Tata Institute of Fundamental Research

Homi Bhabha Road, Colaba, Mumbai, INDIA, 400005

Shri K.S. Kane Memorial ASET Colloquium

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Speaker: Prof. P.V.S. Rao, TIFR, Mumbai (Retd.)

Prof. P.V.S. Rao is an alumnus of Utkal University and Banaras Hindu University. After a long tenure of 43 years, he retired from TIFR as a senior professor and the head of the Computer Systems and Communications Group. He was the Project Director of the Air Defense Ground Environment Systems (ADGES) and Knowledge-based Computer Systems (KBCS). Prof. Rao was involved in the development of TIFRAC - the first electronic computer developed in India, ILLIAC II (at the University of Illinois) and headed the development of OLDAP. He authored six books. Prof. Rao is an elected Fellow of all three Science Academies as well as INAE, and Distinguished Fellow of IETE. He received numerous awards including the Padma Shri.

Topic: Early days of Computer Research and Development in India

Now that more than sixty-five years have elapsed after the seed was sown by Dr. Homi Bhabha in a small shared room in the Old Yacht Club premises of TIFR, this is a good time to reminisce and review the initial phases of development of Computer Science and Technology in India. Much as TIFR fulfilled Dr Bhabha's goal of being the cradle for development of Nuclear Technology in India, the Computer Division of the Electronics Instrumentation Group (later called the computer Group, the Computer Systems and Communications Group and the Computer Center) functioned as the nursery where a vast majority of IT activities in India (Pure Science, Technology, Applications, Commercialization and National Defence) were germinated, grown, incubated and successfully transplanted to other well-known national centres. The research, technology and practical aspects of this evolution will be briefly covered in this talk.

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Date & Time: Friday, 23th August 2019, 4pm
Venue: Main Lecture Theatre (AG-66), TIFR, Mumbai

Shri K.S. Kane, who passed away on 6th July 2019, was one of the first few Indians to learn computer programming and to master its uses in engineering. He played a key role in design and building of TIFRAC. This talk is open to all, please carry your photo ID card. For further details, please email to 'aset@tifr.res.in'.