

SEVENTH STATISTICS DAY: 2013

The Seventh Statistics Day was celebrated on 29 June 2013 which also happens to be the 120th Birth Anniversary of Prof. Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis at the CR Rao Advanced Institute of Mathematics, Statistics and Computer Science (CR RAO AIMSCS) jointly with University of Hyderabad. The function was held in the Auditorium of the RAMANUJAN Building of the Institute in which thirteen school children belonging to Classes 9-12 were felicitated who performed well in the **Fifth Statistics Olympiad**, an Annual Event organized by the Institute which was conceived by Prof. C R Rao in 2009 and was started in the year 2009 for the *first time in the whole world*.

The function was presided over by Prof. BLS Prakasa Rao, Ramanujan Chair Professor at CR RAO AIMSCS. Justice MJ Rao, Former Supreme Court Judge and Former Chairman of Law Commission was the Chief Guest and Prof. P V Arunachalam, Former Vice Chancellor of Dravidian University was the Guest of Honour.

After a Welcome by Prof. S.Pyne, Mahalanobis Chair Professor, Prof. Allam Appa Rao, Director of the Institute explained the role of C R Rao AIMSCS in encouraging young talent through the Olympiad Programme of the Institute to pursue Statistics as a subject of study. The message from Prof. CR Rao was read by Prof. SB Rao, former Director of AIMSCS. Prof. TJ Rao then briefly talked about the importance of Statistics Day and the opportunities for statisticians and informed the audience that this year 1025 students took the Olympiad Test at Level I (Classes IX and X) and 178 at Level II (Classes XI and XII) from selected centres of the State of Andhra Pradesh. One Special Award called "C.R.Rao and C.Bhargavi Rao Prize" was given to the toppers in each level and Eleven other students were also felicitated with prizes.

Justice M.J Rao spoke on the role of Statistics in Law and also reminded the audience that Prof. C.R. Rao's message dealing with new challenges that require new statistical methodologies for the benefit of human welfare utilizing the ever increasing computing power should be well understood. Prof. Arunachalam briefly described Mahalanobis's accomplishments and expressed pleasure that from next year the Olympiad will be international with a few countries already willing to join CR Rao AIMSCS for organizing this event at an international level. The President of the Meeting, Prof. Prakasa Rao in his closing remarks congratulated the prize winners and appealed to the teachers that more and more schools should be encouraged to take part in the Olympiad of the Institute in the coming years. Dr. B.Shobha of Department of Mathematics and Statistics proposed a vote of thanks.