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EDITORIAL

Why is There No New C. V. Raman ?

— *Suprakash C Roy*

... 271

ARTICLES

Why No 'New Einstein' ?

— *Lee Smolin*

... 274

Modern Cosmology From a Historical Perspective

— *Jayant V Narlikar*

... 277

Deep Impact Space Mission

— *Amalendu Bandyopadhyay*

... 285

Inevitable Pollutants of The Environment and
Their Negative Effects

— *Rekha Bhadauria and*

Megha Chaturvedi

... 290

Algal Toxins – Boon or Bane to Mankind

— *Radha Prasanna and Pranita Jaiswal*

... 296

REPORT

Nobel Prize for Science : 2006

Chemistry

... 301

Physics

... 302

Physiology or Medicine

... 303

Economics

... 304

— *Samarjit Kar*

NOTES AND NEWS

... 307

RESEARCH COMMUNICATION

Development of Dual-Purpose, Productive,
High Quality Chill I Variety for Irrigated
Tracts of Northern Karnataka

— *Mohammed Ibrahim, V. M. Ganiger,*

S. C. Angadi and G. Bhuvaneshwari

... 313

Contd. next page.



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Mycorrhizal Relationship of *Anogeissus pendula*
in Indian Thar Desert

— Nishi Mathur, Joginder Singh,
Sachendra Bohra, Ravindra Singh
and Anil Vyas

... 317

Food Preference of Chinese Blister Beetle,
Mylabris phalerata (Pallas) : Meloidae,
Coleoptera, Insecta

— Manab Kundu, R. N. Chattopadhyay
and Tanmay Bhattacharya

... 321

Seed Germination and Seedling Growth
Performance in *Withania somnifera* Under
Different Soil Mixtures Ratio and Sowing Depth

— Asha Swami and Pawan K. Kasera

... 323

Cover : Top : Left—The Deep Impact spacecraft is hoisted aloft in a clean room for testing.

Top : Right—Just after 67 seconds after the impactor struck, the fly-by craft's high-resolution camera captured a brightly illuminated dust cloud emanating from the crash site.

Bottom : Different instruments of the impactor and of the flyby spacecraft.

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The Indian Science News Association (ISNA) was established in the year 1935 by eminent scientists Professor Meghnad Saha and Acharya P. C. Ray, and was sustained by Professor S. K. Mitra, Professor B. C. Guha, Professor D. S. Kothari, Professor S. S. Bhatnagar, Professor P. C. Mahalanobish, Prof. D. M. Bose and many other stalwarts. The main objective of the Association is to promote and disseminate knowledge, laying special stress on scientific studies in India and abroad and to advocate the methodical application of science to problems of national regeneration. The Association provides a platform to the growing scientific knowledge vis-a-vis the culture of our country. The first President of the Association was Acharya P. C. Ray and the founder secretaries were Professor Meghnad Saha and Professor B. B. Roy.

The 'Science and Culture' is the mouth piece of the organization. With the above objectives in view, the Association has been publishing 'SCIENCE AND CULTURE' monthly, since 1935. Not only scientific articles but also articles on social and cultural aspects of the country are published in the journal. Many important articles on nationally important events, conservation and developmental aspects have been published in the journal.

Besides the publication of the journal, the Association holds a number of memorial and endowment lectures throughout the year. Since 1983, an annual course (of 10-12 weeks duration) on Science Communication and Media Practices is held to train young aspirants.

During its long period of existence, the Association witnessed several financial crises as it is autonomous and depends on grants and donations, both from government and charitable organizations. However, the slump during 1992-95 was acute and affected the publication of the journal. It was decided during that time to publish the journal bimonthly and keep the continuity. Since then, by acquiring some funds, an endowment has been created and the journal is brought out on the interest proceeds of the fund. Recent years have witnessed an increasing popularity of the (truncated bimonthly) journal and there is a demand amongst readers for monthly publication.

However, the funds position do not permit this. As more and more well written and thought provoking articles are arriving at our office for publication in the journal, it is all the more tempting to revamp the journal and bring it back to monthly publication. Hence this appeal to you to donate generously to ISNA to help us put our plans into action in the new millennium.

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