Editorial

International Conference on Solar Energy Photovoltaics

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Worldwide, the interest in photovoltaics as an energy technology as well as an industrial opportunity has increased significantly within the last few years, and with the launch of Jawaharlal Nehru National Solar Mission (JNNSM) it has created a lot of interest in the Indian solar sector. To create demand and attract investment in the sector, the government is providing various incentives. India has a huge potential for solar PV and with the right policy support by the Indian Government, India can become a major player in the solar market globally.

The conference was a great success, having 3 keynote lectures, 5 plenary lectures, 12 invited lectures, and 90 contributed papers. The conference was inaugurated by Mr. Arun Kumar Sahoo, Minister of State, Energy, and I&PR, Government of Odisha, India who emphasizes on energy Security. The guest of honour, Padma Shri Professor A. K. Barua, discussed the status and prospects of solar photovoltaics in India. The conference mainly focuses on device aspects of photovoltaic, involving nearly all the area with a special session on plasmonics and nanostructured solar cells.

The selected papers for this special issue are representative of the presentation/deliberation during the International Conference on Solar Energy Photovoltaic held at KIIT University, Bhubaneswar, India from 19th to 21st December, 2012.

The special issue has papers focused on alternative buffer layer for polycrystalline thin film solar cells to replace CdS (cadmium sulfide). The focused materials were SnS (tin sulfide) and In₂S₃ (indium sulfide). Few articles emphasize the use of transparent conducting oxide (TCO) for the hybrid and organic solar cell applications. Recently, the focus has been

shifted to the use of cheap and abundant elements that make CZTS (copper zinc tin sulfide) as a promising alternative to current solar cells [1, 2]. Few papers have discussed the preparation of CZTS film using low-cost techniques. Some articles discuss the formation of nanoinks and nanoparticle of CIS (copper indium selenide) and CdSe.

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