

3rd World Petroleum Council and Petrotech Youth Forum — Suman Sarkar (BSIP, Lucknow; Email: suman763@gmail.com)

Petrotech - 2010, the 9th International Oil and Gas Conference and Exhibition on Petroleum Industry was organized by the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation limited (ONGC) under the patronage of Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Government of India from October 31 to November 3, 2010 at New Delhi. The main Petrotech conference was inaugurated on 1st November at the Vigyan Bhawan by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, Dr. Manmohan Singh. Mr. Murli Deora, the Hon'ble Union Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas, inaugurated the poster session, which was followed by a theme session and ministerial session. Along with the Petrotech - 2010, 3rd WPC (World Petroleum Council) Youth Forum was organized to bring the energetic youth in the mainstream of oil and gas industry.

On November 2, the 3rd WPC – Petrotech Youth Forum was organized successfully with the theme “Fuel the youth: Future Energy Leaders”. In the inaugural session, distinct and eminent personalities like Jitin Prasada, the Hon'ble Minister of State for Petroleum and Natural Gas, R.S.

Sharma (Chairman of the Petrotech Society and Chairman and Managing Director, ONGC) and D.K. Pande (Chairman of the WPC Youth Forum and Sponsorship Committee) addressed the delegates on the session theme “Harnessing the Potential of Youth in Nation Building”. Every panelist emphasized on the demand of greater energy being the need of the hour and a critical factor in the rapidly changing world scenario. Further, D.K. Pande emphasised that the WPC events are aimed at utilizing youth potential to ensure an ethical and sustainable future with an eye towards helping them become more efficient Future Energy Leaders.

This was followed by two parallel theme sessions with topics: (1) Borderless Energy Solutions and (2) Securing the Future – Aspirations and Challenges. In order to involve youth from across the world, various online activities were conducted by the youth forum committee through the Forum portal ‘www.fueltheyouth.com’ from around 3 months prior to the main event. As per the reports, as many as 14000 participations participated in these online events. These

were termed as off-circuit activities, finals of which were organized at the main youth forum.

In another interesting event - Energy Extempore, unique ideas and perceptions of the youth across the globe, provided an opportunity to showcase their skills. ‘Mind Odyssey’ proved a perfect platform for presenting creative ideas which have a potential of making an impact in the energy industry. This event was aimed at capturing and encouraging young innovative minds capable of providing fresh, original, unique and even ‘crazy’ ideas. Besides an event on Bizethics was conducted which was dealt with corporate and environmental ethics.

Mr. Montek Singh Ahluwalia, Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission was the Chief Guest for the closing session. A Petrotech exhibition at the Pragati Maidan was arranged with stalls of the Energy Industry including the major players like ONGC, Reliance Industries, Larsen and Toubro, HPCL, BPCL, GAIL etc., on the theme of maximum green and minimum carbon. The exhibition proved to be very useful to all participants of the youth forum.