TIFR ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Solar System Studies and Planetary Exploration

Prof. J. N. Goswami

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Prof. J. N. Goswami is the Director of PRL, Ahmedabad. After obtaining his M.Sc. Degree from Guwahati University, he joined TIFR and worked under the late Prof. Devendra Lal.

He was a lead member of the Indian Cosmic Ray Experiment on Spacelab-3 for studying anomalous cosmic rays and initiated studies on the origin and evolution of the solar system where he along with his PhD students made several fundamental contributions that are acclaimed internationally. He was the Principal Scientist of the Chandrayaan-1 mission that discovered signature of water on moon and received the "Laurel for Team Achievement Award" from the International Academy of Astronautics. He is currently involved in the Chandrayaan-2 and Mars Orbiter Missions in advisory capacity.

He has received numerous awards and honours including the Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize, INSA young scientist medal, fellow of several academies including The World Academy of Sciences - to mention a few. He is an honorary fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society, London

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With the advent of planetary exploration our understanding of solar system bodies has improved significantly. Astronomical observations have now revealed a large number of stars hosting planetary system with a wide variety of configurations.

A brief outline of the Indian contributions in the field of planetary sciences, particularly in delineating the time scale of events leading to the formation of the solar system will be presented. Highlights of the Chandrayaan-1 mission, that revealed a new face of the moon, the on-going Mars Orbiter Mission and its science goals as well as long term Indian plans for planetary exploration and the challenges ahead will be discussed.

Thursday, 27th February 2014: 5.15 p.m.
Main Lecture Theatre (AG 66)
TIFR, Homi Bhabha Road, Colaba,
Mumbai 400005