

# TIFR Alumni Association



## TAA-JRD Tata Public Lecture

### Getting ready for knowledge era Dr. Anil Kakodkar

INAE Satish Dhawan Chair of Engineering Eminence, BARC, Trombay, Mumbai

**Abstract :** Knowledge evolution has been central to well being and prosperity of societies. In the context of the knowledge era that is fast emerging this has become crucially important. Economy of nations and societies and their relative competitive advantage is now strongly linked to knowledge and knowledge products.

Raw materials, human resource and technologies are the three basic ingredients to support economic activities and wealth creation. We are by and large a resource poor country. Our demography is very favourable and is potentially the engine for our growth. Sustaining our growth and our relative competitive advantage however depends on level of knowledge empowerment of our people and knowledge products they can bring out. This is a major challenge for our education and S&T system. The challenge is even bigger in the context of rural India where two thirds of Indians live.

The lecture would discuss some of these and related issues and the way forward.



**About the Speaker:** Dr. Anil Kakodkar is an eminent nuclear engineer and a widely acclaimed leader of the Indian Nuclear Programme for many years. He became the Director of BARC in the year 1996 and was the Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission and Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Atomic Energy, during the years 2000-2009. He was DAE Homi Bhabha Chair Professor at BARC during Jan. 2010-Jan. 2015. Currently he is holding INAE Satish Dhawan Chair of Engineering Eminence at BARC. Dr. Kakodkar devotes his time primarily on issues related to energy, education and societal development.

Dr. Kakodkar's sterling leadership led to a significant boost to India's nuclear power programme notwithstanding the uranium supply constraints. He has seen India through challenging times, sustaining the country's energy as well as strategic goals. As a great believer in fundamental science and its implications for long term progress, he championed observer status for India at CERN (European Centre for Nuclear Research), partnership in the ITER (International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor) project and exemption for nuclear trade from Nuclear Supplier's Group (NSG) besides several international cooperation agreements in the area of nuclear power, acquisition of uranium and nuclear research.

Dr. Kakodkar has also given notable leadership to human resource development in the country. Establishment of NISER (National Institute of Science Education and Research), DAE-Mumbai University CBS (Centre for Basic Sciences) and HBNI (Homi Bhabha National Institute) are among several of his initiatives in this direction. As a member of the Council of Management of TIFR, he has been a great source of vision and encouragement to this institution.

Dr. Kakodkar has won numerous professional awards and recognitions at the international and national levels and has been bestowed Doctor of Science (Honoris causa) by many academic institutions. For his stellar service to the nation, he received the Padma Shri in 1998, the Padma Bhushan in 1999 and the Padma Vibhushan in 2009.

**Friday, 29th July, 2016  
at 5 p.m.**

**Venue:**

**Lecture Theatre (AG-66), TIFR, Mumbai**

**Entry Free**

**All Are Welcome**

Non TIFR members are requested to carry valid photo I.D. card

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