

## **Indian National Report for SOLAS, Nov 2002**

### **Current status of SOLAS Planning**

Marine and atmospheric scientists in India have become well aware of SOLAS and looking forward to meeting for intense discussions. The Chairman of the National Committee of IGBP in India has accepted the proposal to organize a Brain Storming Session during 16-17 December 2002. The Chair is also recommending its organization to the funding agencies. Based on the intensive interactive session a National Science Plan will be formulated by considering SOLAS foci in general and regional issues in particular.

### **Future Plans for National activities**

Once the National Science Plan is finalized the same would be recommended by the Coordinator to the funding agencies of marine and atmospheric sciences in India. While executing the SOLAS (India) project interactions with other linked projects will be considered. The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) of India has proposed to conduct joint projects of interest by its constituent laboratories. Under this facility, we proposed to establish marine and atmospheric long-term time series measurement facilities in the Arabian Sea. Biogeochemical experiments are also being planned to combine with the future Arabian Sea Monsoon Experiment (ARMEX). Provisions have been made for Governmental support for biogeochemistry of the North Indian Ocean under the X Five year Plan. The programmes envisaged under these will be largely measurement (including underway) systems and biogeochemical modeling.

### **Opportunities for national participation in international SOLAS activities**

Highly competent and experienced marine and atmospheric scientists together with the available modern facilities (including isotopic measurement systems, recently established AMS facility etc.), coastal and deep sea research vessels facilitate India participate in international programmes. Besides, India has expertise in campaign mode ocean-atmosphere coupled experiments and carried out Monsoon Experiment (MONEX), Bay of Bengal Monsoon Experiment (BOBMEX), Indian Ocean Experiments (INDOEX). The Arabian Sea Monsoon Experiment (ARMEX) is underway. Our remote sensing technology and expertise is one of the best in the world and will become an asset in performing SOLAS related experiments. Multi-disciplinary experiments have been conducted during IGBP core projects JGOFS, LOICZ and IGAC. Proximity to the Indian Ocean, a potential region vibrant with respect to ocean-atmosphere interactions, and available facilities make India an ideal choice for international collaboration in SOLAS research.

### **National contact person and address of the national website if available**

M. Dileep Kumar (dileep@darya.nio.org), Website not available yet.