Indian Institute of Remote Sensing (IIRS) is a constituent unit of Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), Department of Space (DoS), Govt. of India (GoI). The training and education programmes of the Institute are designed to meet the requirements of professionals at various working levels, fresh graduates, researchers, academia, and decision makers. About 40 courses are conducted every year and 11,753 professionals and students have been trained/ educated so far. About 50 researchers have received Ph.D. degrees till date from different universities. IIRS also organizes on-demand tailor-made short courses.

To widen its outreach, IIRS has started live and interactive distance learning programme (DLP) since 2007. As on today, 910+ Universities/ Colleges and other organizations are networked with IIRS and about 92,992 participants have attended various basic and advanced courses conducted so far. IIRS has also launched e-learning course on Remote Sensing and Geo-information Science since August, 2014. Efforts are underway to develop the e-learning content (also in Hindi) for various Remote Sensing and GIS applications.

The Institute has a strong, multi-disciplinary and solution-oriented research agenda that focuses on developing improved methods/ techniques for processing, visualization and dissemination of EO data & geoinformation for various societal applications and better understanding of the Earth’s system processes. Advanced remote sensing data such as microwave, hyperspectral and high-resolution EO data processing and their applications is the main research focus, presently. The state-of-art laboratory and field-based instrumentation and observatories network help meeting the research goals and objectives.

IIRS hosts headquarters of Centre for Space Science and Technology Education in Asia and the Pacific (CSSTEAP), affiliated to the United Nations and provides support in conducting the Remote Sensing and GIS training & education programmes.

**Objectives of the Meet**

To remain in the forefront for capacity building in Remote Sensing, Geoinformatics and their applications, constant dialogue with the users/stakeholders is of paramount importance. Considering this, IIRS Academia Meet (IAM-2019) is being organized at Dehradun on March 14, 2019 with the following main objectives:

- Synergise the geospatial technology and applications driven knowledge transfer among Government Institutions, Academia and Industries for national development,
- Appraise the user ministries/stakeholder departments and geospatial community on recent advances in geospatial technologies and applications vis-à-vis role of IIRS in capacity building and research,
- Understand and explore new opportunities with user organisations in government, non-government and private sectors on the capacity building requirements,
- Interact with Academic Institutes and partners of IIRS Outreach Programme for its enhancement, and
- Interface with geospatial industry on the current and future requirements and explore the placement opportunities for IIRS students and collaborative research.

The Meet will provide a platform to share the experiences of user ministries/stakeholders, geospatial community, and the IIRS faculty and to explore the potential areas for capacity building and joint research. The IAM-2019 is focusing on “Capacity Building in Geospatial: Requirements, Challenges and Opportunities”.

The academy has been very strong partner with IIRS for conducting the advanced research, providing opportunities to IIRS faculty and students for academic degrees and building nationwide network of IIRS Outreach programme. IAM-2019 will provide a forum to further expand the IIRS Outreach programme, interaction towards RESPOND programme and also to assess the current status of geospatial education in India. The meet will provide opportunity to the students to interact with industry.

**Technical Programme**

The programme includes deliberations on recent advances in geospatial technologies and their applications, requirements of user organizations (government, non-government and private sectors), issues of capacity building, industry requirements, placement opportunities and feedback on IIRS capacity building and research programmes and trends in geospatial technologies and applications. IAM-2019 will have presentations by IIRS/ISRO, academia, industry, user organisations and focused interaction.

**Exhibition**

An exhibition will be organised during the meet for the benefit of user ministries/ stakeholder departments, academia, students and industry to showcase training & education opportunities at IIRS and current research initiatives & outputs of IIRS faculty and students. It will also showcase the major initiatives of ISRO in terms of Earth and Planetary Observation missions, flagship application projects and programmes undertaken in partnership with Central and State government departments/ ministries, and various space-based products and services made available to society. A few stalls will also be available on first-cum-first-serve basis at no cost for central government organisations and industry to showcase their products and services.

**Participation**

The participation is invited from Central and State government ministries/ departments, Academia, Geospatial industries, Autonomous organizations and NGOs, Partner institutions of IIRS distance learning programme, and IIRS alumni.

**Accommodation**

Limited hostel accommodation is available at IIRS and in nearby government organizations, which will be allotted as per the availability. Participants willing to stay in hotels may book on their own.
About Dehradun

Dehradun, the capital city of the State of Uttarakhand, is located at a distance of about 260 km by road from Delhi and is well-connected by air, rail and road. The city is famous for its picturesque landscape, pleasant climate, high-quality school education, and presence of several scientific organizations of national and international repute. Weather during March is pleasant with temperature range of 14°-29°C. Participants are advised to carry light woolen clothes. Places of religious and tourist importance, such as Haridwar, Rishikesh, Mussoorie, etc. are located in the vicinity of Dehradun.

Registration

There is no registration fee. Aspiring participants are requested to register online through IIRS website (www.iirs.gov.in) by March 10, 2019. For providing equal opportunities to all organisations/ institutions the registrations may be limited to one/two persons per organisation.

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