professional knowledge, skillful communication and organizational abilities. He has carried out multi-administrative tasks with extra-ordinary zeal and total commitment to duty.

Group Achievement Award winners received a medal, a Citation and suitable cash awards for each group commensurate with the group size and its overall achievement. A total number of fifty five Groups received these awards. Out of these, 29 were from BARC, 8 from IGCAR, 5 from RRCAT, 5 from NFC, 2 from BRIT, 3 from VECC and 1 from AMDER, 2 from HWB. The following four teams from RRCAT were awarded with Group achievement awards, while the contributions of six RRCAT officers were recognized in the Group award given to BARC:

1. *Optical tweezers development and utilization:* A team of seven members was awarded with "Group achievement award for the year 2012" in recognition of outstanding contributions Optical tweezers development and utilization. Dr. P K Gupta, DS & Head Laser Biomedical Applications and Instrumentation Division received the award on behalf of the team. The cash prize for this award was Rs. 40,000.

2. *Development of Streak Camera:* A team of nine members was awarded with "Group achievement award for the year 2012" in recognition of outstanding contributions in the development of Streak Camera. Sh. C P Navathe, Head Laser Electronics Support Division received the award on behalf of the team. The cash prize for this award was Rs. 40,000.

3. *40 Terawatt Nd: Glass laser system:* A team of twenty three members was awarded with "Group achievement award for the year 2012" in recognition of outstanding contributions in Terwatt Nd:Glass laser system. Dr. P A Naik, Head Laser Plasma Division received the award on behalf of the team. The cash prize for this award was Rs. 75,000.

4. *Design, development, installation and commissioning of x-ray and visible diagnostic beamlines on Indus-2:* A team of thirty four members was awarded with "Group Achievement Award for the year 2012" in recognition of outstanding work on design, development, installation and commissioning of x-ray and visible diagnostic beamlines on Indus-2. Shri Tushar Puntambekar, Head Beam Diagnostic Section, Accelerator and Beam Diagnostic Division received the award on behalf of the team. The cash prize for this award was Rs. 1,00,000.

5. *Development of Bose Einstein Condensation setup for 87Rb Atoms:* A team of eleven members was awarded with "Group achievement award for the year 2012" in recognition of outstanding contributions in the development of Bose Einstein Condensation setup for 87Rb Atoms. Dr. S R Mishra, SO/G Laser Physics Applications Section received the award on behalf of the team. The cash prize for this award was Rs. 50,000.

6. *Development and installation of Protein Crystallography Beam:* The contributions of 6 members from RRCAT were also recognized in the group achievement award given to BARC for the development and installation of Protein Crystallography Beam on Indus-2. Dr. S M Sharma, DS & Director Physics Group BARC received the award on the behalf of the team. The cash prize for this award was Rs. 1,00,000.

N.8: RRCAT bags two Best Poster Awards during Plasma-2013

Following three papers from Laser Plasma Division of RRCAT, presented at 28th National Symposium on Plasma Science & Technology (Plasma-2013), held at KIIT University, Bhubaneswar from December 3-6, 2013, received Best Poster Awards.

One award went to "Oscillator model for nano-tube plasma interacting with intense few cycle laser pulses" by U. Chakravarty, P. A. Naik, J. A. Chakera, and P. D. Gupta.

The second award was shared by two papers from RRCAT: "Laser wake-field acceleration in high-Z gas jets" by B. S. Rao, A. Moorti, R. A. Khan, J. A. Chakera, P. A. Naik and P. D. Gupta, and "Mono-energetic electron acceleration from 3 TW - 45 fs laser pulses" by A. Upadhyay. Each award carries a certificate and a cash prize of Rs. 5,000.

N.9: RRCAT scientists get "Best Thesis Awards" of the Indian Society for Particle Accelerators (ISPA)

Mr. Bobbili Sanyasi Rao of Laser Plasma Division of RRCAT, won the "Best Thesis Award (First Prize)" of the Indian Society for Particle Accelerators (ISPA) during the Sixth Indian Particle Accelerator Conference (InPAC-13) held from November 19-22, 2013 at the Variable Energy

Cyclotron Centre, Kolkata, for his Ph.D. thesis entitled "Study of laser driven plasma based electron acceleration and bremsstrahlung radiation emission using ultra high intensity laser pulses". The award carries a cash prize and a certificate. Shri Rao carried out the thesis work under the supervision of Dr. P. D. Gupta (Guide), Director, RRCAT and Dr. P. A. Naik (Co-Guide), Head, Laser Plasma Division, RRCAT.

