

## *Centres of Excellence in Department*

*In the Xth and XIth Five Year Plan, BARC and Department of Chemical Engineering, ICT had undertaken a joint research program encompassing several DAE research projects in the Chemical Engineering field. Through the Virtual Centre, called, DAE-ICT Centre for Knowledge Based Engineering, BARC scientists and ICT faculty have collaborated and very successfully completed several projects. In view of the success of the collaborative program through the Centre for Knowledge Based Engineering, BARC and IGCAR proposed to enlarge the scope of collaboration by establishing the DAE-ICT Centre for Chemical Engineering Education and Research that will synergize the strengths of both these Organizations. The centre strives to develop innovative technologies to tackle the problems of efficient nuclear fuel utilization in the second and third stages of nuclear power program.*

*Based on the spectacular and consistent performance of the Department of Chemical Engineering, UGC has awarded first ever Networking Resource Centre in Chemical Engineering, in October 2008, to undertake following activities:*

- 1. Research, training and skills development of the faculty and research scholars through periodic discussion, workshop and summer/winter schools*
- 2. Capacity building by adopting faculty and Departments for augmenting their research skills and to mentor them*
- 3. Hosting and facilitating researcher from other institutes/universities to carry out key experiments*
- 4. Augmentation of information resource facility of the Department to provide quality research information to other institutes/researchers*

5. To enhance and build the state of the art in-house research infrastructure and other research facilities in the Department.

The rapidly changing face of research in chemical engineering offers new opportunities for integrating new research areas within its fold and several workshops, courses, demonstration experiments, regular experiments and seminars have been organized by the Centre. The objective of many of these activities is to acquaint the Chemical Engineering community especially from academic institutions with the emerging face of our discipline, and the how to meet the new challenges that it poses to contribute at the leading edge. The idea is also to train the academic fraternity so that the overall research and development in chemical engineering is promoted. The interactive workshops also aim at initiating a dialogue on how the new face of Chemical Engineering can be used to address problems, specific to us as a growing nation. The vacation periods, long weekends and week-long program are undertaken which are publicized on the homepage of the institute and also communicated to all chemical engineering Departments.

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