38TH KERALA SCIENCE CONGRESS

Celebrating Science, Transforming Lives

30 Jan- 2 Feb 2026

St. Albert's College (Autonomous)
Ernakulam

P.R. PISHAROTY MEMORIAL LECTURE

(A prelude to 38th Kerala Science Congress)

15 January 2026

2:30 pm-4:30 pm

Cochin University of Science and Technology

Speaker

Shri. A Rajarajan

Director
Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre

Registration Link

https://forms.gle/QckJkBPacrFtB4wW8

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ORGANIZED BY

Kerala State Council for Science, Technology and Environment (KSCSTE)

IN ASSOCIATION WITH

Cochin University of Science and Technology

KERALA SCIENCE CONGRESS 38

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Prof. P. R. Pisharoty (1909–2002)

Prof. P. R. Pisharoty (1909–2002), widely regarded as the Father of Remote Sensing in India, was a pioneering meteorologist and physicist whose work transformed atmospheric and earth sciences in the country. After early academic work at Loyola College, Chennai, and research under C. V. Raman at the Indian Institute of Science, he became the Founder Director of the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM), laying a strong foundation for monsoon and climate research. He led India's first successful remote sensing experiment by detecting coconut wilt-root disease using aircraft-based sensors and later served as Director of Remote Sensing and Satellite Meteorology at the Space Applications Centre of the Indian Space Research Organisation. Prof. Pisharoty also chaired the Scientific Advisory Board of the World Meteorological Organization. In recognition of his outstanding contributions, he received the Padma Shri and the IMO Prize, and India's national remote sensing award was renamed the P. R. Pisharoty Memorial Award in his honour.

Shri. A. Rajarajan

Shri. A. Rajarajan, Distinguished Scientist of ISRO, became Director of the Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC) on 1 August 2025. Previously Director of the Satish Dhawan Space Centre SHAR (SDSC-SHAR), he led major missions such as Chandrayaan-3, Aditya-L1, SSLV, LVM3 M2/OneWeb India-1, Vikram-S, and key Gaganyaan tests. With nearly four decades at ISRO, he has held several leadership roles at VSSC, specialising in composite systems, propulsion, and carbon–carbon technologies. He also expanded SDSC-SHAR's launch infrastructure and initiated a dedicated SSLV complex. He is President of ISAMPE, holds a patent in film-boiling CVI technology, and has received multiple honours including an honorary doctorate and the ISRO Merit Award.