

Science, Technology and Innovation Policy (STIP) Forum Lecture Series

10th Lecture

"Future of Science, Technology & Innovation"

13th July, 2018

Time: 7:00 pm

Venue: Casuarina Hall, India Habitat Centre, Lodhi Road, New Delhi (entry from gate no. 3)

Programme

7.00 p.m.	Welcome Remarks by: Dr. Mukesh Kumar , Director, IFCPAR/CEFIPRA Remarks: Shri Sunit Tandon , Director, IHC Introduction of Speaker: Dr. Ajay Mathur , Director General, TERI (tbc)
7.15 p.m.	Chairman's Remarks Dr. V.K. Saraswat , Member, NITI Aayog, GoI
7.20 p.m.	Lecture on "Future of Science, Technology & innovation" by Prof. Ashutosh Sharma , Secretary, DST, GoI
7.50 p.m.	Open Discussion
8.05 p.m.	Concluding Remarks & Thanks : Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi , Director General, RIS (tbc)

You are cordially invited to the Tenth Lecture

Under
Science, Technology and Innovation Policy (STIP) Forum Lecture Series
(a collaborative initiative of CEFIPRA, RIS, TERI, CSE, Vigyan Prasar and IHC)

On

“Future of Science, Technology & Innovation”

By

Prof. Ashutosh Sharma

Secretary, Dept. of Science and Technology, GoI

Date: 13th July, 2018 (Friday), Time: 7:00 pm

Venue: Casuarina Hall, India Habitat Centre, Lodhi Road, New Delhi (entry from gate no. 3)

Abstract:

“Predictions are very hard, especially about the future”- Anonymous

“If it’s true, what matters who said it?” –Another anonymous!

This talk is NOT about random examples of futuristic technologies (which would run into thousands), but about the directions and drivers of technologies.

Future of Science and Technology is about integration, synthesis, convergence and inter-penetration of the many elements that have developed more or less in isolation, such as-- biology, materials, nanotechnology, data science, digital/cyber, social sciences, each with their own domains of applications.

Future is also equally about the many minor and grand syntheses driven by the overarching cravings of humans—that of material comforts, control of surroundings, to live forever, to be entertained, to have a meaning....

What technological directions can be predicted based on the convergences that satisfy cravings? And would they?

What could throw a spanner in the works? What are the outer limits?

Que Sera, Sera....



About the Speaker

Prof. Ashutosh Sharma is the Secretary, Department of Science and Technology, Government of India since January 2015. He was a professor (1997-), an Institute Chair Professor (2007-) and the Head (2003-05) of Chemical Engineering, and the founding Coordinator of Nanosciences Center and Advanced Imaging Center at the Indian Institute of Technology at Kanpur. Ashutosh received his PhD from the State University of New York at Buffalo (**SUNYAB**; 1988) working with Prof. Eli Ruckenstein—a recipient of the US Medal of Science, his MS from the Pennsylvania State University (1984) and B.Tech. from IIT Kanpur (1982).

He has had a broad international experience as a research faculty at SUNY Buffalo School of Medicine (1988-90), visiting faculty at University of Texas at Austin, University of Western Ontario, University of Erlangen-Nuremberg and the World Class University Program of South Korea and as a Member of the European Research Commission.

His research contributions are highly interdisciplinary, spanning a wide range in nanotechnology; thin polymer films; nanocomposites and devices in energy, health and environment; functional interfaces; micro/nano-mechanics of soft matter; nano-patterning and nanofabrication; colloid and interfacial engineering; biomaterials & biosurfaces; wetting and adhesion. He has published over 330 peer reviewed papers, filed over 15 patents, given over 100 invited or key note conference presentations and mentored a nanotechnology startup.

He is a recipient of numerous honors and awards including the inaugural Infosys Prize in Engineering and Computer Science, TWAS Science Prize of the World Academy of Sciences, Bessel Research Award of the Humboldt Foundation, J. C. Bose Fellowship, Bhatnagar Prize, Homi J. Bhabha Award of UGC, The Syed Husain Zaheer Medal of INSA, Distinguished Alumni Awards of IIT Kanpur and SUNY Buffalo, Life-time Achievement Award of the Indian Science Congress, UNESCO Medal for “Contribution to Development of Nanoscience and Nanotechnology”, H.K. Firodia Award for Excellence in Science & Technology and Meghnad Saha Medal of INSA.

He is an elected Fellow of The Indian National Science Academy, The Indian Academy of Sciences, The National Academy of Sciences, India and Indian National Academy of Engineering, The World Academy of Sciences (TWAS) and the Asia-Pacific Academy of Materials. He has also served on the Councils of the first two. He has been an associate editor of *ACS Applied Materials and Interfaces*, *Proceedings of Indian National Science Academy* and *ASME Journal of Micro- and Nano-Manufacturing* and has been on the editorial boards of several journals: *Carbon*; *ACS Industrial and Engineering Chemistry Research*; *Current Science*; *Nanomaterials and Energy*; *Chemical Engineering Science*; *Journal of Colloid and Interface Science*; *Canadian Journal of Chemical Engineering* and *Indian Chemical Engineer*.

Prof. Sharma's other interests are in ancient history and philosophy, poetry and art.