



Dr. VIJAY KUMAR SARASWAT
Member, NITI Aayog

BRIEF PROFILE

Dr Vijay Kumar Saraswat, India's most gifted scientist and an accomplished researcher with more than four decades of experience spanning over several fields and areas in both basic and applied sciences of defence research.

Born at Gwalior on 25 May 1949, Dr Saraswat completed his engineering from Gwalior; Master of Engineering from **IISc Bangalore**

followed by Ph.D from **Osmania University**.

During his illustrious career, from Scientist to Scientific Adviser to Defence Minister, Director to Director General DRDO and Secretary to Dept of Defence R&D, Dr Saraswat has been credited with development of Liquid Propulsion Rocket Engines and missiles namely **PRITHVI, DHANUSH, PRAHAAR** indigenously. He is the principal architect of the **Ballistic Missile Defence programme** which included major technology breakthroughs.

Dr Saraswat brought new dimensions to the strategic defence scenario through successful test firing of **AGNI-5; SHOURYA**; Initial Operational Clearance for Light Combat Aircraft **TEJAS** and induction of **INS Arihant**. Thus, today nation can boast of reaching any shores in the world with the nuclear capable missiles with different strike ranges.

Dr Saraswat is the recipient of many national and international awards including

- **PADMABHUSHAN** (2013)
- **PADMASHRI** (1998)
- Vikram Sarabhai Memorial Award from Indian Science Congress (2011);
- Lifetime Achievement Award by Ramakrishna-Vivekananda International Foundation, New Delhi;
- Prof Jai Krishna Memorial Award by Indian National Academy of Engineering (INAE);
- Dr Y Nayudamma Memorial Gold Medal for the year 2011 by AP Science Congress;
- Jawaharlal Nehru S&T Award (2009) by Govt of Madhya Pradesh;
- FICCI Annual Award;
- ARYABHATA Award (2011) from Astronautical Society of India;
- National Aeronautical Prize (1998)

Dr Saraswat presently is the **Member NITI Aayog** and shouldering many Honorary positions in Government and Academic Institutions.