

CHIEF GUEST



Dr. Anil Kakodkar
DAE Homi Bhabha Chair Professor
and Former Chairperson, Atomic Energy Commission

Dr. Anil Kakodkar, an eminent nuclear scientist, born on 11th November, 1943, joined the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) in 1964, following the one year post graduate training with top rank in Nuclear Science and Technology in the then Atomic Energy Establishment. He became the Director of BARC in the year 1996 and took over as the Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission and Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Atomic Energy, in the year 2000.

Dr. Kakodkar obtained his B.E. (Mech. Engineering) degree from the Bombay University in 1963 and M.Sc. in the Experimental Stress Analysis from the Nottingham University in 1969.

Dr. Kakodkar's professional career is primarily involved with the research and development work related to nuclear reactors. His decades of dedication and pioneering efforts in indigenous development of a large number of critical systems of India's Pressurized Heavy Water Reactors, his contribution to safety related research and his piloting of several new state-of-art technologies for this reactor system have significantly contributed to our self reliant capability in the area of nuclear power reactors. He was part of a core team of architects responsible for the successful conduct of India's Peaceful Nuclear Explosion Experiments in 1974 and later in 1998, at Pokhran.

Dr. Kakodkar played a key role in the design and construction of Dhruva reactor, the 100 MW high flux reactor, a completely original concept which has made this reactor, one of the most powerful systems of its type and where several new technologies related to electron beam welding, reactive material fabrication and dissimilar metal joints have been deployed on a large scale for the first time. His work in rehabilitation of both reactor units at Kalpakkam, which at one stage appeared to be on the verge of being written off, are important testimonies of his engineering capability.

The Indian atomic energy program has seen several new initiatives under Dr. Kakodkar's leadership. These include several new projects for augmentation of nuclear power capacity, augmentation of Uranium and Zirconium production capacity and launching of first commercial Fast Breeder Reactor. These initiatives would take the power generation capacity from 2720 MWe to around 7300 MWe besides considerable enhancement of energy potential of available uranium

through the use of Fast Breeder Reactors. The comprehensive and robust program under Dr. Kakodkar's leadership has earned India a distinctive status as a country with advanced nuclear technology and our nuclear program is at a stage when India is confidently engaging the international community to secure a rightful place for herself and to open up international civil nuclear cooperation.

Strengthening and broad basing of Research-Education as well as Research-Technology linkages through collaborative research programs with academic and research institutions has been another important initiative taken by Dr. Kakodkar. His contributions to radiation processing of food and agro-products, in healthcare management, rural waste management and desalination of water are also worth mentioning.

Dr. Kakodkar continues to be actively involved in programs related to augmentation of Thorium utilization in our nuclear power program and leads the team engaged in the design of the Advanced Heavy Water Reactor. He has created a roadmap for shaping the third stage of India's nuclear power program aimed at topping the vast energy potential of our thorium resources not only as source for electricity production but also as a primary energy source. If these efforts bear fruit, India's energy need will be addressed to a great extent. He has published more than 250 scientific papers and reports on various aspects of his work.

For his outstanding contributions and achievements, the Government of India honoured him with Padma Shri Award in 1998, Padma Bhushan in 1999 and Padma Vibhushan in 2009. He has been bestowed numerous awards and has been decorated by doctoral degrees (Honoris Causa) by several universities and academic institutions. He is currently the Chairman, Board of Governors of IIT Bombay, and continues to be involved with many national and international panels on nuclear technology.

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS AWARDS - 2011

CITATION
for the Conferment of the Distinguished
Alumnus Award 2011
on

Mr. Baba Neelkanth Kalyani



Mr. Baba Neelkanth Kalyani received his Bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering, from BITS Pilani in 1971. He obtained his Master's degree from Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Boston, USA and was conferred an Honorary Doctorate from Symbiosis International University.

Mr. Kalyani is Chairman of the Kalyani Group, a 2.5 Billion USD conglomerate whose flagship company is Bharat Forge, the world's largest forging manufacturer. With a business experience of about 40 years, Mr. Kalyani has set the group on its growth path and is credited with the extraordinary vision for its entry into the fast emerging infrastructure development space in India.

Ranked by Forbes as one of the 50 richest Indians and among the 500 richest people in the world, he was awarded "CEO of the Year" by Business Standard in 2004 and "Entrepreneur of the Year" by Ernst & Young in 2005. In February 2006, The Jagatik Marathi Chamber Of Commerce and Industry honored him with its "Global Entrepreneur of the Year" Award. In the year 2008, Mr.Kalyani was honored with Padma Bhushan by the President of India.

