

Kochi -2020

An overview

Inaugural Session:

SPG's 13th Biennial International Conference and Exposition on the theme "Energy Sustainability: Challenging New Frontiers" – Kochi 2020 was inaugurated by Mr. S C L Das, IAS, DG-DGH on 23rd Feb, 2020 at LBICC, Kochi, Kerala. LBICC provided a grand setting for the Inaugural Session that was choc-a-bloc with the attendance of several E&P Industry Captains, Representatives of Service Provider Companies and Sponsors, Eminent Geo-scientists from across the world, Experts from the Academia, Exhibitors, Authors, Keynote Speakers, Delegates & Spouses, Guests and Students from Schools and Colleges and Members of the print and electronic media.



Mr. S C L Das, IAS, DG-DGH lighting the ceremonial lamp

The inaugural session was graced by august presence of DG DGH Mr. S.C.L. Das, IAS, Director (Offshore) ONGC Mr. Rajesh Kakkar, Director (Exploration) ONGC Mr. Rajesh Kumar Srivastava, VC of CUSAT Kochi Dr. K. Madhusudanan, 1st VP SEG Dr. Manika Prasad, Mr. P.K. Sharma, Director(Operations) OIL and President SPG Mr. Pradipta Mishra.

While delivering his inaugural address, Director (Exploration) ONGC Mr. Rajesh Kumar Srivastava, underscored the need of shifting to a low carbon energy mix. He informed the house that in future the focus will be on efforts that will facilitate increasing the share of gas in the energy basket from 6% to 15%. Touching upon

the changing E&P business scenario, he brought out that the organisations would have to focus on tapping the fast unconventional energy resources. These endeavours are being well complimented by conducive policy modification that are being brought in by the Govt of India. Concluding his remarks Mr. Srivastava emphasised on the need of brining in AI and IOT which, according to him, will play a major role in supporting exploration.

Dr. Manika Prasad reiterated on the affordability and sustainability of energy resources so as to provision energy availability for future generations.

Director (Offshore) Mr. Rajesh Kakkar, who was representing CMD of ONGC group of companies, appreciated the aptness of the theme of conference and mentioned that sustainability is a global sentiment which was not confined to any single country. He opined that since big discoveries in known areas was rather difficult and the reservoirs are demanding costlier technologies for tapping every barrel of oil. He too referred to the conducive policy initiatives in the area of gas pricing and marketing freedom which were being taken up by GOI.

Director (Operations) OIL, Mr. P.K. Sharma, expressed that it was the sharp human mind which ultimately ensures new hydrocarbon pools. Dr. K.M. Madhusudanan, was also of the opinion that technological innovations would facilitate exploration in the new frontiers and also help in reducing carbon footprints.

DG-DGH Mr. S.C.L. Das, IAS, stated that Knowledge powers evolution and development. In his speech he underscored the need for convergence of science and policy. He urged the house that the need of the hour was diversification of energy resource and for this it was essential to go in for low carbon and high efficiency fuels. Concluding his speech, he outlined policy initiatives being taken by GOI across the entire spectrum of energy business.



During the inaugural session print and digital versions of Geo Horizon was released by the dignitaries and life time achievement award of B S Negi Convention Gold Medal was conferred upon Dr. D.K. Trehan, Ex-GGM Geophysics for his stellar contributions in the field of exploration geophysics.

Mr. Pradipta Mishra, President, SPG-India gave the vote of thanks, expressing his gratitude to all dignitaries and luminaries present and acknowledging the contribution of everyone in making Kochi 2020 a grand reality.



Media Interaction



On the eve of formal inauguration of Society of Petroleum Geophysicist conference, a press meet was held in which press representatives from 60 media establishments participated. The meet was addressed by President SPG Mr. Pradipta Mishra, followed by presentation on the significant activity of the Platinum sponsor, ONGC.

During the interactive session the media evinced keen interest about the energy scenario of the country with special focus on the hydrocarbon sector. Delving upon the efforts of ONGC to bring new basins on the hydrocarbon map of India, the media representatives were keen to understand the prospectivity of KeralaKonkan Basin. The media aptly enquired about the efforts undertaken by ONGC to reduce the carbon foot prints.

Theme Session & Plenary Sessions

The theme session was moderated by Mr. Narendra Taneja and distinguished speakers included Mr. S.C.L. Das- DG, DGH, Mr. Rajesh Kakkar- Director (Offshore) ONGC, Dr. R.K. Malhotra- DG, FIPI and Mr. Anirban Mukherjee, MD BCG. The panellist emphasises upon the rapid energy transition and disruptive technologies

embracing the industry, rise of renewables and the need and prominence of oil and gas in coming decades to sustain our growing energy demand in coming future. The Plenary sessions also touched upon different aspects of energy sustainability, advancements in G&G technologies and the role and future of hydrocarbon industry in energy security of the world.



A very likely panel discussion on “Geophysics: Challenges & Solution in era of artificial intelligence” was organised during the conference. The session was chaired by Mr. Pradipta Mishra, President,SPG-India. The eminent speakers in the session were Dr. Manika Prasad, Vice President-SEG, Mr. U S D Pandey, Ex-ED-ONGC, Dr. V K Sibal, Former-DG-DGH and Dr. Satyam Priyadarshy, Chief Data Scientist, Halliburton. The session shed light on challenges and solutions in petroleum geophysics in an era of artificial intelligence (AI). A highly thought provoking session that generated many interesting queries. Dr. Priyadarshy’s talk on an era of industry 4.0 and just AI drew interest by all.

