

Ex-ISRO chief K Sivan appointed as IIT Indore BoG chairman

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Former ISRO chairman K Sivan has been appointed as the chairman of Board of Governors at Indian Institute of Technology Indore for a period of 3 years.

"His appointment came (on August 22) just one day before the historic occasion of Chandrayaan-3 landing on the Moon's 'Shiva-Shakti' point," said a press release issued by IIT Indore on Thursday.

This culminated the tenure of Prof Deepak B Phatak who was the chairman of BoG IIT Indore from Feb 19, 2019 to August 21, 2023.

IIT Indore director Prof Suhas Joshi said, "We are very happy and excited to have Dr Sivan as the chairperson of IIT Indore BoG. At the same time, we are very thankful to the outgoing chairperson Phatak who has mentored the institute and taken us to newer heights."

Joshi added, "There could not have been a better time to have Sivan on-board when India has marked a historic occasion through Chandrayaan-3 and shown its acumen and expertise in the field of Space Engineering which was earlier meant for a select few. This year, we introduced 10 new academic programmes including a BTech programme in Space Science and Engineering with an intake capacity of 20, including 4 girl students. This is one of its kind programme only available at IIT Indore. We already had introduced an MTech and PhD programmes in Astronomy, Astrophysics and Space Engineering since 2016. I am confident that in the guidance of Sivan, the in-



stitute is expected to reach newer heights and work in the unexplored field of Space Engineering and contribute to the Space mission of the country."

Sivan joined Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre on October 29, 1982 and since then has played a key role in the design and development of ISRO's launch vehicle programme. Under his chairmanship, ISRO launched Chandrayaan 2, the second mission to the moon and in 2019 itself, configured Chandrayaan-3 with the corrections required.

After completing BSc (Mathematics) from Madurai University, he joined Madras Institute of Technology to pursue BTech. in Aeronautics.

Thereafter, he completed his ME in Aerospace Engineering from Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore and PhD in Aerospace Engineering from Indian Institute of Technology, Mumbai.

He is the chief architect of 6D trajectory simulation software, SITARA, which is the backbone of the real-time and non-real-time trajectory simulations of all ISRO launch vehicles.

He was the chief mission architect for the successful launch of 104 satellites in a single mission of PSLV.

He has numerous publications in various reputable journals including a book in Nov 2015 "Integrated Design for Space Transportation System" published by Springer.