

Distinguished Speakers Lecture Series by Dr. JJ Irani
at Pandit Deendayal Petroleum University, Gandhinagar

Date : 29th September 2014

Time : 11.00 am to 12.30 pm

Venue : LTC-1, Auditorium Complex, PDPU Campus, Pandit Deendayal Petroleum University
Gandhinagar

Dr. JJ Irani-Profile

Born on 2nd June, 1936, Dr. Irani obtained degree in M.Sc (Geology) from Nagpur University in 1958. M.Met in 1960 and Ph.D in 1963 from the University of Sheffield, U.K. He began his career in 1963 as a Senior Scientific Officer at the BISRA, Sheffield where he rose to the position of Head, Physical Metallurgy Division. On return to India in 1968 he joined The Tata Iron and Steel Company Ltd. (TISCO) now TATA STEEL, as Assistant to Director, Research & Development, where after he was appointed General Superintendent in 1978, General Manager in 1979, President in 1985 and Managing Director in 1992. After holding the CEO's office for almost a decade, he retired as Managing Director of Tata Steel in 2001. He continued to be a Director on the Board of Tata Steel till 2nd June 2011.

He is the Chairman of the Society and Board of Governors of the Indian Institute of Management, Lucknow; Council Member of the Indian Institute of Science (Bangalore); Member of the United Nation's Global Compact Board and a Trustee of the World Wild Fund for Nature – India (WWF-India). Dr. Irani was the National President of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) for 1992-93. He was the Co-Chairman of the Indo-British Partnership during 1993-1998. He was made a "Paul Harris Fellow" by the Rotary International in 1977, and a Melvin Jones Fellow by the Lions International Foundation in 1993. He has been the President of the Indian Institute of Metals (IIM) during 1985-86, All India Management Association (AIMA) during 1988-89 and Asian Association of Management Organisations (AAMO) during 2004-2007. He was the Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Xavier Labour Relations Institute, Jamshedpur (1993-2003). He was also the Chairman of the India-Australia Council.

Dr. Irani is a member of the Scientific Advisory Committee to the Cabinet (SAC-C) Government of India, the Central Advisory Board of Education (CABE) and also of the Expert Group constituted by the Planning Commission, Government of India, to prepare a Strategy for a Low Carbon Economy for India. He was Chairman of the Expert Committee set up by the Government to draft the new Companies Act, and was a member of the Expert Committee set up by the Government for recommending a roadmap for the Coal Sector in India. He was also involved in the working groups for Iron and Steel for the 6th, 7th and 8th National Five-Year Plans. He was a member of the Duke of Edinburgh Conference in 1980 (held in Canada).

Besides Tata Steel, Dr. Irani was a Director on the Boards of several Corporates including Tata Sons Ltd., Tata Motors Ltd., BOC (India) Ltd. Presently he is a Director on the Boards of Electrosteel Castings Ltd., Repro India Ltd., HDFC Ltd. He is Chairman of Tata Refractories Ltd., Kansai Nerolac Paints Ltd. He is a Member of the Advisory Boards of Deutsche Bank Climate Change, BNP Paribas, Siemens Sustainability and NICCO group. He was a Director of the Central Board of Reserve Bank of India, and was also on the Boards of Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) and IDBI Bank.

He is a Fellow of the Institute of Metals, Institution of Engineers, All India Management Association, Institute of Standards Engineers, Indian Academy of Sciences and Institution of Industrial Managers. In 1993, the University of Sheffield conferred upon him the Honorary Degree of "Doctor of Metallurgy" and in 2004 The Banaras Hindu University (BHU) conferred on him the Degree of Science, Honoris Causa. The Royal Academy of Engineering, London, at its Annual General Body Meeting held on 10th July, 1996, elected Dr. Irani as a Foreign Member and he is amongst the few Indians who have been bestowed with this honour.

The Ministry of Steel and Mines awarded him the Metallurgist of the Year Award in 1974, and the inaugural National Metallurgist Award in 1997 for his extraordinary achievements in the field of metallurgical industry. He was awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award 2008 instituted by the Ministry of Steel, Government of India. He is the recipient of "Steel Man of the Year 1990" award, Asian Productivity Medal 1993-94, the Indian Institute of Metals' prestigious "Platinum Medal" in 1988 (this medal is the highest award given by the IIM for outstanding contributions made to the metallurgical profession and industry), the Michael John Memorial Gold Medal for the year 1998 (for fostering harmonious employee-management relations in industry), the Qimpro Platinum Standard in 2000, the Indian Merchants' Chamber's Juran Quality Medal for the year 2001 (for his role as a statesman for quality), the Ernest & Young's Lifetime Achievement Award, 2001 (for entrepreneurial success), the All India Management Association's Eighth JRD Tata Corporate Leadership Award in 2003, the ICSI Life Time Achievement Award in 2006 (for translating excellence in Corporate Governance into reality). He has been conferred with the World Zarathushti Award for Excellence in Business at the Seventh World Zoroastrian Congress at Houston, USA in 2000, and Indian National Academy of Engineering' Life Time Contribution Award in Engineering in 2002. He is the recipient of the Twelfth Willy Korf Steel Vision Award instituted by The World Steel Dynamics and American Metal Market.

In 1997, Queen Elizabeth II conferred on him a honorary Knighthood (KBE), for his contributions to Indo-British Trade and Co-operation.

In 2007 he was honoured by the President of India who conferred on him the award of "**Padma Bhushan**" for his services to Trade and Industry in the country.

Dr. Irani is a avid Stamp Collector, Cricket enthusiast, has been a great promoter of sports and education in the City of Jamshedpur, and a committed environmentalist.