Oral and Poster Sessions

In all, over 200 authors and 23 keynote speakers participated in total of 24 oral and 5 poster sessions in the span of 3 days. Adhering to our theme “Energy Sustainability: Challenging New Frontiers” the sessions revolved around advancements in API including geomechanics and rock-physics, non- seismic API,

Unconventional and renewables sources of energy, along with usage of AI - Machine Learning and Big Data analysis.



Pre-conference CE courses

Overall 24 pre-conference CE courses were held in which over 500 professionals from different companies participated. The courses were conducted by industry experts, renowned academia personnel and researchers coming in from around the world to impart and share their knowledge and experiences. Kochi 2020 has the distinction of being the first SPG-India conference, where apart from conventional hydrocarbon exploration and exploitation, non-conventional sources of energy like solar and wind energy were also deliberated by eminent subject specialists as well as by the geoscientific fraternity as a whole.



Geological field trip in Kutch area

It has been felt by our G&G fraternity that, seamless integration of geophysical data with the geological study of outcrops is the key to successful exploration and exploitation of oil and gas. SPG in tandem with Association of Petroleum Geologist organized a 5 days geological field trip in Kutch area, Gujarat. The field trip focused

on stati- structural architecture of Mesozoics of Kutch and brushed the sedimentology and sequence- stratigraphic concepts of our young geoscientists.



Student Programs:

SPG believes in harmonious integration of industry and academia, and through the student programs and student chapters, SPG like to 'catch them young'. In Kochi 2020, record participation from over 20 universities and colleges from across the country was seen. SPG Mastermind, a national level quiz competition for students, was successfully held along with brainstorming sessions on strengthening Industry-Academia Linkages.



- An interactive session with university students was organized with the participation of leading professional societies like SEG/SPWLA/APG/SPG

- Student Session “Strengthening Industry-Academia Linkages” the key speaker of the session were Dr. Kalachand Sain, Dir, WIHG, Mr. S K Das, Ex-ED, ONGC, Dr. Rabi Bastia, President, Oilmax Energy.
- Special Invited Talk by Mr. D Purkayashta, Ex-ED, ONGC and Former President,SPG,India for the University Students.

Exposition



The exposition was inaugurated by Mr. S.C.L. Das, DG-DGH. Over 30 exhibitors from core and associated industries showcased their technologies and their products. This include participations from regulatory bodies as DGH, E&P companies like ONGC and Oil India Limited and number of service companies. 4 scientific societies along with academia and R&D participants such as NGRI and IIT Kanpur were well received. Among other specialized industry technologies in display the major attraction was usage of Artificial Intelligence and Machine learning in oil and gas industry. Some exhibitors also demonstrated seamless and efficient usage of cloud computing in data processing and interpretation, advancements in wireless seismic data acquisitions and reservoir management.



Global Affair Committee(GAC) Meeting



The “Global Affairs Committee” (GAC) meet was held on 24.02.2020 and attended by representatives from SEG, SPG, APG and SPWLA. Presentations were made by the society representatives highlighting their activities and future plans

Spouse Programme

Spouses are the main strengths for all of us, as there is saying behind every successful men there is women. To keep our spouse engaged in such conference, specially structured spouse programme was organised for all three days. The spouses participated in wide variety of entertaining activities ranging from visit to Lulu Mall, Vembanad Lake, House boat cruise, St. Francis Church, Fort Kochi, Dutch Palace, Santa Cruz Basilica, Fort Kochi, Jewish Synagogue and Jew Town, cultural events and many more.



Cultural Programmes

After the day long technical program, the evening was enjoyed by the participants with spectacular cultural programmes which are the integral part of SPG conferences. This year's cultural night mesmerised the audience with their divine folk and classical performance by Kerala artists.



Valedictory Session



The Valedictory Function was equally remarkable and indeed a befitting conclusion of the grand event, where Dr. P Chandrasekaran, Dir(E&D)-OIL was the Chief Guest. Other dignitaries on the dais were Mr. R K Srivastava, Dir(E), ONGC, &

Patron, SPG, India, Mr. Pradipta Mishra, President, SPG- India, Dr. Manika Prasad, Vice President, SEG and Mr. Rajeev Tandon, Vice President, SPG-India. Dr. P Chandrasekaran presented the awards for the best oral paper, best poster, best paper in Geohorizons.

The best paper award in oral category was grabbed by Dr. Sanjai Kumar Singh, GEOPIC, ONGC. The best paper award in poster category was achieved by Mr. Soumitri Sankar Dash, GEOPIC, ONGC. The best technical paper award in the Geohorizons was presented to Mr. Mithun K V , ONGC, Jorhat. The best exhibitor award presented by Dr. Manika Prasad was achieved by M/s Schlumberger.

During the valedictory session, awards for winner & runners-up of SPG Mastermind, a national level quiz competition for students were also presented by Dir (E&D), OIL India Ltd. Mr. Ramanand Sigh, IIT, Madras bags the winner title of quiz whereas the Mr. Laxminarayan Kulli, NGRI secure runners-up position.

Banaras Hindu University achieved the best student's chapter's award.

Mr. Rajeev Tandon, Vice President, SPG summarize the overview of the event in the beginning while Mr. Romi Ganju, Secretary, SPG-India deliver the vote of thanks.

