BOSE INSTITUTE

(AN AUTONOMOUS INSTITUTE UNDER
DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY, GOVT. OF INDIA)

THE OBSERVANCE OF

110TH FOUNDATION DAY

and

87TH ACHARYA J. C. BOSE MEMORIAL LECTURE

30 November 2026



BOSE INSTITUTE

KOLKATA

THE OBSERVANCE OF

110TH FOUNDATION DAY

and

87TH ACHARYA J. C. BOSE MEMORIAL LECTURE

P R O G R A M M E

30 November 2026

14:30 - 14:35	…	Invocation
14:35 - 14:55	…	Welcome Address & Director's Report by **Prof. Kaustuv Sanyal**, Director, Bose Institute
14:55 - 15:00	…	Introduction to the Speaker by the Chair **Prof. Ashutosh Ghosh**, Vice Chancellor University of Calcutta
15:00 - 15:50	…	87th Acharya J. C. Bose Memorial Lecture by **Dr. Shekhar C. Mande,** *FNA, FASc, FNASc*
15:50 - 16:05	…	Chairperson's Address by **Prof. Ashutosh Ghosh**, Vice Chancellor, University of Calcutta
16:05 – 16:30	…	Presentation of Awards
16:30 - 16:35	…	Vote of Thanks by the Chairman of the Foundation Day Committee
		National Anthem
16:45 -	…	High Tea

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KOLKATA

Director
Bose Institute
requests the pleasure of your company at

THE OBSERVANCE OF
110TH FOUNDATION DAY

and

87TH ACHARYA J. C. BOSE MEMORIAL LECTURE

Speaker

Dr. Shekhar C. Mande, *FNA, FASc, FNASc*
Distinguished Professor
Savitribai Phule Pune University
JC Bose Fellow, National Centre for Cell Science, Pune
President, Indian National Science Academy (INSA)

titled

Science, Its Shadows, and Our Shared Responsibility

on

30 November 2026

Prof. Ashutosh Ghosh
Vice Chancellor
University of Calcutta

will preside over the programme

Venue:
Bose Institute Rajabazar
93/1, A.P.C. Road
Kolkata - 700 009

Prof. Kaustuv Sanyal
Director
Bose Institute

RSVP: https://forms.office.com/r/5qwT3TTZLq

Or scan

(Please RSVP by 25 November 2026)

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PAST LECTURERS

Shri Rabindranath Tagore	:	1938
Prof. M. N. Saha	:	1939
Prof. S. S. Bhatnagar	:	1940
Dr. J. C. Ghosh	:	1941
Sir Cyril S. Fox	:	1943
Dr. K. P. Biswas	:	1944
Dr. P. Jarija	:	1945
Dr. S. K. Mitra	:	1946
Dr. J. N. Mukherjee	:	1947
Prof. K. N. Bhal	:	1948
Dr. K. C. Mehta	:	1949
Dr. S. K. Banerji	:	1950
Dr. P. C. Mahalanobis	:	1951
Prof. R. C. Majumder	:	1952
Dr. N.K. Bose	:	1953
Prof. S. N. Bose	:	1954
Dr. S. I. Hora	:	1955
Dr. A. C. Ukil	:	1956
Dr. D. N. Wadia	:	1957
Dr. S. Radhakrishnan	:	1958
Sir Jehangir Gandhy	:	1959
Dr. V. R. Khanolkar	:	1960
Dr. B. C. Guha	:	1961
Dr. D. N. Ramachandran	:	1962
Dr. S. Bhagavantan	:	1963
Shri Asoke Mehta	:	1964
Prof. P. Maheshwari	:	1965
Dr. Atma Ram	:	1966
Acamedician A. I. Oparin	:	1967
Dr. B. D. Nag Chowdhuri	:	1968
Dr. Homi N. Seethna	:	1969
Dr. P. R. Ray	:	1970
Dr. N. K. Bose	:	1971
Prof. M.S. Swaminathan	:	1972
Dr. A. Srinivasan	:	1973
Dr. A. Ramachandran	:	1974
Dr. B. Mukherjee	:	1975
Prof. G. P. Talwar	:	1976
Dr. Raja Ramanna	:	1977
Prof. (Mrs.) A. Chatterjee	:	1978
Prof. S. K. Mukherjee	:	1979
Prof. Niharranjan Ray	:	1980
Prof. Sukumar Sen	:	1981
Prof. B. K. Bachhawat	:	1982
Swami Lokeswarananda	:	1983
Prof. N. S. Subbarao	:	1984
Prof. R.C. Majumder	:	1985
Prof. C. N. R. Rao	:	1986
Prof. S. Chandrasekher	:	1987
Dr. A. P. Mitra	:	1988
Prof. O. Siddiqi	:	1989
Dr. S. R. Ramachandran	:	1990
Prof. P. N. Tandon	:	1991
Prof. H. Sarat Chandra	:	1992
Dr. U. R. Rao	:	1993
Dr. S. Z. Qasim	:	1994
Dr. P. K. Iyenger	:	1995
Dr. G. Padmanaban	:	1996
Prof. V. Ramalingaswami	:	1997
Prof. N. K. Ganguly	:	1998
Dr. R. A. Mashelkar	:	1999
Prof. P. Balaram	:	2000
Prof. Ramanath Kowsik	:	2001
Dr. Pushpa M. Bhargava	:	2002
Prof. M. S. Valiathan	:	2003
Prof. Asok Sen	:	2004
Prof. Rajesh Kochhar	:	2005
Prof. V. S. Ramamurthy	:	2006
Swami Jitatmananda	:	2007
Prof. F. P. Marconi	:	2008
Prof. J. N. Mohanty	:	2009
Prof. André Béteille	:	2010
Swami Atmapriyananda	:	2011
Shri Gopal Krishna Gandhi	:	2012
Prof. Mushirul Hasan	:	2013
Dr. Srikumar Banerjee	:	2014
Dr. T. Ramasami	:	2015
Prof. Raghavendra Gadagkar	:	2016
Prof. Ada Yonath	:	2017
Prof. T.V. Ramakrishnan	:	2018
Prof. Subhash Kak	:	2019
Prof. Gautam R. Desiraju	:	2021
Prof. Ashutosh Sharma	:	2022
Prof. Dr. Paolo Giubellino	:	2023
Prof. Sankar K. Pal	:	2024
Dr. Soumya Swaminathan	:	2025

