
THE SCIENTIFIC COMMUNITY

Bhatnagar Awards 1988

The Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Awards for excellence in science and technology are given by CSIR every year to scientists below 45 years of age for outstanding research done in the country in the preceding five years. The 1988 awardees are: Prof. D. Kumar, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, and Prof. O. N. Srivastava, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, in physical sciences; Dr S. K. Tandon, University of Delhi, Delhi, in earth sciences; Prof. K. Kishore, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, in chemical sciences; Dr B. Bhattacharya, Bose Institute, Calcutta, and Prof. M. R. S. Rao, Indian Institute of Science, in biological sciences; Dr S. Prasad, Indian Institute of Technology, New Delhi, and Prof. B. D. Kulkarni, National Chemical Laboratory, Pune, in engineering sciences.

CSIR Young Scientist Awards

The 1989 recipients of the award, given to scientists below 35 years of age for outstanding research done at a CSIR laboratory, are: Dr Jayanta Kar, National Physical Laboratory, New Delhi, and Dr V. Shubha, National Aeronautical Laboratory, Bangalore, in physical sciences; Dr Rajiv Nigam, National Institute of Oceanography, Goa, and Dr Pijush Pal Roy, Central Mining Research Station, Dhanbad, in earth sciences; Dr K. V. R. Chary, Indian Institute of Chemical Technology, Hyderabad, and Dr Sourav Pal, National Chemical Laboratory, Pune, in chemical sciences; Dr Ghanshyam Swarup, Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology, Hyderabad, and Dr Girija Shanker Shukla, Industrial Toxicological Research Centre, Lucknow, in biological sciences; Dr Alok Kumar Saxena, Indian Institute of Petroleum, Dehra Dun, and Dr Devendra Deo Narain Singh, National Metallurgical Laboratory, Jamshedpur, in engineering sciences.

University scientist elected to New York academy

Prof. R. Nagabhushanam of the Department of Zoology, Marathwada University, Aurangabad, has been elected member of the New York Academy of Sciences. The election is in recognition of his

contributions in marine biology and invertebrate endocrinology.

Patel of AT & T Bell Labs awarded IEEE Medal of Honor

Dr C. Kumar Patel, executive director of the Research, Materials Science, Engineering and Academic Affairs Division of AT and T Bell Laboratories, USA, has been awarded the Medal of Honor by the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineering.

Patel is widely known for his discovery of the carbon dioxide laser, which is used in industry and scientific research and is employed in medical techniques like remote probing. He is also known for his discovery of laser action on the vibrational-rotational transitions of molecules, and work in molecular spectroscopy and nonlinear optics. The latter led to the invention of the spin flip Raman lasers.

Patel, who has been with Bell Labs for over 25 years, graduated from the College of Engineering in Pune and earned MS and PhD degrees from Stanford University before joining Bell.

Patel was a recipient of IEEE's Lamme Medal in 1976. He has been honoured by many institutions, including the Optical Society of America, the Laser Institute of America, the National Academy of Engineering, the Society of Applied Spectroscopy and the American Physical Society. He is a member of the US National Academy of Sciences, IEEE, the US National Academy of Engineering and the Optical Society of America, and an honorary member of the American Society of Laser Medicine and Surgery.

Gaur moves to Delhi, Guptasarma heads NGRI

Prof. V. K. Gaur, who was Director, National Geophysical Research Institute, Hyderabad, for over six years from April 1983, was appointed Secretary to the Department of Ocean Development, Government of India, on 2 February 1989. Prof. Gaur continued to hold the post of Director, NGRI, in addition to his job at Delhi till 19 September, when Prof. D. Guptasarma assumed charge as Director.

Prof. Gaur joined the University of Roorkee as

reader in geophysics in 1961 and became professor in 1966. He has made significant contributions in geophysics, particularly in seismo-tectonics and geophysical inversion theory. He was awarded the Khosla Research Prize in 1970, and the Krishnan Medal by the Indian Geophysical Union and the Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Award in 1979. He is a Fellow of the Indian Academy of Sciences and the Indian National Science Academy.

Prof. D. Guptasarma, now Director, joined NGRI in 1965 as head of the Geophysical Instrumentation Division. He had worked at the Institute of Radio-physics and Electronics of Calcutta University from 1953 to 1956 and then as geophysicist in the Geological Survey of India till 1965.

Prof. Guptasarma's contributions are in radio-physics and exploration geophysics. He was awarded the Krishnan Medal in 1972 and the Decennial Award in 1986 by the Indian Geophysical Union, and the National Mineral Award for 1986-87 by the Department of Mines, Government of India. He is a

Fellow of the Indian Academy of Sciences and the Indian National Science Academy.

India wins four bronze medals at Math Olympiad

India participated for the first time this year in the International Math Olympiad, held at Braunschweig, the birth place of Gauss, from 13 to 24 July 1989. The Olympiad has been held annually since 1959. India's participation this year was made possible by support from the National Board for Higher Mathematics and the Association of Mathematics Teachers of India.

The Indian team consisted of six students, picked after rigorous tests. The four who won bronze medals at IMO are Ajay Subramaniyan of Bombay, Arvind Rajaraman of Kanpur, Upendra Kulkarni of Pune and Amol S. Dighe of Thane.

More information can be had from R. Athmaraman, Admin. Secretary, AMTI, 35 Venkatesha Agraharam, Myslapore, Madras 600 004.

PROF. S. KRISHNASWAMY ENDOWMENT FUND—AN APPEAL

The reputed biologist Prof. S. Krishnaswamy (1926-1988) died after a brief illness on 20th November 1988. At the time of his death he had just spent a few weeks as Vice-Chancellor for the second term of Madurai Kamaraj University. He had a tremendous influence on teaching of and research in many branches and areas of modern biology in India. The School of Biological Sciences of the Madurai Kamaraj University, a leading centre of integrated biology teaching and research, which he built within the stifling confines of the Indian university system, is an eloquent tribute to Prof. Krishnaswamy's perseverance, dedication and vision.

A committee has been set up for the purpose of raising a 'Prof. S. Krishnaswamy Endowment Fund' to suitably commemorate the memory of one of the

most self-effacing and affable scientists of our times. We appeal to all his former students, colleagues, well-wishers and friends to handsomely contribute to this Fund. Cheques/DDs may be kindly marked 'Prof. S. Krishnaswamy Endowment Fund' and then sent to the Treasurer:

Prof. T. J. Pandian
School of Biological Sciences
Madurai Kamaraj University
Madurai 625 021, India

Prof. M. K. Chandrashekar
Secretary
Prof. S. Krishnaswamy
Endowment Fund Committee.