

About the Speaker:

Dr. R. Chidambaram is one of India's distinguished experimental physicists, his fields of interest being neutron crystallography and high pressure physics. Dr. Chidambaram played a leading role in the design and execution of the Peaceful Nuclear Explosion experiment at Pokhran in 1974 and also led the DAE team which designed the nuclear devices and carried out the Pokhran tests in May 1998 in cooperation with the DRDO. He has made important contributions to many aspects of our nuclear technology. He has D.Sc. Degrees (h.c) from more than twenty Universities from India and abroad. He has more than 200 research publications in refereed journals and all his research work has been in India.

Dr. Chidambaram became the Director of the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) in 1990. He was Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission, from 1993 to 2000. He is currently the Principal Scientific Adviser to the Govt. of India and the Chairman of the Scientific Advisory Committee to the Cabinet.

Dr. Chidambaram is a Fellow of all the major Science Academies in India and also of the National Academy of Engineering and the World Academy of Sciences Trieste (Italy).

He has received many awards and honors, notable among them are the C.V. Raman Birth Centenary Award of the Indian Science Congress Association in 1995, the Distinguished Materials Scientists of the Year Award of the Material Research Society of India (MRSI) in 1996, R.D. Birla Award of the Indian Physics Association in 1996, Homi Bhabha Lifetime Achievement Award of the Indian Nuclear Society (2006), The Lifetime Achievement Award of the Indian National Academy of Engineering (2009) and the C.V. Raman Medal of the Indian National Science Academy (2013). Lifetime Achievement Award of the Council of Power Utilites (2014). Dr. Chidambaram was awarded the *Padma Vibhushan, the second highest civilian award in India, in 1999.*