

Space Applications and Societal Development

by Shri A. S. Kiran Kumar (Secretary, Department of Space and Chairman, ISRO)

Biography. Shri Alur Seelin Kiran Kumar, is a highly accomplished space scientist and engineer with a distinguished career spanning over four decades in ISRO in the satellite payload and applications domains. Born on October 22, 1952 in Hassan, Karnataka, Shri Kiran Kumar is the Chairman, Space Commission since January 2014. Besides, he holds the offices of Secretary, Department of Space, and Chairman, Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO).

He has made immense contributions to the design and development of more than 50 Electro-Optical Imaging Sensors for Airborne, Low Earth Orbit and Geostationary Orbit satellites starting from Bhaskara TV payload to the Mars Orbiter Mission payloads. He played a crucial role in Chandrayaan-1 mission right from the conceptualization stage and has made exemplary contributions to the success of Mars Orbiter Mission and Reusable Launch Vehicle Technology Development (RLV-TD). He has also made significant contributions for evolving the observation strategy encompassing land, ocean, atmospheric and planetary studies.

Shri Kiran Kumar is a recipient of many national and international laurels/awards. He is a Fellow of professional institutions like Indian National Academy of Engineering, Indian Society of Remote Sensing, Institution of Electronics & Telecommunication Engineers, Indian Meteorological Society, Gujarat Science Academy, Andhra Pradesh Academy of Sciences and an elected member of International Academy of Astronautics. He has been conferred with more than 10 Honoris Causa from prestigious universities. In recognition of his contributions, he was conferred Padma Shri Award by the President of India in 2014. Email: chairman@isro.gov.in