and Outreach the ISPRS Council for kind consideration and support.

With warm regards,

Yours sincerely,


(Shailesh Nayak)

Dr. Chen Jun
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Copy to: Dr. Christian Heipke, Secretary General, ISPRS
ISPRS Council Members
Dr. Sameer Saran, Secretary, ISRS

Brief profile of proposed Commission President

Dr. A. Senthil Kumar, is presently the Director, Indian Institute of Remote Sensing (IIRS), which is a constituent Unit of Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO), Department of Space, Government of India. IIRS is a premier Training and Educational Institute set up for developing trained professionals in the field of Remote Sensing, Geoinformatics and GPS Technology for Natural Resources, Environmental and Disaster Management. Dr. Senthil Kumar obtained M.Sc. (Engg.) and Ph.D. from the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore in the field of Image Processing in 1985 and 1990 respectively. He worked as consultant and post-doctoral fellow at the Raman Research Institute, Bangalore for six months, before joining ISRO in 1991 at the Space Applications Center, Ahmedabad. He was involved in sensor characterization, gain settings, radiometric data processing of IRS satellites, image restoration and data fusion techniques, and in artificial neural networks for remote sensing data classification. He has contributed to realization of many land geophysical products with IRS sensors data. Besides the above roles, he has been involved in ground segment of IRS Missions and contributed in various capacities.

Brief profile of proposed Commission Vice President

Mr. PLN Raju, who is presently the Director, North Eastern Space Application Centre, Umiam, who is BE (Civil) and M. Tech. (Remote Sensing)., IRS, Anna University. He has vast experience in Education, Training and Capacity Building in the field of photogrammetry, remote sensing and geo-information having served for more than 27 years at the premier institute of repute (i.e. Indian Institute of Remote Sensing, ISRO, Government of India), who introduced country-wide Distance Learning Programme under **Edusat Outreach Programme** which has benefited more than 25,000 participants in a short span of 8 years through outreach and e-learning initiatives.

He has been involved actively in ISRS (ordinary member) and ISPRS activities in the last eight years by performing duties as Secretary (2010-12), Treasurer (2006-10) at national level for 6 years and international level as part of ISPRS Commissions for 8 years (Secretary, TC VI/4 for four years during 2008-2012 and Secretary TC VIII 2012-16, Organizing Secretary for TC VI/4 International Workshop in 2011, International Symposium of ISPRS and ISRS and Member of Organizing Committee for conducting ISRS Silver Jubilee National Symposium in 1994, Secretary, TC VIII for mega event Mid-term Symposium of Technical Commission VIII (TCVIII: Remote Sensing Applications and Policy) of ISPRS on theme 'Operational Remote Sensing Applications: Opportunities, Progress and Challenges', organized by the Indian Society of Remote Sensing (ISRS) and the Indian Society of Geomatics (ISG) at Hyderabad during 9th-12th December, 2014, in addition to supporting ISRS Dehradun Chapter for the last 28 years.