<u>The ISPRS Symposium 2018 Experience</u>

I, Vijendra Singh Bramhe, attended the, 2018 ISPRS Technical Commission III Midterm Symposium held in Beijing, China. My paper entitled "Extraction of Built-Up Areas Using Convolutional Neural Networks and Transfer Learning from Sentinel-2 Satellite Images" has been accepted for oral presentation. This work demonstrated the use of deep learning techniques for built-up extraction using remote sensing data.

Day one started with opening ceremony. Seminars delivered by the keynote speakers, which are big names in the field of remote sensing research community, gave me more insight and different dimension of thinking about applications of remote sensing. These talks were very knowledge enriched. I was highly overwhelmed and motivated by listening there talks directly sitting in from of them. After that there were technical sessions which are very knowledge enriching. In the evening, welcome reception serves us great dinner along with opportunity to chat with other researchers and professionals working in same research community.

From day two, various poster and oral sessions started under different themes. I have attended different oral presentations related to machine learning and classification application in remote sensing data. Also the poster session under WG III/1 which was related to field of research where I am working. My presentation was within commission WG III/1-Thematic Information Extraction. In this session, I have delivered an oral presentation in front of large audience and after that, there was discussion related to the work I have presented. This is the most worthwhile experience for me in ISPRS symposium because the work I have presented is related to the work I am currently doing under my PhD research. The response and suggestion received by the audience was enlightening.

In the symposium, tea breaks between the sessions offered good time to meet and interact persons having same research interest. The exhibition counters gives insight about various agencies and companies latest technological advances in remote sensing technology. Apart from attending the conference, I have snatched evening time after dinner and visited several places in Beijing, which is a cultural enriching experience for me. I get to know about the art and culture of the city and it is always overwhelming to communicate peoples with difference cultural background. Overall, the ISPRS Symposium 2018 was really great. The symposium was very precisely organized, it provide me a lot of opportunity to interact people having same research interest. It was a lifetime experience to meet scientists, professors, industry professionals and my colleague students during the event. I would like to thank The ISPRS Foundation for providing me TIF travel grant.

Thanks and regards

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