

Proceedings of the symposium on Thin Film Science and Technology

FOREWORD

Thin film techniques find wide applications not only in basic research but also in applied work in many areas such as Defence, Space, Lasers etc. The possibility of preparing tailor-made coatings for specific requirements by controlling the deposition conditions has given a new thrust to this activity. In fact it is a frontier area of research and technology. Thin film work is now being carried out in many universities and R & D organisations in the country.

The Instrumentation and Services Unit, Indian Institute of Science, organised a National Symposium on Thin Film Science and Technology during 9–11 January 1985 as part of the Platinum Jubilee celebrations of the Institute. The objective of the symposium was to bring together scientists and engineers actively involved in the area of thin film science and technology and provide a forum for presentation of papers on various topics with an emphasis on preparation and analysis of thin film coatings and devices.

The symposium was cosponsored by the Indian Institute of Science, University Grants Commission, Department of Science and Technology, Defence Metallurgical Research Laboratory, Indian Space Research Organisation, Solid State Physics Laboratory, Committee on Science and Technology in Developing Countries (COSTED), USAF European Office of Aerospace Research and Development (EOARD), and the US Army Research Development and Standardisation Groups (USARDSG).

The three-day symposium was attended by about 250 delegates from about 60 institutions all over the country. The European Office of Aerospace Research Development was represented by Dr Larell K. Smith and Dr Hussain.

The technical sessions included about 75 technical papers covering areas such as photovoltaics, tribological coatings, selective coatings, amorphous films, thermal, thermoelectrical and mechanical properties, optical, electrooptical and electronic properties, thin film instrumentation, characterization and analytical techniques.

It was felt that the proceedings of the symposium would be useful to a wider scientific community interested in thin films and it is indeed most gratifying that it has been possible to bring out a special issue of the Bulletin of Materials Science.

Thanks are due to the various sponsors of the symposium for the financial support and to the members of the National Advisory Committee, the Organising Committee and the Sub-Committees for their support and cooperation.

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