Mr. Kalyani is a member of key Government Committees that include National Manufacturing Competitiveness Council and Development Council for Automobile and Allied Industries. He is the Member of the National Council of Confederation of Indian Industries; former Chairman, Board of Governors, IIM Indore; and Chairman, Board of Governors, SGGS College of Engineering & Technology, Nanded. He is member of World Economic Forum, Switzerland, Commonwealth Business Council, UK, and the India-US CEO's Forum.

In 2000, Baba founded Pratham Pune Education Foundation, an NGO that provides primary education for underprivileged children. Since its inception, Pratham Pune has made a difference in the lives of over one lakh children in 43 cities of 21 states across India. Mr. Kalyani is also steering a unique initiative to empower rural youth at Khed Taluka in Pune district by providing free technical and vocational training at a government Industrial Training Institute that is being run as a Public-Private partnership. The pioneering model is being replicated in other parts of the country. In addition, Mr. Kalyani also supports various other NGOs and charitable institutes engaged in education and in uplifting quality of lives of the disadvantaged and needy.

The Distinguished Alumnus Award in the Category of Entrepreneurship is awarded to Mr.Baba Neelkanth Kalyani, in recognition of his outstanding contributions to the society as an Entrepreneur. Through his achievements, Mr.Kalyani has brought glory to the name of the institute.

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS AWARDS - 2011

C I T A T I O N
for the Conferment of the Distinguished
Alumnus Award 2011
on

Prof. Dorairajan Balasubramanian



Prof. Dorairajan Balasubramanian received his Master of Science degree in Chemistry from the erstwhile Birla College (now BITS Pilani), in 1959. He obtained a Doctoral degree from Columbia University, New York in 1965. He was a Post - Doctoral Research Fellow at the University of Minnesota Medical School, 1965 - 1966.

Prof. Balasubramanian is the Director and Distinguished Chair of Eye Research, L.V.Prasad Eye Institute, Hyderabad. He is also a Visiting Professor, University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia and Senior Fellow of University of Melbourne, Australia and an Adjunct Professor at BITS Pilani, India. Prof. Balasubramanian has been the President of the Indian Academy of Sciences (2000-2010) as well as Secretary General of the Academy of Sciences for the Developing World (TWAS), Trieste, Italy from 2006 to date.

Prof. Balasubramanian was the Director of Center for Cellular and Molecular Biology, Hyderabad until June 1998. He has been a Professor and Dean at the University of Hyderabad (1977-1982) and worked as Assistant Professor at IIT Kanpur (1967 – 1977). He has also served as the Chairman to the Biotechnology Advisory Council, Government of Andhra Pradesh. He is a specialist in biophysical chemistry, ocular biochemistry, protein structure and has published over 6 books, 170 research papers in international journals and contributed over 450 popular newspapers articles.

He is a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the Third World Academy of Sciences, the International Molecular Biology Network, the Indian National Science Academy, National Academy of Sciences, Indian Academy of Sciences and Mauritian Academy of Science.

Prof. Balasubramanian has been honored with Padma Shri in 2002 by the President of India and also with “Chevalier de l'Ordre National de Merite”, a national honor by the President of France, 2002. He has won numerous awards and honors including the Indian National Science Academy's Indira Gandhi Prize for Science Popularization, the DST/NCSTC National Prize for Science Popularization, 2002, the Biospectrum Life Achievement Award in Biotechnology (2009), and Eminent Citizen of Hyderabad Award, 2010, the UNESCO Award for Science Popularization (1997), the Third World Academy of Sciences Award for Basic Medical Sciences (1995), the Khwarizmi Award of Iran in Medicine (1996) and the Bhatnagar Prize in Chemical Science (1981).

His is a name that is as well recognized for his popular science articles in newspapers and magazines, as is for his scholarly treatises, reports and reviews in peer-reviewed scientific journals and books.

The Distinguished Alumnus Award in the Category of Teaching and Research is awarded to Prof. Dorairajan Balasubramanian, in recognition of his outstanding contributions as Researcher and Educator. Through his achievements, Prof. Balasubramanian has brought glory to the name of the institute.

