

PREFACE

The ninth International Conference on Heavy-Ion Accelerator Technology (HIAT) was held at Nuclear Science Centre, New Delhi, during 14–18 January, 2002. This meeting continued the series hosted most recently at the Argonne National Laboratory, Argonne in 1998 and at the Australian National University, Canberra (1995) and previously held, under the name ‘International Conference on Electrostatic Accelerators and Associated Boosters’ at Legnaro (1992), Strassbourg-Heidelberg (1989), Buenos Aires (1985), Oak Ridge (1981), Strassbourg (1977), and Daresbury (1973). The globally unsettled circumstances on account of the continued terrorist violence brought down the attendance at the conference, but in spite of this, many of our colleagues from laboratories around the world participated reaffirming their faith in the spirit of cooperation of science and made this conference a success.

The topics covered in this conference were: Electrostatic Accelerators, Booster Accelerators, Superconducting Structures, RFQs, Acceleration of Radioactive Ion Beams, Accelerator Mass Spectroscopy, Ion Sources, Heavy Ion Injectors, and Cryogenics for Boosters. The presentations covered the operational experiences of existing accelerator facilities, the progress in the implementation of approved projects and the direction of advancement of future heavy ion accelerator systems.

The attendees unanimously felt that there is a need to continue the series of HIAT conferences. The venue of the next HIAT conference to be held in 2004 was selected to be Yale University, USA by the participants from the laboratories and institutions represented.

We would like to thank the members of the Scientific Advisory Committee for their valuable suggestions regarding the programme of the conference. The University Grants Commission, Department of Science and Technology (Govt. of India), Board of Research in Nuclear Sciences (Dept. of Atomic Energy, Govt. of India), Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (Govt. of India) and other industrial houses are gratefully acknowledged for the financial support. The talks were held at the auditorium of the National Institute of Immunology, New Delhi.

Keen interest of Prof. N Mukunda, Prof. H R Krishnamurthy and the Editorial Board of *Pramana* – Journal of Physics in getting the proceedings published in *Pramana* in the form of a special issue is very much appreciated. We thank the editorial office of *Pramana* for their efficient arrangements for the publication.

We also thank our colleagues at NSC for their help in organizing the conference. Special mention is made of P N Prakash, who provided substantial help in the compilation of this volume. Secretarial assistance from P V Madhusudan Rao, Saradee Barua and Ranju Rishi is greatly appreciated.

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