



58th Annual Technical Convention (ATC)

47TH BHABHA MEMORIAL LECTURE



Shri Shekhar Basu

Orator of 47th Bhabha Memorial Lecture

Shri Sekhar Basu is a renowned nuclear scientist. He worked as Project Director of the Nuclear Submarine Programme and as Chief Executive of the Nuclear Recycle Board at BARC, before taking over as Director, BARC in 2012. Shri Basu is an Engineer of exceptional ability who has played a lead role in multiple areas of nuclear science and engineering and is a major contributor in establishing India as a leader in nuclear field.

Shri Basu graduated in Mechanical Engineering from Veermata Jijabai Technological Institute (VJTI), University of Mumbai in 1974. After completion of the one year BARC Training School programme in nuclear science and engineering, he joined the Reactor Engineering Division in 1975. He started his career by designing fuel for Boiling Water Reactor, which showed excellent performance. Later he took up the responsibility for the development of the nuclear submarine propulsion plant and built the land-based prototype at Kalpakkam from scratch. He continues to guide the Indian nuclear propulsion programme for the sea going versions. Since 2000, he is also responsible for the design, development, construction and operation of nuclear recycle plants at Tarapur and Kalpakkam. These plants are performing to international standards. Shri Basu is pursuing the design of the Integrated Nuclear Recycle Plant, which will take the nuclear waste management programme to a greater height. As Chairman of the Project Management Board, he is responsible for the development of the Indian Neutrino Observatory at Tamil Nadu and as Apex Project Co-ordinator, he is spearheading the development of the 1 GeV Superconducting Accelerator for the Accelerator Driven System Programme.

As Director, BARC, Shri Basu has taken special initiatives for major expansion in the societal programmes of DAE in the areas of nuclear agriculture, food preservation and nuclear medicine.

While pursuing basic research in the field of nuclear science and engineering, he is also working towards the expansion of enrichment and strategic programmes. He represented India in concluding 'Arrangements and Procedures' with the US Government for reprocessing of US hypothecated fuel and has chaired the International Committee for the design review of some modules for the International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor (ITER) programme.

Shri Basu has several publications to his credit in national and international journals. He has been conferred the Indian Nuclear Society Award 2002 and DAE Awards in 2006 and 2007. He is a Fellow of the Indian National Academy of Engineers (INAE) and the Indian Society for Non Destructive Testing (ISNT). Jadavpur University, Kolkata awarded him the DLit (Honoris Causa) degree in 2013. He was bestowed with the Padma Shri Award by the President of India at Rashtrapathi Bhavan, New Delhi, on 31st March 2014