

# The Professor M. V. George Memorial Endowment Lecture 2020



**14**  
December  
**2020**

**Time:**

4.00 PM - 5.00 PM

*Instituted by*

Professor C.N. R. Rao and Mrs. Indumati Rao, in fond remembrance of their enduring friendship and recognition of the contributions of Professor M. V. George to Chemical Sciences.

**JOIN US !**

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The Director and IISER Thiruvananthapuram fraternity

invite you to

***The Professor M. V. George Memorial  
Endowment Lecture 2020***

by

**Prof. D. Balasubramanian**

**Director of Research**

**'Professor Brien Holden Eye Research Centre'**

**L. V. Prasad Eye Institute, Hyderabad**

on

***Mentorship and its Importance***

**Date and Time: 14<sup>th</sup> December 2020, 4.00 PM**

**Join Zoom:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86008166398?pwd=QyswMEdUWJNeUjtRmtYSXgxTGhSQTO9>

Meeting ID: 860 0816 6398 & Passcode: 234567

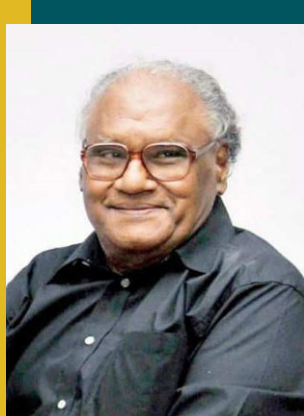
**IISER Thiruvananthapuram**



*Professor Manapurathu Verghese George, a renowned organic chemist who holds a unique place in the growth of photochemistry research in India, was born (1928) in Kollam. He obtained his B. Sc. and M. Sc. degrees in Chemistry from Union Christian College, Alwaye, and Ph.D. (organic chemistry) from St. John's College, Agra. He did his postdoctoral research with some of the most renowned organic chemists of that time, namely, George F Wright (University of Toronto), Henry Gilman (Iowa State University), Melvin S Newman (Ohio State University), Sir Derek Barton (Imperial College, London), and Rolf Huisgen (University of München). He then returned to India to be appointed at the Department of Chemistry of IIT Kanpur in April 1963, where he joined C. N. R. Rao, P. T. Narasimhan and many others to establish one of the best departments of chemistry in India. It's a well-known fact that the department of Chemistry at IITK produced several outstanding chemists over the years and continues to be one of the leading centres for research and teaching in chemistry in India. Working in the area of photochemistry, Professor George published more than 200 landmark research publications in various international journals of high repute and guided many Ph. D. students and postdocs. After his superannuation from IIT Kanpur in 1988, he moved to Trivandrum to work as Professor Emeritus at the National Institute for Interdisciplinary Science and Technology (CSIR-NIIST). The Photochemistry Research Unit that he set up became one of the leading centres in India for research on photosciences in a short time.*



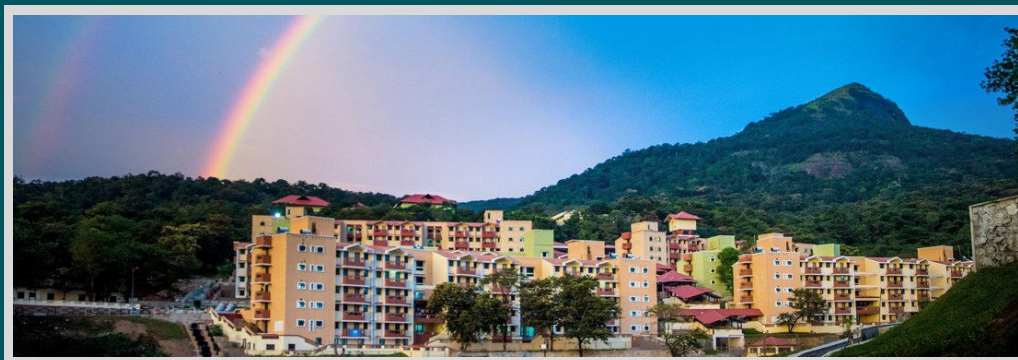
*Bharat Ratna, Professor C. N. R. Rao and Professor M. V. George shared a strong bond of friendship and a common vision to see our country become an international leader in the field of scientific education and research. Together they have established several activities to promote science and research in this part of the country. CSIR-NIIST becoming a leading centre for research in Chemistry and Materials was possible through the support and encouragement that they provided. They also established the "Foundation for Capacity Building in Science (FCBS)" for popularizing science among the youth and to attract them to science. Through its annual meetings, seminars and workshops targeting students and teachers, FCBS has had a significant role in promoting a number of bright young students of Kerala to pursue their careers in science. Many young beneficiaries of this program are renowned scientists themselves today. When Professor Rao convinced the government of India to establish several IISERs in the country, Professor George could convince Professor Rao in turn to establish one in Thiruvananthapuram. Since its inception, the ardent support of both for IISER TVM is well recognized. Professor Rao continues to support IISER Thiruvananthapuram in many ways.*





## About the Speaker

*Professor Dorairajan Balasubramanian, a well-known biophysical chemist, is currently the Director of Research at the 'Professor Brien Holden Eye Research Centre' of the L. V. Prasad Eye Institute, Hyderabad. He was born (1939) in Tamil Nadu. After obtaining his B. Sc. in Chemistry from Madras University (1957) he pursued M. Sc. in Chemistry from Rajasthan University, Piloni (1959). He conducted his doctoral research in biophysical chemistry from Columbia University (1965) and was a postdoctoral research fellow at the University of Minnesota Medical School (1966). Professor Balasubramanian returned to India in 1966 and joined the Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur(IITK) as a lecturer, where he rose to the rank of professor. During 1977-1982, he was the dean of the School of Chemistry at the University of Hyderabad. In 1982, he moved to the Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB) Hyderabad as deputy director and he retired as its director in 1998. He then moved to the L. V. Prasad Eye Institute. He holds many visiting professorships at various universities across the globe. He has published more than 450 research articles and six books. He is also a prolific writer in leading newspapers such as The Hindu and The Times of India, and has contributed immensely to the popularization of science. He was the President of the Indian Academy of Sciences, Bangalore (2007-2009). He is a recipient of many awards, which include the Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize in chemical science, The SBCI Sarma Memorial Award, FICCI Award and the ICMR M. O. T. Iyengar Award, Ranbaxy Award, Fukui Award, Goyal Prize and J. C. Bose Medal. The Government of India honoured him with Padma Shri and The Government of France awarded him the Chevalier de l'Ordre National de Merite in 2002. He is an elected member of Indian National Science Academy (INSA), Indian Academy of Sciences (IAS), National Academy of Sciences, India (NASI), Third World Academy of Sciences (TWAS) and the American Association for the Advancement of Science and many other academic bodies worldwide.*



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