Shri V. G. Kulkarni (1932-2002)

Shri V. G. Kulkarni began his career in 1953 at the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Mumbai. At the peak of his career as a solid state and nuclear physicist, he decided to devote himself to the cause of science education in the country. Under the guidance of Prof. B. M. Udgaonkar, he founded and nurtured the Homi Bhabha Centre for Science Education (HBCSE). He was its Director from 1974 until his retirement in 1994.

During his distinguished career as a scientist and educationist, Shri V. G. Kulkarni was connected with several educational institutions and organizations and was a recipient of many honours and awards including the Dr. Govardhandas Parikh award in 1985. With his students and colleagues he undertook many significant research projects especially for improvement of science and mathematics education of children from disadvantaged sections of the society. The place of language in education was a major focal point of his research. He wrote extensively, simply and convincingly in Marathi and English on science and the need for a scientific culture in society. A lover of books, he was a brilliant orator, known for his scholarship, mastery of words and a refreshing sense of humour. Shri V. G. Kulkarni expired on July 13, 2002. As a tribute to him, HBCSE has instituted a series of annual memorial lectures. These lectures, given by eminent scientists and educationists, deal with central issues in science, technology, education and society.

Prof. Rohini Godbole

Rohini Godbole obtained her doctorate from the State University of New York at Stony Brook, USA in 1979. She is currently Professor at the Centre for High Energy Physics, Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bangalore. Prior to that, she worked with TIFR and the University of Mumbai. She is a visiting Professor at the University of Dortmund (Germany), CERN (Geneva), DESY (Hamburg) and University of Utrecht (Netherlands).

She is also a recipient of Van der Waals Chair at the Amsterdam Institute of Physics and Astronomy.

She has worked extensively on different aspects of particle physics phenomenology over the past three decades, authoring more than 280 research publications in refereed journals and arxive e-prints. She has authored several graduate level monographs and text books on advanced topics for PhD students and researchers in particle physics. She serves as a member on various National and International Committees, and is an Elected Fellow of the Indian National Science Academy (INSA), Indian Academy of Sciences (IASC), National Academy of Sciences, India (NASI) and The World Academy of Sciences (TWAS). She has served on the Editorial Board of several prestigious journals, such as Current Science and Indian Journal of Physics. She has also won many awards and distinctions, which include the S.N. Bose medal of the INSA for Theoretical Physics, the Meghnad Saha Award for Physics of the Asiatic Society of India, DST J. C. Bose Fellowship of the Government of India, 'Honoris Causa' (D. Litt.) from S.N.D.T Women's University, etc.

Additionally, she has worked towards pioneering a variety of programmes at numerous fora to raise awareness on the subject of Women in Science. She has co-edited the book 'Lilavati's Daughters: Women Scientists of India' containing (auto) biographical sketches of about 100 women scientists in India, as also a book inspiring girls to a career in science called 'A Girl's Guide to a Life in Science'.

Programme: (4.00 p.m. – 5.30 p.m.)

♦ Welcome

Prof. K. Subramaniam

Women in Physics & Mathematics
 V. G. Kulkarni Memorial Lecture

Prof. Rohini Godbole

♦ Vote of Thanks

Prof. Sugra Chunawala

Homi Bhabha Centre for Science Education
Tata Institute of Fundamental Research

V. N. Purav Marg, Mankhurd, Mumbai – 400 088



Sixteenth V. G. Kulkarni Memorial Lecture

Thursday, September 21, 2017

4:00 pm



Prof. Rohini GodboleCentre for High Energy Physics
Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore

Will speak on Women in Physics & Mathematics