

Dr V S Arunachalam



(November 10, 1935- August 16, 2023)

Dr VS Arunachalam, FNAE, former President, INAE, born on November 10, 1935 passed away on August 16, 2023. He was a Founding Fellow of INAE and elected to the Fellowship in 1987 in Engineering Section VIII (Mining, Metallurgical and Materials Engineering). Dr Arunachalam was the second President of INAE during 1991-1992.

Dr Arunachalam, Formerly Secretary, Department of Defence Research and Development (Ministry of Defence, Govt. of India) and Director General, Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), was the Scientific Adviser to the Raksha Mantri, from 1982 to 1992. Under his guidance, the Light Combat Aircraft Program (TEJAS) and the Integrated Guided Missile Program were initiated in DRDO, amongst many others. He was conferred the Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Award, Padma Bhushan, and Padma Vibhushan for his contributions to engineering science and technology. He was also conferred with The Lifetime Achievement Award of the Indian Institute of Metals in 2007; INAE Lifetime Contribution Award in Engineering in 2011 and DRDO's Lifetime Achievement Award in 2015. He founded the Centre for Study of Science, Technology and Policy (CSTEP), a not-for-profit think-tank, with a mission to enrich policymaking with innovative approaches using science and technology for a sustainable, secure, and inclusive society. He was the first Indian to be elected as Fellow of the Royal Academy of Engineering (UK). Dr Arunachalam championed the notion of "*Atmanirbhar Bharat*" throughout his life.

May God bless his soul to Rest in Peace