

Editorial

The Indian Society of Geomatics (ISG), established in 1993, is a premier society of professionals and institutions interested in promoting, disseminating and popularising Geomatics in India. Its Headquarters are located on the campus of Space Applications Centre, Ahmedabad. ISG has about 900 life members. It also has annual members, patron members, sustaining members and student members. One of its key activity is to bring out a quarterly newsletter – the **ISG Newsletter** (ISSN: 0972-642X) for circulation to its members.

Some issues of the ISG Newsletter have been on specially selected themes such as Agriculture, Urban Planning, Coastal and Marine Environment, Space-based Cartography, GIS: Education and Training in India, Water Resources, Location-based Services, Geomatics in India: Retrospect and Prospects, Disaster Management, Mountains, etc.

Considering the rapid growth of geospatial technologies and applications in the country, the Society has responded to the need for a specialised journal on Geomatics. This peer-reviewed journal is being named “**Journal of Geomatics**”. The journal plans to cover all aspects of Geomatics – geodata acquisition, pre-processing, processing, analysis and publishing. Broadly this includes GIS, GPS/GNSS, Data warehousing and Data mining, Digital Photogrammetry, Remote Sensing, Surveying, Digital Cartography, Web-enabled dissemination, Spatial Data Infrastructure and Technology including hardware, software, algorithms and models. The journal will provide an international forum for rapid publication of developments in the field in technology and applications. **This is the first issue (Vol. 1, No. 1, April 2007)**, and is proposed to be a biannual publication to begin with. However, depending on the number of responses and interest of members, this can be reviewed.

The Society has made every effort to choose an Editorial Advisory Board drawn from very highly acknowledged experts in Geomatics from across the world who are especially in touch with the developments in geospatial technologies and applications in India. Members of the Editorial Advisory Board will guide policy, growth and advancement of the Journal and also help in its attaining a globally-acclaimed status.

The members of the Editorial Board represent a broad spectrum, as evident from the wide acceptance of the technology in the physical sciences, biological sciences, agriculture, earth sciences and social sciences. Applications of Geomatics extend to practically every sphere of human activity and have spawned a flourishing industry catering to the need for infrastructure development and life-style improvement. Members of the Editorial Board represent most of these disciplines.

Some of the recent developments like launching of New Map Policy, National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI) and its possible linkage with GSDI, OpenGIS Consortium (OGC), interoperability, seamless integration of data from different sources and Web-based applications have opened up new vistas for research and development in Geomatics. To sustain, promote and develop technologies requires encouraging research activities to come up with innovative ideas not only for improving technology but also applications. Multifarious applications and the urge to find new applications bring out the limitation of the present technologies. This, in turn, leads to R & D activities for improving existing technologies. The Journal, we hope, will provide a platform and forum to encourage all such R & D activities and fundamental research in Geomatics.

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