

SECOND INDO-AUSTRALIAN GEOTHERMAL ENERGY BUILDING CAPACITY



The inauguration of 2nd Indo-Australian Geothermal capacity building workshop held at NGRI, Hyderabad on 3rd Sep. 2010. Sitting (Right to Left): Dr. Anthony Budd, Geoscience Australia, Dr. Y. J. Bhaskar Rao, Acting Director, NGRI, Dr. R. N. Sawant, Director, MNRE, Dr. T. Harinarayana, Scientist G, NGRI.

The second Indo-Australian Geothermal Energy Building Capacity workshop was held on 3rd September 2010 at National Geophysical Research Institute, Hyderabad. After successful organization of the first Indo-Australian workshop during February 8-9, 2010, it was felt that more concerted efforts needed to be made to assess the geothermal potential of a region in India. Accordingly, a field visit was organized during August 31st to 3rd September 2010 for the visiting four Australian scientists from Geoscience Australia, Government of Australia along with Indian scientists to Tattapani geothermal area, Surguja district, Chhattisgarh state. During the field visit, water samples and rock samples were collected in addition to visiting the existing boreholes in and around the Tattapani geothermal field. The workshop at NGRI was deliberated on the field visit and decided to initiate the 3D modeling by compiling all the available geological,

geochemical and geophysical data of the Tattapani area. Thus the development of a 3D model under Indo-Australian cooperation will be helpful in identification of a deep borehole target for exploitation of geothermal energy for electrical power generation.

The workshop was inaugurated by Dr.R.N.Sawant, Director, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, Government of India and presided over by Dr.Y.J.Bhaskara Rao, the Acting Director, NGRI, Hyderabad and coordinated by Dr.T.Harinarayana, Sct.G, Head, Magnetotelluric Group. Dr. Anthony Budd from Geoscience Australia, the Head of the Australian team and other three Australian colleagues – Mr. Edward Gerner, Mr. Tony Meixner and Ms. Alison Kirkby - have made detailed presentations on the field visit, geothermal modeling, power generation etc. Dr. O.P.Pandey, Dr. Sukanta Roy, Dr.A.M. Dayal, Sri D.N. Murthy, Dr. B.P.K.Patro, Dr. K.K.Abdul Azeez and other NGRI scientists and students have participated in the discussions. Dr.K.Veerawamy concluded the workshop with vote of thanks.

At the workshop, it was agreed that the third phase of the collaboration is for four scientists from NGRI and MNRE to attend the Australian Geothermal Energy Conference, Adelaide, 15-19 November. This is an opportunity to make contacts with Australia and international geothermal researchers and industrialists. In the following week the Indian party will visit Geoscience Australia, Canberra, to progress the Tattapani 3D map and thermal model, and to discuss geothermal policy issues with officials at the Australia Government Department of Resources, Energy and Tourism.