A three-day lecture programme entitled “Quantum chemical calculations and their uses in teaching” was organized at the St. Joseph’s College, Irinjalakuda in Kerala during February 18-20, 2002. The participants included college and university teachers and research scholars from all the southern states and the objective was to help teachers and students to familiarize themselves with recent advances in the field of quantum chemistry and to explore computer-aided methodology for teaching the subject.

The speakers were K L Sebastian and E Arunan from IISc, Bangalore and M K Mishra from IIT, Mumbai.

The topics included variational method and molecular orbital theory, time-dependent perturbation theory and Hartree-Fock approximation, semi-empirical methods and ab-initio method of calculation, quantum mechanical approach to spectroscopic transitions and finally quantum chemical applications to molecular models. The lectures were interspersed with demonstration sessions where all the participants were provided with computer access.