

ABOUT CHIEF GUEST



Professor P. Balaram (Born: 19th February 1949) is Professor of Molecular Biophysics and Former Director of the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore. He is a recipient of the third highest Indian civilian honour of [Padma Bhushan](#) (2014). Prior to this, he was Lecturer (1973-77), Assistant Professor (1977-82), Associate Professor (1982-85), Chairman, Molecular Biophysics Unit (1995-2000) and Chairman, Division of Biological Sciences (2002-05) at the Institute. His main research interests are in bioorganic chemistry and molecular biophysics. He is the author of over 400 research papers. He received his M.Sc. from IIT Kanpur (1969) and Ph.D. in Chemistry from Carnegie-Mellon, Pittsburgh, USA (1972).

Professor Balaram is a Fellow of the Indian Academy of Sciences, Indian National Science Academy and the Third World Academy of Sciences, Trieste, Italy. He has received many awards/honors in recognition of his work, of which mention must be made of the Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize of CSIR (1986), Alumni Award for Excellence in Research from IISc (1991), TWAS Award in Chemistry (1994), G.D. Birla Award for Scientific Research (1994), Distinguished Alumnus Award of IIT Kanpur (2000) and Padma Shri by the Government of India (2002).

Professor Balaram has delivered a number of lectures and has served on the Editorial Boards of journals, both national and international. He has served on many committees of the Government of India, and is currently a Member, Science Advisory Committee to the Union Cabinet and Scientific Advisory Council to the Prime Minister, among others. He has been the Editor of "Current Science" since 1995.