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS AWARDS - 2011

CITATION
for the Conferment of the Distinguished
Alumnus Award 2011
on

Prof. Goverdhan Mehta



Prof. Goverdhan Mehta received his MSc Chemistry degree from BITS Pilani in 1963. A PhD from Poona University, he has been conferred the Honorary Doctorate (D. Sc. h. c) degree by over a dozen universities in India and abroad.

Prof. Mehta is currently the National Research Professor and Jubilant – Bhartia Chair professor, School of Chemistry, University of Hyderabad. Prof. Mehta is an internationally acclaimed researcher with wide ranging research interests in organic chemistry. He specializes in the design of complex molecules that blends art and architecture. He has published more than 450 original research papers in international journals of high repute. He is actively involved in national and global issues related to science policy and higher education, and is an ardent advocate of quality and reforms in Indian universities.

Prof. Mehta served as the Director of Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, from 1998 to 2005 and as the Vice Chancellor of University of Hyderabad from 1994 to 1998, two of India's most prestigious academic institutions. He has held faculty positions at Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur, University of Hyderabad and Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore from 1970 to 2005. Professor Mehta was Srinivas Ramanujam Research Professor of the Indian National Science Academy (1992-1997) and CSIR Bhatnagar Fellow (2005-2010).

He is a recipient of over forty national and international awards that include Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Award, G.D. Birla Award for Excellence in Science, Centenary Medal of the Royal Society of Chemistry, London, Trieste Science Prize from TWAS (Trieste, Italy), and Humboldt Research Prize from Germany. He has also received Medals from the Indian Chemical Society, Indian National Science Academy and Indian Science Congress Association. He has been honored with 'Padma Shri' by the Government of India, and the 'Chevalier de la Legion d'Honneur' by the President of Republic of France.

Prof. Mehta is a Fellow of the Royal Society (FRS) and Foreign Member of the Russian Academy of Sciences. He has been President of the Indian National Science Academy (1999-2001), Co-Chair of Inter Academy Council(2000-2005) and President of International Council for Science (2005-2008).

Prof. Mehta serves as an Independent Director on the Board of Directors and as Member of the Research Advisory Boards of several leading Pharmaceutical and Biotech companies.

The Distinguished Alumnus Award 2011 for the category of Teaching and Research is awarded to Prof. Goverdhan Mehta, in recognition of his exceptional and sustained contributions as a Researcher and Educator. Through his achievements, Prof. Goverdhan Mehta has brought glory to the name of the Institute.

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS AWARDS - 2011

C I T A T I O N
for the Conferment of the Distinguished
Alumnus Award 2011
on

Mr. Prithviraj Chavan



Mr. Chavan received his Bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering from BITS Pilani, in 1967. He subsequently received his M.S. Degree from University of California, Berkeley.

Mr. Chavan is the Chief Minister, Maharashtra state, Government of India. He is known for his gentle smile and firm handshake that, coupled with his strong political acumen and genuine concern, have made him an instant hit with the electorate since 1991.

He was a technocrat who had worked in the field of aircraft instrumentation and design of audio recorders for anti-submarine warfare in the US before returning to India and became an entrepreneur in 1974. He founded AEM, a company involved in developing defense electronics equipment and special purpose computers. Subsequently, Mr. Chavan entered politics and was elected to the Lok Sabha in 1991, 1996 and 1998 and, thereafter, was elected to the Rajya Sabha in 2002 and 2008. During his long innings in the government, Mr. Chavan held charge of some very important ministries. He was the Minister of State for the Ministry of Science and Technology, Ministry of Earth Sciences, Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and in charge of Prime Minister's Office. Earlier he was also the Minister of State in charge of the Department Of Atomic Energy.

He was also a Member of the Atomic Energy Commission and the Space Commission, the highest policy making bodies in the respective fields. Mr. Chavan was a member of the Prime Minister's Infrastructure and Energy Co-ordination Committee, Trade and Economic Relations Committee and the Committee on Trade and Industry. He served on many parliamentary Committees in the field of Energy, Science and Technology, Public Finance and International Trade. He also served on the Prime Ministerial delegation to the United States in July 2005 and was a founding member of the Indo – US Parliamentary forum.

A senior politician of the Indian National Congress Party, he has been the Deputy Chief Whip and Secretary of the Congress Parliamentary party and an invitee on the Congress Working Committee.

The Distinguished Alumnus Award in the category of Public life and Social Entrepreneurship is awarded to Mr. Prithviraj Chavan in recognition of his significant and outstanding contributions to public life in India. Through his achievements, Mr. Chavan has brought glory to the name of the institute.