Two more persons from RRCAT: Dr. Mangesh Borage, Power Supplies & Industrial Accelerator Division and Dr. Vikas Kumar Jain, Proton Linac & Superconducting Cavities Division also received Best Thesis Awards (Consolation prizes).

A paper titled "Development of magnets with support systems for up-gradation of 700 MeV booster synchrotron" by K.Sreeramulu,V.Thakur,P.K.Kulshreshtra, S. Das, Ashok Kumar,B.Srinivasan,A.K Mishra and R.S.Shinde from Accelerator Magnet Technology Division of RRCAT also won a "Best Poster Award" of ISPA at this conference (InPAC-13).

N.10: Best Poster Award in Cheiron School and Workshop 2013

Praveen Kumar Yadav of Indus Synchrotron Utilization Division received the "Best Poster Award" in 7th AOFSRR Cheiron School & workshop 2013 @ SPring-8, Japan for the best work on "Capacitive coupled RF discharge plasma for cleaning of carbon contaminated optics used in lasers and synchrotrons beam lines" (P.K. Yadav,M. Kumar, S.K. Rai, J.A. Chakera, P.A Naik and G.S. Lodha) held by Asia-Oceania Forum for Synchrotron Radiation Research (AOFSRR) during sept 21st to Oct 03rd 2013. Prof. Hongjie Xu, President of AOFSRR & Principal of Cheiron School presented the award.

N.11: RRCAT family wishes happy and healthy life on superannuation

Dr. S K Deb, SO/H, Head Indus Synchrotron Utilization Division (ISUD) laid down his office on superannuation at the age of 62 years on 31st December 2013. He joined the 17th Batch (Physics) of BARC Training School in 1977. He obtained his PhD in 1986 from Mumbai University and did his postdoctoral work in the University of Hawaii, Honolulu USA and Arizona State University, Tempe, USA during the year 1998-99. He specialized in Raman spectroscopy, high pressure physics and IR spectroscopy at Synchrotron sources. He shifted to RRCAT, Indore in 2007 and since then he had been the Head, ISUD. He had been coordinating the installation and commissioning of the bending magnet beam-lines in Indus-2 and also the development of new ID based beamlines. He is a Professor in HBNI in Physical Sciences. Dr. Deb was member of several committees like Accelerator Group board, Programme monitoring committee for accelerators and Scientific Committee of RRCAT.

RRCAT family wishes him and his family a fruitful, happy and fulfilling retired life.

Dr. Praveen Chaddah, Outstanding Scientist, laid down his office on superannuation at the age of 62 years on 31st December 2013. He did his BSc and MSc from St Stephen's College, Delhi University. He joined the 17th Batch (Physics) of BARC Training School in 1974 and successfully completed as an overall topper of the batch. Thereafter, he joined Nuclear Physics Division, BARC and earned his PhD while working there on setting-up of Compton Profile Spectrometer with a gamma-ray source for Electron Momentum Density measurements. He did his post-doctoral work at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. After returning to India, he worked on the development of superconducting magnets and of multi-filamentary NbTi wires at BARC during 1982-87. He moved to RRCAT in the year 1991 and started research activities on the material properties at low temperature physics. Dr. Chaddah took over as Director of the UGC-DAE Consortium for Scientific Researchon May 2005 on deputation and returned to parent department in October 2013. He pioneered various concepts in disorder-broadened first-order transitions, and earlier in the Critical State Model for Hard Superconductors. He is recipient of the INSA Medal for Young Scientists (1978) and MRSI-ICSC Prize for Superconductivity (1993). He was elected a Fellow of the Indian Academy of Sciences, Bangalore (1993), Indian National Science Academy, New Delhi (2005) and the National Academy of Sciences (India), Allahabad (2007).

RRCAT family wishes him and his family a fruitful, happy and fulfilling retired life.