

Dr VS Arunachalam Memorial Lecture

3 December | 4:00 p.m.

Infosys Science Foundation, Jayanagar, Bengaluru



SPEAKER

Prof V Ramgopal Rao
Fellow of IEEE, TWAS, INAE, INSA, IASc, NASI
Group Vice-Chancellor, BITS Pilani Institutions

Concept Note

The present times are marked by numerous challenges across the social, economic, environmental, and policymaking spheres. These complex and often intersecting challenges call for the adoption of an innovative, multidisciplinary, and collaborative approach. Science and technology form the base of this approach as they have the potential to provide evidence-based solutions. Dr VS Arunachalam, a visionary leader in science and technology and the Scientific Advisor to five Indian Prime Ministers, recognised the necessity for scientific insights and evidence in policy decision-making early on.

In 2005, he set up the Center for Study of Science, Technology and Policy (CSTEP) to do just this. Guided by his vision, CSTEP has played a pivotal role in shaping policy initiatives in the fields of energy and climate change.

The VS Arunachalam Memorial Lecture is an initiative to honour the legacy of Dr Arunachalam by connecting thought leaders in the scientific arena to public policy practitioners. The memorial lecture aims to bring together thought leaders, innovators, and change makers from across the globe to foster interdisciplinary collaboration to help address pressing local and global challenges from different fields.

This year's lecture will be held on 3 December at the Infosys Science Foundation, Jayanagar, Bengaluru, from 4 p.m. onwards.

The lecture will be delivered by Prof V Ramgopal Rao, Group Vice-Chancellor of the BITS Pilani Institutions, on the topic '**Building India's Technological Capability: The Role of Universities**'. An internationally acclaimed nanoelectronics researcher, he has authored over 500 research papers, holds more than 50 patents, and has co-founded two deep-technology startups, Nanosniff and Soilsens. A Fellow of several national and international academies, he has received over 35 awards, including the Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize, Infosys Prize, and IEEE EDS Education Award. He has also held several national leadership roles in education, research, and innovation.