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ABSTRACT

Science, Its Shadows, and Our Shared Responsibility

Science is advancing at a pace rarely seen before. Gene-editing therapies are reaching patients, mRNA technology is being extended to cancer and other diseases, AI tools such as AlphaFold are transforming biology, and renewable energy has become the cheapest new power source in much of the world. Yet each advance carries adverse effects: AI-driven misinformation, bias and environmental costs, dual-use risks in biotechnology, unaffordable therapies that widen health inequity, rising antimicrobial resistance, and growing threats to privacy and the environment.

This talk argues that harm also arises from how science is delivered. When people feel science is done to them rather than with them, trust erodes, as seen in the GM crop controversies and pandemic-era vaccine hesitancy. Public engagement is presented not as public relations or one-way "education," but as a means of ensuring legitimacy, improving the quality of science through diverse knowledge, and building trust before crises occur.

Drawing on examples such as citizens' assemblies, public dialogue on embryo research, patient participation in research funding, and citizen science, the talk outlines what effective engagement looks like and the humility it demands from both scientists and the public. In cities such Pune and Kolkata, where science-awareness among common people is high, the opportunity to engage with the public are the highest. My talk concludes that steering science responsibly requires open dialogue, transparent regulation, equitable access, and honest communication about uncertainty.



Dr. Shekhar C. Mande, *FNA, FASc, FNASc*

Distinguished Professor
Savitribai Phule Pune University
JC Bose Fellow, National Centre for Cell Science, Pune
President, Indian National Science Academy (INSA)

Shekhar Mande is a structural and computational biologist. He was trained at the Molecular Biophysics Unit of the Indian Institute of Science and determined the first protein crystal structure from India, that of Peanut lectin.

He has worked at the CSIR- Institute of Microbial Technology, Chandigarh, Centre for DNA Fingerprinting and Diagnostics, Hyderabad and National Centre for Cell Science (NCCS), Pune. He was the Director of NCCS, Pune between September 2011 and October 2018. Subsequently, he moved to New Delhi as the Director General of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)- cum- Secretary, Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (DSIR), Govt of India. CSIR is the largest civilian scientific R&D chain of laboratories in India, which he headed. Among his major contributions at CSIR/ DSIR were providing leadership to the scientific and technological response to Covid-19, pioneering cultivation of Asafoetida in India, initiating major program on floriculture (including Lavender in J&K), initiating India's program on futuristic civil aviation including High Altitude Platforms), promotion of Indian footwear size program, promotion of sustainable aviation fuel, and a major initiative on pan-India health monitoring program, Phenome-India. One of the hallmarks of his leadership was to strongly encourage gender-inclusive scientific leadership.

His academic contributions have been in the area of structure-function relationships of proteins, mostly derived from Mycobacterium tuberculosis. He has also contributed to development of computational methodologies for analysis of large biological data. He has been recognized by election to the three science academies in the country, Indian National Science Academy, New Delhi; Indian Academy of Sciences, Bengaluru and National Academy of Sciences, India, Allahabad and the Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Award in Sciences in 2005. He was recently awarded the Distinguished Alumnus award of the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore.

Currently, he occupies Distinguished Professorship at the Bioinformatics Centre, Savitribai Phule Pune University (formerly University of Pune) funded generously by philanthropic donation by Dr. Anand Deshpande. He also serves on the board Tata Steel Ltd as an independent director and chairs the board of the Biotechnology Consortium India Ltd. He also chairs the governing board of the National Council of Science Museums, and is the National President of Vijnana Bharati, a large voluntary movement for Science with Swadeshi spirit. He is the President of the Indian National Science Academy, New Delhi.