



THE SOCIETY FOR POLYMER SCIENCE (INDIA)

AN INTRODUCTION
SPSI Mumbai Region
Somaiya Vidyavihar University
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SOCIETY FOR POLYMER SCIENCE : EARLY ORIGINS

- **1979** : The Society established at the Department of Physical Chemistry, AC College of Technology Campus, Madras (Chennai)
- **1984**: The first International Conference devoted to Polymer Science in India, organized in Chennai by Professor M.Santappa, then Director, CSIR-CLRI, Chennai; global participation and sponsored by IUPAC
- **1984**: 60th birthday of Professor M.Santappa. His students create an endowment from which an Award for practicing Polymer Scientists is created; the first such award for polymer scientists in India
- **1984-90**: Department of Physical Chemistry conducts periodic seminars in polymer science at Madras (Chennai). **Dr R.A. Mashelkar** assumes office as the first President of the Society
- **1991**: Polymers@1991 is convened at CSIR-NCL, Pune in January 1991.International participation. Doyens of Indian Polymer Science, Professor Santappa, Professor S.K. De, Professor and R.D. Patel, Professor Ms Indra Verma and Professor Ashok Misra attend Polymers '91. Informal discussions to form a National Society for Polymer Science.

BIRTH OF THE SOCIETY FOR POLYMER SCIENCE, INDIA



- **1994:** The decision to form a pan-India Society takes root at IPCL, Vadodara on the sidelines of POLYMER 1994. **Professor Ms. Indra Verma** of IIT elected as the first President of the Society. Three regional polymer societies voluntarily agreed to merge to form the National Society
- **1995-98 :** MoA drafted, decision to make NCL-Pune as the headquarters taken and the Society registration process initiated
- **August 16 2001 :** Society for Polymer Science , India registered as a not-for-profit Society in the state of Maharashtra. Society constituted with affiliated Chapters in eight cities. Cities chosen based on the extent of polymer science activity in the region
- **2000:** **Professor Ashok Mishra** assumes the office as third President of the Society
- **2009;** **Dr. S. Sivaram** assumes office as fourth President
- **2015:** **Professor S. Ramakrishnan** assumes office as fifth President

