

**Dialogues at the Science-Society interface: some contemporary issues and themes**  
*A Conference in memory of Prof. C V Seshadri.*

8-10 Feb. 2018, IIT Madras Research Park, Taramani, Chennai - 600113

*Held under the aegis of the*  
**C V Seshadri Endowment Anna University Chennai**

*Sponsored by*  
**Shri. A. M. M. Murugappa Chettiar Research Centre (MCRC) Chennai**

*With academic and intellectual inputs from*  
**PPST and Vidya Ashram Communities**

***THE CONFERENCE PROGRAM***

Day-1: Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> Feb 2018:

**Inauguration:** 9.00 – 10.00 AM

Prof. M S Swaminathan, Prof. M Anandkrishnan, Prof. Bhaskar Ramamurthy (Director, IIT Madras), Prof. Ashok Misra (former Director , IIT Bombay), Prof. Shiv Viswanathan (Jindal University), Shri. Sunil Sahasrabudhey (Vidya Ashram Varanasi), Dr. J K Bajaj (Centre for Policy Studies), Mrs. Premalatha Seshadri, Prof. J Kumar (Anna University).

Prof. C N R Rao – Video Message

*Tea: 10.00 – 10.20 AM*

**Session -1:** 10.20 – 11.50 AM :

**Prof. C V Seshadri – the person and his work: implications and relevance for today.**

Chair: Prof. M. Anandkrishnan

Opening remarks by the Chair

- Opening of the website on CVS
- A short film on CVS
- Dr. V Balaji (video presentation) - C V Seshadri: Energy as Value and Food as Energy
- Panel Discussion on implications and relevance of CVS' s work today --
  - > Prof. Ashok Mishra --
  - > Prof. Shiv Viswanathan - CV Seshadri's Vision of Democracy as Knowledge Systems
  - > Shri. Sunil Sahasrabudhey – C V Seshadri, the philosopher-scientist
  - > Shri. A.V.Balasubramanian – Remembering CVS
  - > Prof. Anil Gupta –Roots of Indian Creativity Revisited: 1996-2018
  - > Shri. Joseph Thomas –
  - > CVS' family Member --

Concluding remarks by the Chair.

**Session – 1 (a):** 11.50 AM – 12. 30 PM:

**Open session “Recollections of CVS” by the audience**

**Session - 1 (b):** 12.30 – 1.10 PM

CVS as a Scientist-Activist: Situating Science &Technology between Academia, Art, and Activism – Panel Discussion ( Kavita Philip, Karl Mendonca, Anil Menon, Muthatha Ramanathan )

*Lunch: 1.15 – 2.15 PM*

**Session – 2:** 2.15 – 5.15 PM:

**Traditional Knowledge Systems of India: sharing some experiences and reflections.**

Chair: Prof. M D Srinivas

A. Presentations on some specific areas of knowledge classified as Sciences & Technologies:

Opening statement by the Chair

- Dr. PLT Girija/T M Mukundan – Ayurveda to enhance Public Health in India.
- Prof. Anil Gupta – Agriculture and allied areas
- Prof. N Ballal – Agariyas and their Iron: Lessons learnt
- Prof. Sharada Srinivasan – Artisanal metal technologies: historical trajectory and survival
- Prof. M S Sriram – Traditional mathematics and astronomy in the context of present day India
- Prof. Navjyoti Singh – Logic and Linguistics

Closing Remarks by the Chair

*Tea*

- B. Shri. A V Balasubramanian – 'Testing' and ' Validation ' of Traditional Knowledge :  
Reflecting on some efforts and experiences
- C. Prof. G Sivaramakrishnan – Perils of the past and promise of tradition.

Day-2: Friday 9<sup>th</sup> Feb 2018:

**Session - 3** : 9.00 – 11.00 AM:

**Impact of the Net & Web and other recent Scientific advances on the Knowledge Domain**

Chair: xxxx

Opening remarks by the Chair

- Shri. Sunil Sahasrabudhey -- The New ‘Knowledge – Politics’ Dialectic
- Shri.L Kannan – ICT and the consensual taming of dissent
- Dr. Amit Basole – ICTs and the reshaping of the knowledge domain.
- Dr. J K Suresh – Knowledge in the Age of Information, Communication and Networks
- Dr. Sushantha Goonatilake --Exploring South Asian Ethics for New Technologies

Concluding remarks by the Chair.

*Tea : 11.00- 11.30*

**Session - 4**: 11.30 AM – 1. 30 PM:

**Beyond the Modern - Traditional dichotomy in Knowledge : The concept of “ Knowledge in Society” (*Loka Vidya*) and its implications**

Chair: Shri. Sunil Sahasrabudhey

Opening remarks by the Chair

- Dr. J K Suresh – The Making of a New World: The Promise of Lokavidya
- Dr. Amit Basole – Lokavidya and the Caste Question
- Dr. Chitra sahasrabudhey – What is truth?: A *lokavidya* perspective
- Prof. Darshan Shankar – The Health Science Agenda of the Trans-Disciplinary University

Concluding remarks by the Chair.

*Lunch: 1.30 – 2.30 PM*

**Session - 5**: 2.30 – 5.0 PM:

**Arts, literature, music, theater, films etc as Knowledge Activity – meaning and implications**

Chair: Kannan Iyer

Opening remarks by the Chair

- Dr. Gowri Ramnarayan
- Dr. Udayan Vajpeyi – Transformations: Music to Painting, *Desi to Margi*
- Ustad Bahau-ddin Dagar
- Prof. Bishnu Mahapathra –Poet’s world and Poet’s way of knowing
- Shri. Sashikanth - A Theatre of Ideas, oblivious to the idea of verisimilitude.
- Shri. P Rajagopal and Dr. Hanne M - Kattaikkuttu performances as a source of indigenous knowledge
- P A Krishnan – The Ramayanas of Valmiki and Kamban

Concluding remarks by the Chair.

Day-3: Saturday 10th Feb 2018:

**Session - 6:** 9.00 – 11.00 AM.

**The Knowledge Revolution and our Institutions of Higher Education and Research**

Chair: xxxxxx

Opening remarks by the Chair

- Lead Paper presentation – Dr. C N Krishnan and Dr. J K Bajaj
- Panel Discussion (members to be announced)

Concluding remarks by the Chair.

*Tea : 11.00- 11.30 AM*

Session – 7: 11.30 AM – 12.30 PM:

**Concluding Session**

Chair: Prof. Ashok Jhunjhunwala

Report on the Conference: xxxx

Discussion

*Lunch*