

## **01st December 2021: Antarctic Day Celebrations**

On 1st December, 1959 the Antarctic Treaty was signed by 12 nations so that the continent would be a place only to be used for peace and science. These diverse nations established an agreement to protect & preserve Antarctica.

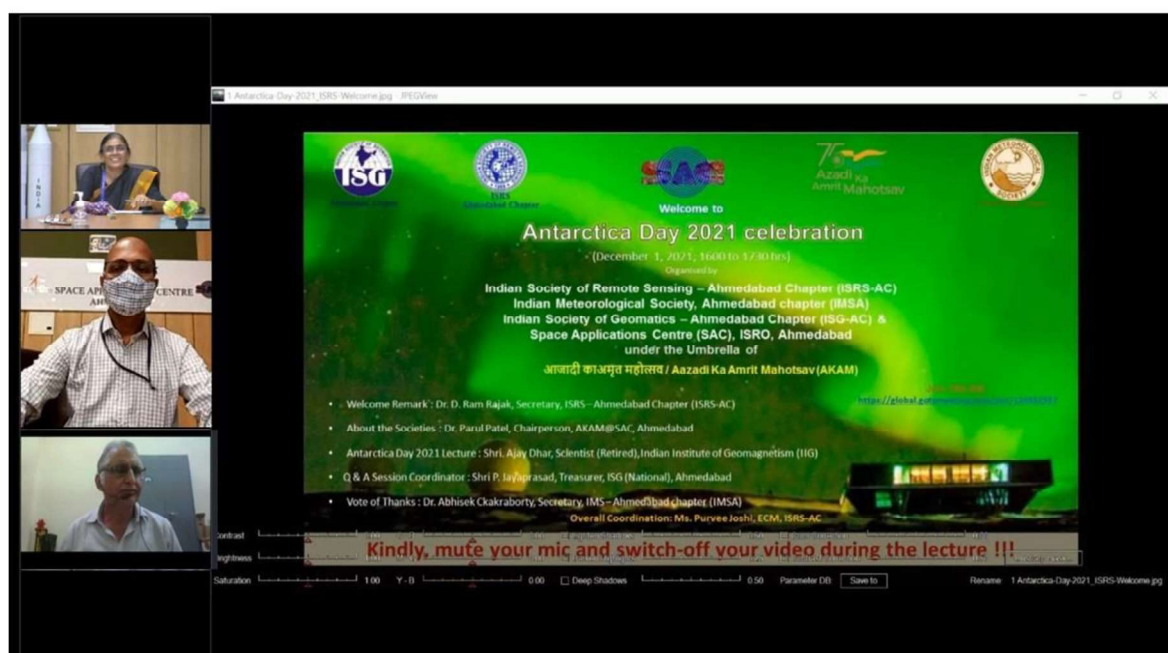
Antarctica in its symbolic robe of white will shine forth as a continent of peace as nations working together there in the cause of science set an example of international cooperation. To celebrate this milestone of peace in our civilization, we had gathered through a virtual platform.

A celebration was conducted with a popular lecture on “India’s Voyage to Antarctica” by Mr. Ajay Dhar (Scientist/Technical Officer (Retired), Indian Institute of Geomagnetism. Shri Ajay Dhar is a renowned Antarctic who lead many Indian Scientific Expeditions to Antarctica. He also participated in the first and only Indian National South Pole Expedition.

To start with, our program, I Dr. D. Ram Rajak, had sprinkled some light on this occasion with his welcome remarks, Dr. Ram Rajak is heading Geosciences division at SAC. He is secretary of ISRS-AC Alternate chairperson of “Aazadi ka Amrit Mahotsav”, and a member of 33rd Indian Scientific expedition to the Antarctica for summer season.