Polymers'91 : A RETROSPECTIVE

<http://www.spsi.co.in/files/Polymers91/polymers91.html>



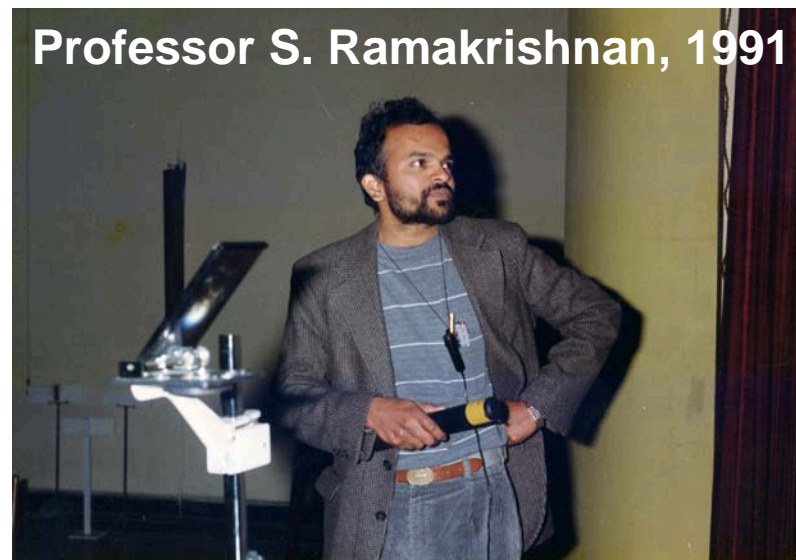
Professor M.M.Sharma, 1991



**Dr R.A.Mashelkar, 1991 with
Professor Verma on the dias**



Professor Mishra, 1991

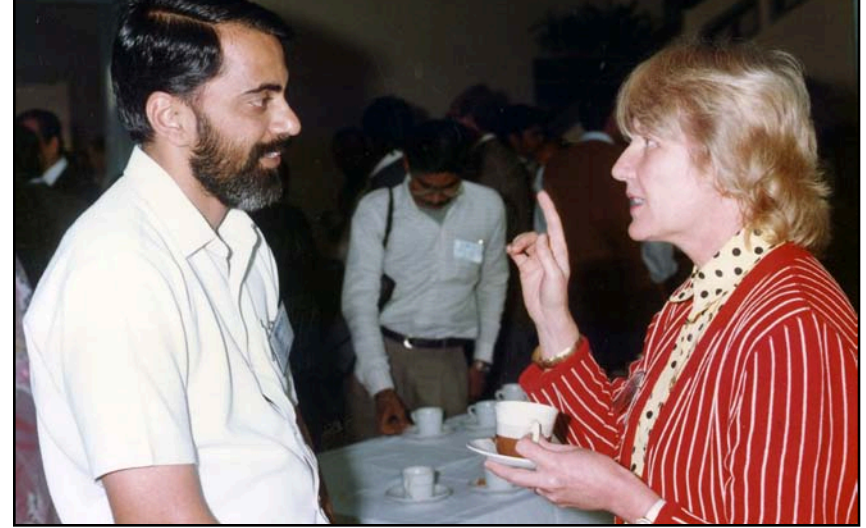


Professor S. Ramakrishnan, 1991

Professor V. N. R.Pillai, 1991



Dr. C. V. Avadhani, 1991



Dr. P. D. Trivedi, 1991



WHAT DOES THE SOCIETY DO ?

- Hosts a National meeting with increasing international participation every two years. The meeting attracts over 750 participants of which roughly half are students. The meetings are organized in different parts of the country; fifteen conferences held so far
- Bridges academia with industry; large industrial participation in our meetings
- Provides opportunity to young students to interact with their peers in polymer science discipline
- Builds international networks and visibility for Indian Polymer Science; founding member of the Federation of Asian Polymer Societies (FAPS), established links with SPS, Japan
- Encourages regions of India to organize local events

RECOGNIZING EXCELLENCE IN SCIENCE

Continued and expanded the tradition of encouraging excellence in research

Professor Santappa Award

Established : 1988

- A pioneer in polymer science research in India; established a vibrant school of polymer science research at the University of Madras in 1953.
- First paper published from his laboratory in 1955
- Rates of initiation and chain-transfer constant on the polymerization of methyl acrylate, V. Mahadevan and M. Santappa, Die Macromol. Chem., **1955**, 16, 119.



1923-2017

RECOGNIZING EXCELLENCE IN SCIENCE

Professor Kaushal Kishore Award

Established : 2014

- An outstanding physical chemist who pioneered polymer science research at IISc, Bangalore; passed away at his prime at 51
- Pioneered the study of thermochemistry of polymers, high energy materials, polymer degradation, flammability of polymers, mechanism of plasticization; polyperoxide chemistry
- Awards identifies young scientists below the age of 40



1948-99

PROVIDING PLATFORMS FOR DISTINGUISHED SCIENTISTS TO SPEAK IN OUR CONFERENCES

Endowment Lectures

•Santi Palit Endowment Lecture (established 2017)

Established in honour of Professor Palit, India's first scientist to practice polymer science; Published the first paper in polymer science from India

Sadhan Basu, J.N.Sen and S.R.Palit, Degree of polymerrization and chain-transfer in methyl methacrylate, Proc.Royal Soc., **1950**, p.485



•Sivaram Endowment Lecture (established 2017)

1912-81

WELCOME TO THE FAMILY !

- Northeast region as the 9th Chapter of Society of Polymer Science, India was launched in August 2019
- Mumbai Regional Chapter now becomes the 10th
- We thank Somaiya Vidyavihar University, The Chancellor and The Vice Chancellor for anchoring the Chapter in this institution and all the enthusiastic members of the Society who have contributed to the initiation of the Chapter.

2020 marks a landmark year for the science of polymers, the centenary year of the publication of Herman Staudinger paper, defining the concept of “macromolecules”. I would like to encourage all Chapters to organize events to mark this epochal milestone and also write about this subject in magazines, local newspapers and other media

THANK YOU

