

## BOOK REVIEW

RAO (B. S.): Ed. *Electronic Activities of the Department of Space—A Profile*. Pp. 325 + xvii, Department of Space, ISRO, Bangalore, 1976.

This book gives an insight into the many sided activities of the Department of Space in the electronics area. The object of this book as stated in the Foreword and the Introduction, seems to be to provide relevant information on the various on-going and completed projects at the different centres of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), so that these developments can be effectively made use of by different groups in ISRO as well as by other engineers and scientists in the Country.

The book is divided into different sections. The introductory section is devoted to a description of activities at different centres of ISRO, so that the reader can get an overview of the rapidly expanding space technology activity in India. The successful completion of important national programmes, viz., Satellite Instructional Television Experiment (SITE) and Indian Scientific Satellite Project (ISSP), as well as the plans for projects such as, Satellite for Earth Observation (SEO), Satellite Telecommunications Experiment Project (STEP) and Satellite Launch Vehicle (SLV) are also briefly covered in this section. This is followed by brief outlines of different projects conducted in ISRO in a classified manner, the classification adopted being directly related to application in space technology, e.g., control, guidance and instrumentation systems, telemetry, telecommand and tracking systems, satellite earth station and associated systems, etc. For each project, important technical specifications, scope and application, import content, present engineering status are given along with a short qualitative description. In addition, general information such as, whether developed for the first time in India, whether the know-how has been transferred to industry and the address of the laboratory in ISRO wherein the project is conducted, are also given. The R and D capability of scientists and engineers at ISRO is clearly evident from the wide range of projects covered in this book. The availability of facilities for test/evaluation over a wide range of operating conditions — and for pilot production have also been adequately covered in the book.

The book is well organized, excellently printed and is a source of valuable information on the strength of ISRO in the electronics area. I am sure it meets the objectives set forth, and is useful to stimulate R and D activity in India in this rapidly advancing field. The editor and his team should be complimented for bringing out this publication.

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