



## 38<sup>th</sup> Kerala Science Congress

30 Jan - 02 Feb, 2026

St. Albert's College (Autonomous), Ernakulam

# M. S. Valiathan Memorial Lecture

(A prelude to 38<sup>th</sup> Kerala Science Congress)

In association with Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology

18.11.2025 | 10.30 AM - 12.30 PM

Venue: Achutha Menon Centre for Health Science Studies Auditorium, SCTIMST

### Welcome

Prof. A. Sabu

Member Secretary, KSCSTE &  
General Convenor, 38<sup>th</sup> Kerala Science Congress

### Presidential Address

Prof. K. P. Sudheer

Executive Vice President, KSCSTE

### Introduction to Dr. M. S. Valiathan

Dr. Sanjay Behari

Director, Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and  
Technology (SCTIMST)

### Introducing the Speaker

Dr. Sarika A. R.

Principal Scientist, KSCSTE

### M. S. Valiathan Memorial Lecture

Prof. Rajesh S. Gokhale

Secretary, Department of Biotechnology  
Government of India

### Word of Thanks

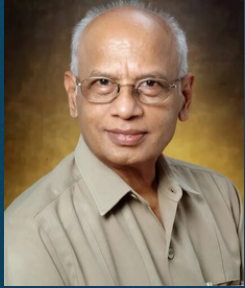
Arjun Prasad

Scientist, KSCSTE



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**Dr. M. S. Valiathan (1934–2024)** was a pioneering Indian cardiac surgeon, the founding director of the Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute (Thiruvananthapuram), and a key force behind India's indigenous TTK-Chitra mechanical heart valve. Trained at Trivandrum Medical College, Liverpool, and later at Johns Hopkins and Georgetown, he combined surgery with biomedical innovation and institution-building. He served as the first Vice-Chancellor of the Manipal Academy of Higher Education, became a National Research Professor, and wrote acclaimed works on Ayurveda (The Legacy of Caraka, Suśruta, and Vāgbhaṭa). Honours include the Padma Vibhushan (2005) and leadership of the Indian National Science Academy.



**Prof. Rajesh S. Gokhale** is Secretary of the Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science & Technology, Government of India, on deputation from IISER Pune. He formerly directed the CSIR–Institute of Genomics and Integrative Biology (CSIR-IGIB), where he established its South Campus and led translational genomics research on complex diseases. Trained as a chemical biologist at IISc Bangalore and Stanford University, his work has uncovered novel metabolites implicated in disease pathophysiology, including Mycobacterium tuberculosis infection and vitiligo. Dr. Gokhale is a recipient of the Infosys Prize and the Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize, and is a Fellow of all three national science academies of India.



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