

Speed Control for DC Motors

Mr A Sehgal's circuit Idea on IC Speed Governor for Small DC Motors (EFY, March '86) is very interesting. But the circuit described is a mere voltage regulator and will not be suitable for governing the speed against 'load variations' on the motor shaft.

This can be achieved only by a feedback arrangement in the circuit about the load level and correcting the input accordingly. All cassette recorder motors which use electronic speed governors operate on this principle. There are standard ICs available for this purpose.

Being the first and the only one in India to make IC governed motors, we have done enough studies in this area of design. Such

micro motors, with built-in IC speed governors, are readily available in the Indian market.

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The author, Mr A. Sehgal, replies:

I gave a simple circuit for speed control of small DC motors. In this also speed will not change, regardless of load, when final setting using preset is done. More theory was not given as this was just a useful circuit idea, not a complete article on speed control.

I am well aware of special ICs available for the purpose, but their cost prohibits their use by common hobbyists.

As a low-cost control, this circuit is very handy for common hobbyists. It is not meant for industrial applications.