



INDIAN SOCIETY OF REMOTE SENSING

Cordially invites you for the

**32nd Vikram Sarabhai
Memorial Lecture – 2023
on**

Space Exploration: The Approach & Vision in Amrut Kaal
by

Shri. Sreedhara Panicker Somanath

Secretary, Department of Space and Chairman, Space Commission
Government of India

Organized by: Indian Society of Remote Sensing
Venue: Symbiosis International (Deemed University), Lavale Campus, Pune
on November 28, 2023 from 12 Noon to 12:30 PM

RSVP
Secretary, ISRS

Brief Biography of Shri. Sreedhara Panicker Somanath

Shri. S. Somanath is the Secretary of Department of Space and Chairman, Space Commission since 14 January, 2022. He is known for his significant contributions in system engineering of launch vehicles, PSLV and GSLV Mk-III. He obtained B. Tech in Mechanical Engineering from TKM College of Engineering, Kollam, and Masters in Aerospace Engineering from Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, specializing in Structures, Dynamics, and Control with a Gold Medal. He is the recipient of the 'Space Gold Medal' from the Astronautical Society of India, 'Merit Award' and 'Performance Excellence award' from ISRO and a 'Team excellence award' for GSLV Mk-III development. The Indian Society of Remote Sensing (ISRS) conferred Bhaskara Award for the year 2022 on Shri. S. Somanath for his outstanding contributions in Space Technology and its Applications.



Shri. S. Somanath joined VSSC in 1985 and was the team leader for the Integration of PSLV during the early phases. He also was the Associate Director (Projects) of Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre and also the Project Director of GSLV Mk-III Launch vehicle. Under his leadership as the Project Director, the first Experimental flight of LVM3-X/CARE mission was successfully accomplished on 18th December, 2014.

As the Director of VSSC, Shri Somanath assumed the office in January 2018. Under his able leadership, VSSC has achieved significant milestones like Crew Escape System demonstration through Pad Abort Test (PAT), launch of GSLV Mk-III M1/Chandrayaan 2, launch of 50th PSLV, PS4 orbital platform experiments etc.

Under his able chairmanship, ISRO carried out various space science, space exploration and human space flight related activities such as Third Indian Lunar exploration mission, Chandrayaan-3, Aditya L-1 and Gaganyaan TV- D1 missions. The Chandrayaan-3 mission executed the soft-landing of its Vikram lander on 23rd August, 2023 making India the first country to successfully land a spacecraft near the Lunar South Pole and fourth country to achieve a lunar surface touchdown.

Shri. Somanath is tirelessly contributing towards use of space technology and its applications for the development of the nation as demonstrated by recent successful launches of EOS-06 and EOS-07 Earth Observation Satellites. He is leading ISRO in providing geospatial technology inputs, services and resources for major national and international programmes such as, space based support for disaster management, Earth observation data and services from Bhuvan, Bhoonidhi and Vedas, MOSDAC, and NeSDR, satellite navigation meteorological and oceanography data, satellite aided search and rescue, aerial surveys and digital mapping.