



राष्ट्रीय पृथ्वी विज्ञान अध्ययन केंद्र

National Centre for Earth Science Studies

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The Director and Staff of NCESS cordially invite you to the

13TH

Prof. C. Karunakaram Memorial Lecture

by

Padma Shri Dr. Shailesh Nayak FNA, FNASc, FASc

Director

National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS), Bengaluru

Topic of the talk:

'Earth Observations from Space: Benefits for Humanity'

Venue: Pamba Hall

Date and Time: August 28, 2024 at 10.30 AM

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Padma Shri Dr. Shailesh Nayak

Dr. Shailesh Nayak currently is the Director of the National Institute of Advanced Studies, Bengaluru. He was the Chair, Earth System Science Organisation (ESSO) and Secretary to the Government of India, for Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES), between August 2008-2015. He provided leadership for the programs related to science of climate change, weather services, polar science, geoscience, ocean science and modelling, ocean survey, resources, and technology. His current research interest includes building strategy for blue economy, sustainable development, and science diplomacy.

Dr. Nayak obtained Master's and Ph. D. degree in Geology from the M.S University of Baroda in 1980. He joined the Space Applications Centre, Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) in 1978 as a scientist, and subsequently elevated as the Director of Marine and Water Resources. He was mainly responsible for conceptualising, formulating and executing many national level projects related to application of satellite data on ocean colour, integrated coastal zone management, snow and glacier studies and water resources.

Dr. Nayak was appointed as the Director, Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS), Hyderabad, an autonomous institution under ESSO, in May 2006. At ESSO-INCOIS, he set up a state-of-the-art Early Warning System for Tsunami and Storm Surges in the Indian Ocean. He made outstanding contributions in improving advisory services related to potential fishing zones, ocean state forecast, and Indian Argo project.

Dr. Nayak is Fellow of the Indian National Science Academy, New Delhi, Indian Academy of Sciences, Bengaluru, the National Academy of Sciences, India, Allahabad, the International Society of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ISPRS), and Academician of the International Academy of Astronautics, Paris. Dr. Nayak has published about 190 papers in International and National journals and deliver about 200 invited talks in national and international fora.

Considering the impact of his research on the society, the Govt. of India has conferred him, the civilian honour 'Padma Shri' in the field of science and engineering in 2024. Dr. Nayak is recipient of IGU - Hari Narain Lifetime Achievement Award in Geosciences-2013, the ISCA Vikram Sarabhai Memorial Award 2012, the Bhaskara Award for 2009 by the Indian Society of Remote Sensing, Dehradun and many other such recognitions.

Programme Schedule

10.00 am	High Tea	
10:30 am to 11.00 am	Invocation	
	Floral Tributes to Prof. C. Karunakaran	
	<i>Welcome Address</i>	Prof. N.V. Chalapathi Rao, Director NCESS
	<i>About Prof. C. Karunakaran</i>	Dr. M. Baba, Former Director, NCESS
	<i>Introducing the Speaker</i>	Prof. N.V. Chalapathi Rao, Director NCESS
11.00 am to 12.00 pm	<i>Prof. C. Karunakaran Memorial Lecture</i> 'Earth Observations from Space: Benefits for Humanity' by Padma Shri Dr. Shailesh Nayak Director, National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS), Bengaluru	
12:00 pm to 12.15 pm	Vote of Thanks	
	Planting of tree sapling Venue: Lawn of Science Block	
12:30 pm to 01:15 pm	Lunch	

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Prof. C. Karunakaran
1917-1999

Prof. C. Karunakaran (1917-1999) was an eminent geologist, brilliant academician and a great visionary whose contributions to Earth Science will be cherished forever. Cheruvari Karunakaran was born on May, 1917 at Thalasseri, Kannur District, Kerala. After obtaining Master's Degree in Geology from Banaras Hindu University, he began his career as a Geologist in the Mineral Survey Department of Uttar Pradesh and later served as a lecture in the Presidency College, Madras and in the Department of Geology, Andhra University, Waltair. He had a long and illustrious career in Geological Survey of India (GSI). Nearly three decades of his meritorious service in GSI contributed immensely to Earth Sciences in India that was well recognized by his appointment as the Director General of GSI in 1974. Prof. Karunakaran led the first scientific expedition to Andaman and Nicobar Islands in 1968 and was also the architect behind the Indian expedition to Antarctica. Upon his retirement from GSI, he led the ONGC operations in the Central Region and later became a member of the Kerala State Planning Board. It was during this period that he gave shape to Centre for Earth Science Studies (CESS) in 1978 and became its founder, Director. CESS was the fulfilment of a dream of this great visionary to establish a unique institution that will study the Earth in its totality. As a befitting tribute to his contributions, the CESS has instituted the Professor C. Karunakaran Endowment Lecture (now Memorial Lecture), which is delivered by eminent scientists in Earth and related sciences every year to the benefit of scientific community.