Prof. Talat Ahmad

Prof. Talat Ahmad is at present Chairman of Governing Body of Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology. He is retired as Vice Chancellor of University of Kashmir. Prof. Ahmad has worked on geochemical and isotopic characteristics of the Precambrian mafic-magmatic rocks form the northern Indian shield (Aravalli and Central India regions) and those from the Lesser Himalaya which helped in understanding the Precambrian lithospheric extension and opening of Aravalli and Lesser Himalayan rift basins. He has received many awards and recognitions, some of these are as follows: National Mineral Award, 1994, Fellow of the Indian National Science Academy, New Delhi, Fellow of the Indian Academy of Sciences, Bangalore, Fellow of the National Academy of Sciences, India, Allahabad, J. C. Bose National Fellowship, DST, New Delhi and many more.

His talk in the third triennial congress of FIGA is “Evolution of the Ladakh-Karakorum Magmatic Arc: evidence of subduction, accretion and obduction processes”.

Dr. Prantik Mandal

Dr. Prantik Mandal is senior scientist at National Geophysical Research Institute, Hyderabad. He has made significant contribution to Earthquake Seismology, with a focus on intraplate earthquakes. Through 3D modeling of intraplate stresses, he quantified the role of variations in topography and density inhomogeneities in the genesis of intraplate earthquakes in Peninsular India, local earthquake velocity tomography, P-receiver function study, SWD study, joint inversion of P-RFs and SWD data to delineate the 1D and 3-D velocity structure of the Kachchh rift zone in Gujrat. He modelled the crustal structure of the Uttarakhand Himalaya and discovered a link between large variations in Moho depths and the occurrence of moderate to large earthquakes. He has received several awards and honors including National Mineral Award, CSIR young scientist award, Senior DAAD fellowship, INSA JSPS fellowship etc.

His talk in the third triennial congress of FIGA is “Seismogenesis of the most active interplate seismic zone of India, over the past three decades”.

Dr. Mrutyunjay Mohapatra

The Cyclone Man of India, Dr. Mrutyunjay Mohapatra, is at present the Director General Meteorology, India Meteorological Department. Dr. Mohapatra is elected member of executive council of World Meteorological Organization, and the permanent representative of India with WMO. He has made a pioneering contributions at National and International levels in developing and improvement of cyclone warning services. His brilliance and expertise in cyclone warning has helped in better management of cyclones limiting loss of human lives to doubt digit not only in India but also in all the north India Ocean Rim Countries. He has received a number of awards and recognitions. At national level, he is the Chairman of various committees including the Task Team for finalization of Meteorological Paylodes of INSAT-4 satellites to be launched in 2025, Technical Evaluation Committee for consultancy on National Cyclone Risk Mitigation Project of NDMA, Govt. of India. He has been expert member of various international, committees.

His talk in the third triennial congress of FIGA is “Climate Change and Extreme Weather Events”.

Dr. Pradeep Srivastava

Dr. Pradeep Srivastava is an Associate Professor in the Department of Earth Sciences, IIT Roorkee. Dr. Srivastava is a trained sedimentologist and geomorphology who has >20 years of working experience in the Quaternary landscape of Himalaya and its foreland. He researches has helped understanding the (i) fluvial aggradation and incision processes as function of climate and tectonics of Himalaya and the Ganga Plain (ii) past and present extreme hydrological events in Himalaya (iii) paleoclimate variability. He has published >100 research articles across Ladakh, NW & NE Himalaya and supervised 08 Ph.D. students. He served Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology since 2005 for 17 years before taking up his current position as an Associate professor at the Indian Institute of Technology at Roorkee.

His talk in the third triennial congress of FIGA is “Geology of Floods in Himalaya: an overview”.

Dr. Vikram Gupta

Dr Vikram Gupta is a Scientist in Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology, Dehradin. He specializes in Engineering Geology, and is renown pan-India for applications of engineering geology for benefit of society. Dr. Gupta has pioneering work on quantification of textural characteristics of mineral constituents of rocks and has established a connection between the textural, petrophysical, and mechanical properties of different rocks of the Himalayan terrain. He has worked extensively over the Himalayas, especially in Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, and Sikkim exhibiting 'landslide hotspots.' He has published more than 85 research papers in reputed journals, and about 50 technical reports on landslides and related hazards. of various States. Recently Dr. Gupta was selected for the prestigious Geological Society of India Sesquicentennial Commemorative Award for the year 2022 by the Geological Society of India.