The international polar community celebrates Antarctica Day on the 1st of December to commemorate the anniversary of the Antarctic Treaty, which came in force in the year 1959. This year being 62nd year of Antarctica Day, the ISG-AC, ISRS-AC and IMSA have planned a popular lecture under the umbrella of “Aazadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav” for all our members to raise awareness of the importance of Antarctica and to celebrate India’s achievements and spirit of international scientific cooperation in Antarctica.

In this context, I Dr. Parul Patel had introduced the various societies. Dr. Parul Patel is currently group director at SAC, Chairperson of standing committee on “AAzadi ka Amrut Mahotsav” at SAC.

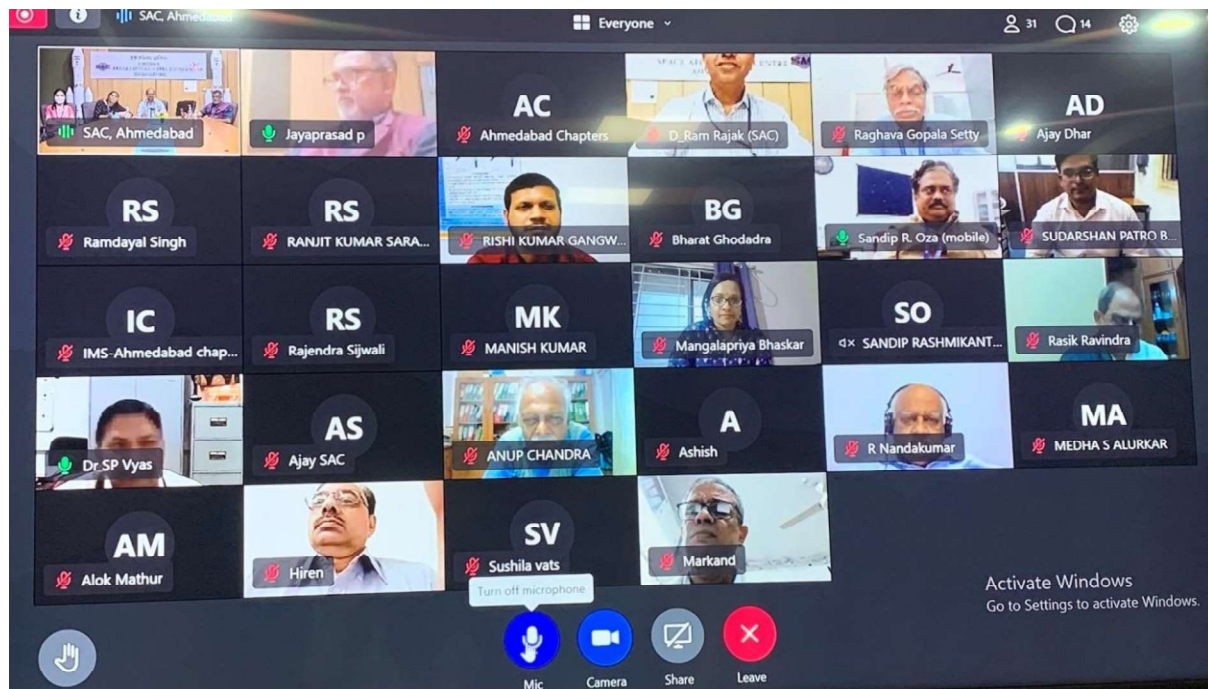


Ms. Kiral Ghodadra, scientist at SAC, and a member of 36th Indian Scientific expedition to the Antarctica for summer season had introduced the invited speaker with his brief biodata.



Shri P. Jayaprasad had coordinated the question answer session related to the talk. Shri P. Jayaprasad is currently working as a scientist at Space Applications Center and he is treasurer of ISG national body. He is also a member of 33<sup>rd</sup> Indian Scientific expedition to the Antarctica for summer season.

Dr. Abhishek Chakraborty working as a scientist at Space Applications Center and secretary IMSA had delivered a vote of thanks for the successful event.



**Group Photograph of the Event**