

## History

Over the years, NIAS has moved towards fulfilling the dreams of its founder Sri JRD Tata, its founder Director Dr Raja Ramanna and its subsequent Directors Dr Roddam Narasimha and Dr K Kasturirangan. As a multidisciplinary Institute, NIAS combines scientific and humanistic perspectives on topics of national and international importance. Activities of NIAS include research, analysis, publications and teaching. Following the ideas of its founder, NIAS has also been an educational centre for future leaders of India through its courses and educational programmes. Over the years, NIAS has created a unique ambience wherein researchers, scholars, speakers and visitors from a variety of disciplines interact in a meaningful manner. The PhD programme that was initiated in 2004 has added to the dynamism with exploratory interest in many interdisciplinary areas of research.

The Institute has ample facilities for conferences, lectures and theatrical programmes. The JRD Tata Auditorium and the Lecture Halls facilitate an ideal atmosphere for long hours of deliberation and discussion. Situated on five acres of land within the verdant campus of the Indian Institute of Science, the buildings of NIAS have a strikingly distinctive architecture with elegant lines and arched corridors. The fully furnished guest rooms make the visitors' and course participants' stay a pleasant one.

NIAS has an active programme of public lectures, regional, national and international conferences, symposia and seminars organized independently or jointly with other institutions, that focus on topical areas of research and public concern.



Sri JRD Tata planted a banyan sapling in the campus on 19<sup>th</sup> March 1993.



The banyan tree today...

# NIAS

## Timeline

1987



Dr Raja Ramanna takes charge as Founder Director.

1988

NIAS registered as a Society under the Karnataka Societies Registration Act (1960) on 20<sup>th</sup> June 1988.

Sri JRD Tata chairs the first meeting of the NIAS Council of Management.

First Meeting of the NIAS Council of Management on 8<sup>th</sup> August. Members present include Sri JRD Tata (Chairman), Sri JJ Bhabha, Dr Raja Ramanna, Dr CNR Rao, Sri TR Satish Chandran, Sri Ashok Ganguly, Sri Keshub Mahindra and Dr MCK Meron.



Dr RL Kapur joins on 1<sup>st</sup> October as Professor and starts the Unit on Health and Human Behaviour.

1989

First NIAS Course for Senior Executives (from 16<sup>th</sup> January to 18<sup>th</sup> February). Speakers include Prof Andre Beteille, Prof Romila Thapar, Prof N Mukunda. Twenty-eight senior executives attend. They include Sri ST Bhaskaran (Dept of Post, Karnataka Circle), Sri KU Limaye (DRDO), Sri B Muthuraman (The Tata Iron and Steel Co Ltd.), and Sri M Kamal Naidu (National Zoological Park).



1990

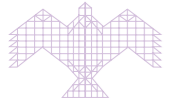


Prof CNR Rao (then Director, Indian Institute of Science) consents to be the Hon. Director (pro tempore) during the period when Dr Ramanna is away in Delhi as Minister of State.

1991



Dr CV Sundaram joins as the first Homi Bhabha Chair Professor on 18<sup>th</sup> November.



# N I A S *Timeline*

1992

Sri JRD Tata lays foundation stone of NIAS on 12<sup>th</sup> March.



Prof MN Srinivas joins as the first JRD Tata Chair Professor on 2<sup>nd</sup> February.

Dr BV Sreekantan joins as the first S Radhakrishnan Chair Professor on 6<sup>th</sup> August.

1993

Sri JRD Tata plants a banyan sapling in the campus on 19<sup>th</sup> March.



Plan for JRD Tata Auditorium unveiled.

First NIAS Course for UGC Teachers from 4<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> October.

1997



Prof Roddam Narasimha takes over as Director on 1<sup>st</sup> August.

Prime Minister HD Deve Gowda inaugurates NIAS JRD Tata Memorial Auditorium on 23<sup>rd</sup> March.



1998

President KR Narayanan visits NIAS on the occasion of the birth centenary celebrations of Prof KS Krishnan on 28<sup>th</sup> July.

2004



Dr K Kasturirangan takes over as Director on 31<sup>st</sup> March.

Reorganisation of Units into three Schools: Humanities, Social Sciences, and Natural Sciences & Engineering.

Profs BV Sreekantan, PG Vaidya and Dilip Ahuja take charge as Deans of School of Humanities, School of Natural Sciences & Engineering and School of Social Sciences, respectively. S Rajgopal takes over as Dean, Administration.

Commencement of NIAS Doctoral Programme and induction of PhD students.

2005

President APJ Abdul Kalam delivers the 5<sup>th</sup> JRD Tata Birth Centenary Lecture.



Dr JJ Irani lays Foundation Stone of the Centenary Faculty Block on 2<sup>nd</sup> July.

2006



Faculty moved to the Centenary Faculty Block on 2<sup>nd</sup> October.

2008

NIAS celebrates its Vicennial Anniversary.

2009



Dr VS Ramamurthy takes over as Director of NIAS on 02 September 2009