His talk in the third triennial congress of FIGA is "Landslide and related hazards in the present climate change scenario in the Himalaya: a way forward for sustainable development".

Dr. Vineet Gahlaut

Dr. Vineet Kumar Gahalaut, is a Chief Scientist, CSIR-National Geophsyical Research Institute, Hyderabad, India. He has served as a Director of National Center for Seismology, MoES, Delhi during 2015-2019. He is involved in research related to earthquake processes, Tectonic Geodesy, Seismology and Geodynamics. He has more than 150 research publications in peer reviewed journals. He is a Fellow of Indian Academy of Sciences (FASc), Bangalore and Fellow of Indian National Science Academy (FNA), Delhi.

His talk in the third triennial congress of FIGA is “Impending threat of great Himalayan earthquake and how to deal with it”.

Prof. T. N. Singh

Prof. T. N. Singh, is the Director of Indian Institute of Technology, Patna. He has been an Ex. Vice-Chancellor, Mahatma Gandhi Kashi Vidyapith, Varanasi from 2018 to 2021. His specialization is in Rock Mechanics, Slope Stability, Underground Space Technology, Mining, Blasting and Soft Computing. He has several awards to his credit, including National Mineral Award. He has published more than 390 publications and several book chapters to his credit. He is member of many editorial boards like Rock Mechanics and Rock Engineering. International Journal of Rock Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering.

His talk in the third triennial congress of FIGA is “Dynamic Rock fall analysis of NE region: Prediction and Prevention”.

Dr. Debi Prasanna Kanungo

Dr. Debi Prasanna Kanungo, is presently working as Chief Scientist and Group Head in Geo-Hazard Risk Reduction Group at CSIR-Central Building Research Institute. He is also a Professor of Academy of Scientific and Innovative Research (AcSIR), India in the Faculty of Physical Sciences. He has professional experience of more than 30 years in the field of engineering geology and landslide disaster mitigation. He has contributed more than 150 research papers in books, reputed SCI journals and conferences. His research interests are engineering geological investigations, landslide hazard-vulnerability-risk assessment, landslide dynamics through instrumentation and monitoring, landslide modeling, landslide early warning, debris flow modeling and hazard assessment, UAV based landslide mapping & monitoring, and remote sensing & GIS applications. He has carried out a large number of infrastructure and landslide disaster mitigation related projects in India. He is Raman Research Fellow of Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), India.

His talk in the 3rd Triennial Congress of FIGA 2022, will be on “Landslide Risk Reduction Developments and Issues for Preparedness”.

Prof. Laxman Singh Chamyal

Professor (Dr.) Laxman Singh Chamyal has extensively worked in mainland Gujarat and the Kachchh peninsula and provided detailed geomorphic, stratigraphic, sedimentologic, tectonic, climatic, and chronometric analyses to understand the evolution of the Gujarat alluvial plains and Kachchh basin during the Quaternary. He has also demonstrated the applicability of GPR in precise subsurface mapping of the KHF, KMF, GF, and NSF. Prof. Chamyal has served as the Head of, the Department of Geology in his alma mater, The M. S. University, Baroda. He has teaching and research experience of over four decades. He is also the receiver of the National Geoscience, and the S.S. Merh Award.

His talk in the 3rd Triennial Congress of FIGA 2022, will be on “Climatic variability and landscape development along the southern Thar Desert margin: Insights from late Quaternary sequences”.

Dr. Navin Juyal

Dr. Navin Juyal has spent near 30 years in basic research which involved understanding the pattern of climate variability during the last 100 thousand years. The emphasis of his research was to understand the long-term (multi-millennial) and short-term (centennial) scale impact of climate change on the earth surface processes and landform evolution. He has worked in multiple research projects. His current research interest is working in extreme weather events and their impact on landform evolution in Himalaya. He has published more than 100 research papers in peer reviewed journals (>3500 citations). He is a recipient of National Geoscience award. He is retired as senior scientist, from Physical Research laboratory, Ahmedabad.

