Shri N. Pant



Shri N. Pant was born on 25th July 1931 at Almora, U.P. After finishing his intermediate college education at Almora, he entered Lucknow University in 1948 and obtained his **Postgraduate Degree in Physics with Wireless** as special subject in 1952. He has ever since been deeply involved in communications and electronics. In May 1965, he joined the team that was assigned the task of setting up of India 's first **Experimental Satellite Communication Earth Station (ESCES)** at Ahmedabad.

He has been involved in the satellite based communication and broadcasting from the very start of these activities in the country. He was the Chief Systems Engineer for India 's first commercial earth station at Arvi near Poona , which was completed in 1971. He made significant technical and managerial contributions in the setting up of this station. During 1974-75, under his direction, major earth station sub-systems/equipment were successfully developed and installed for **Satellite Instructional Television Experiment (SITE)** at Ahmedabad, Delhi and Amritsar Earth Stations.

Shri Pant has held the assignments of **Director, Experimental Satellite Communications Earth Station** , Ahmedabad and **Chairman, Communication Area, Space Applications Centre of Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)** , Ahmedabad.

In 1977, he was appointed as **Director, SHAR Centre of ISRO** . Under his able guidance, various facilities needed for satellite and launch vehicle launchings were established on schedule, which resulted in successful launching of **SLV-3** and putting the three Rohini series of satellites in orbit. **BHASKARA, ROHINI and APPLE Satellites** were successfully operated on regular basis from SHAR Centre.

In February 1985, he was posted as **Director, ISRO Satellite Centre, Bangalore** . Under his overall guidance, three major satellite projects viz., **IRS, SROSS and INSAT-2** were handled there. IRS-1A was successfully launched on 17 th March, 1988 and IRS series has since then been the major source of satellite imageries for remote sensing applications to various users. He was also the **Chairman of the INSAT-1 Project Management Board** which oversaw the functioning of the INSAT-1 programme.

In May 1990, he was appointed **Deputy Chairman, ISRO** and was deeply involved in many ongoing and future projects of ISRO in its different Centres. He retired from Government Service on 31 st July 1991 .

Shri Pant is a **Member of Space Commission** since 1 st January 1989 .

In 1976, Shri Pant was awarded the " **Shri Hari Om Ashram Prerit Dr. Vikram Sarabhai Research Award"** for the year 1975 for his achievements in the field of Electronics and Communications.

Shri Pant was awarded " **Padma Shri"** by the Government of India in 1984 for his achievements in the field of Satellite Communications.

Shri Pant was awarded " **Dr. Biren Roy Space Award for 1985** " by the Aeronautical Society of India.

Shri Pant was awarded **Aryabhata Award** for 1995 by the Astronautical Society of India.

Shri Pant was awarded " **Vikram Sarabhai Memorial Award"** for his contributions in the development of Science and Technology, which carried Gold Medal during the 92 nd Indian Science Congress held in January 2005.

Shri Pant was awarded **"Excellence in Performance Award"** for the year 2006 by Indian Space Research Organisation, Department of Space, Bangalore , in recognition of his exemplary contribution made towards the success of India 's space programme.