His talk in the third triennial congress of FIGA is “The recent disasters in Uttarakhand Himalaya: a cryosphere response to climate change?”.

Prof. Christophe Cudennec

Prof. Christophe Cudennec is currently a professor at National Higher Institute of Agronomic, Agrifood, Horticultural and Landscape Sciences (Agro Campus Quest) in Rennes, France. He has 25 years of experience in hydrology, hydrometeorology, and climate, and therein he has experience in management of related resources, demands, territories, risks and interfaces across a variety of hydro-climate and geographic settings. His extensive international experience in places like Iceland, Tunisia, and research/capacity development projects in many regions throughout the world is valuable. Since 2011, he is the Secretary General of the IAHS – the International Association of Hydrological Sciences – facilitating worldwide scientific cooperation, knowledge exchange and outreach, and interacting with various global and UN programs and policy processes.

His talk in the third triennial congress of FIGA is “International Hydrological Cooperation in the Era of Anthrpocence, Agenda 2030 and Open Science”.

Prof. Mrinal K. Sen

Prof. Mrinal K. Sen, is Professor and Jackson Chair in Applied Seismology, Institute for Geophysics, University of Texas. His expertise is in seismic wave propagation, including anisotropy, inversion, and uncertainty quantification. He has extended seismic plane wave analysis methods to anisotropic media and developed novel methods for characterizing unconventional reservoirs. Prof. Sen has carried out rigorous error analysis of finite element and finite difference methods and developed several efficient finite difference operators for modeling and imaging. His recent research is focused on trans-dimensional MCMC for FWI, and Physics-based and Physics-assisted Machine Learning for Seismic Data Analysis.

His talk in the 3rd Triennial Congress of FIGA 2022, will be on “Need for Gender Equality in Geosciences”.

Prof. Kathryn Anne Whaler

Kathryn Anne Whaler is a professor of Geophysics at the University of Edinburgh, School of Geosciences, in the Research Institute of Earth and Planetary Science. She is a member of the Solid Earth Geophysics and Natural Hazards Research Group. Her interest lies in Geomagnetism, dynamics and thermal history of the Earth's core, geophysical inverse theory, and electromagnetic induction.

Prof. Whaler has been the President of the Royal Astronomical Society, the main Learned Society for solid Earth geophysics in the UK, from 2004 to 2006 amongst others. Some of her important sabbaticals have given her experience of NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center, Harvard University, the University of California at San Diego (Victoria University of Wellington, and Göttingen University (as Gauss Professor), funded by the Fulbright Foundation, NASA, the Cecil H and Ida M Green Foundation, and Göttingen Academy of Sciences.

Her talk in the 3rd Triennial Congress of FIGA 2022, will be on "Basic Geoscience for SDG".

Dr. Kalachand Sain

His research interests cover wide-range of scientific challenges includes machine learning, seismic tomography, full-waveform inversion, attribute characterization, AVO modelling, prestack depth migration, rock physics modelling, etc. He is a Fellow of all three Indian Science Academy: INSA (New Delhi), IAS (Bangalore), NASI (Allahabad). He is recipient of several awards including J.C. Bose National Fellowship, Raman Fellowship, BOYSCAST Fellowship National Award of Excellence in Geoscience, & Anni Talwani Memorial Prize of Indian Geophysical Union (IGU). He is a Vice President of IGU (2020 on) & Congress Director of Federation of Indian Geosciences Association (2020 on); Member of National Gas Hydrates Program, National Committees of SERB-DST, CSIR, MoES, DST, IAS and, Research Advisory Councils and Governing Bodies of many Institutes/Universities; Board Member of 'Encyclopedia for Solid Earth Geophysics' by Springer.

His talk in the 3rd Triennial Congress of FIGA 2022, will be on "Glacial Hazards and Plausible Mitigation through AI/ML-based Warning System".

Dr. Thamban Meloth

Dr. Thamban Meloth, is the Director of the National Centre for Polar and Ocean Research (NCPOR). He made pioneering contributions to the polar cryosphere and climate studies and was instrumental in setting up India's first Ice Core Laboratory in 2005. He has undertaken several scientific expeditions to Antarctica, the Arctic, the Southern Ocean and the Himalayas, including India's first-ever scientific expedition to the South Pole in 2010. Dr. Thamban has published more than 110 research papers in prestigious peer-reviewed journals, with more than 3400 citations. In recognition of his scientific contributions, he was conferred various national and international awards, including the international START Young Scientist Award in 2001 and the National Geoscience Award in 2013. He is a Fellow of the National Academy of Sciences India and member of many prestigious national and international scientific committees and panels.

His talk in the 3rd Triennial Congress of FIGA 2022, will be on "Melting glaciers and its implications for hydrology and hazards in Chandra Basin, Western Himalayas".

Dr. Sudhir Kumar

Dr. Sudhir Kumar is currently working as Director, National Institute of Hydrology, Roorkee. His expertise lies in hydrology and water resources, including isotope hydrology, hydrological investigations, environmental issues, groundwater management and modelling. Dr. Kumar has published more than 100 papers in peer reviewed journals. He has worked on more than 40 sponsored and 70 consultancy projects in various parts of India. Dr. Sudhir Kumar has worked on a number of internationally funded projects from European Union, World Bank, and International Atomic Energy Agency, Vienna. IAEA has identified Dr. Kumar as an expert in the area of groundwater. Currently Dr. Kumar is working on projects in the Himalayan region, Ganga Plains, Western Ghats and Eastern Coast of India.

His talk in the 3rd Triennial Congress of FIGA 2022, will be on “The Himalayan Springs: Need for Protection and Unravelling their Thermal Potential”.

Vishal Sakhare

Shri Vishal Sakhare joined the Geological Survey of India, Kolkata in 2002 as Geologist and has carried out seabed mapping in East Coast of India. Since 2009, he has carried out geotechnical investigations of water resource development projects, hydroelectric projects, thermal power plants, nuclear power plants, etc. Since 2016, as Director he has been carrying out Geothermal Investigations of Central, Southern and Central India. He has successfully supervised India's first 1 MW Pilot Geothermal Power Plant at Puga, Leh.

His talk in the 3rd Triennial Congress of FIGA 2022, will be on “Geothermal Energy in India-An overview, current status and future opportunities”.

Shri Shrikant Chitnis

Shri Shrikant Chitins has been successfully heading the premier Institute of ONGC, Keshava Deva Malaviya Institute of Petroleum Exploration since 2020. He has been associated with Operations and its Management of Indian Oil and Natural Gas exploration throughout his career. Shri Chitnis has experienced several basins of ONGC during this service, including the Cauvery Basin, he has served in Nazira, Assam, and where his core activity lies - the Western Offshore, Mumbai. He also has experience in the Kutch Block. In September, 2013, he was given the role of spearheading the COD Basement activities of ONGC, which he led efficiently. He known for his leadership skills, especially where he integrated the Western offshore Geology Operations & Services teams together and led them to soar across targets. His in-depth understanding of operations helped the Basin Managers' office and the Director Exploration's office at New Delhi in WOB and across ONGC. He held the position of Chief of Operations, Geology for two years.

His talk in the 3rd Triennial Congress of FIGA 2022, will be on "Hydrocarbon Exploration in Himalayas: Challenges and Opportunities".

Dr. Rajesh Sharma

Dr. Rajesh Sharma, is retired as Scientist ‘G’ and Head, Petrology and Geochemistry Group, from Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology, Dehradun. During his tenure he handled some important laboratories in the Institute, such as The Fluid Inclusion Lab and the Raman Spectroscopy Lab. His excellent demonstration of the use of Raman spectroscopy in natural research is commendable. His research interests include economically useful minerals, diverse applications of fluid inclusions, and understanding the metallic and industrial minerals. His studies based on ore-forming fluids, mineral phase chemistry and isotopic studied has helped in creating a perception for the genesis of the economically useful minerals in the Himalaya. He has several significant research publications, edited books, book chapters, lecture notes and consultancy reports. Dr. Sharma has been a member of the scientific committees, and his contribution to consultancies, and representation in ministries for mineral exploration is commendable. Of the many awards, he holds the M. K. Ray Memorial Medal of the Geological, Mining and Metallurgical Society of India.

His talk in the 3rd Triennial Congress of FIGA 2022, will be on “Linked Mineralization and the Basinal Fluid Systems: particular reference to the Himalaya”.