

# Prof. Anil Bhardwaj, PhD

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After M.Sc. from Lucknow University, and PhD from IIT-BHU, Dr. Bhardwaj joined ISRO in 1993 at Space Physics Laboratory (SPL), Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC), Trivandrum. He was the Director of SPL-VSSC during 2014-2017. He worked at NASA Marshall Space Flight Centre for about 2 years during 2004-2005 as NRC-Senior Research Associate.

His primary research field is planetary and space sciences and solar system exploration. He has used space-based (Chandra, XMM-Newton, Hubble), and ground-based (GMRT) Telescopes.

He was Principal Investigator (PI) of SARA experiment on the first Indian Lunar mission *Chandrayaan-1*, and MENCA experiment on the first *Indian Mars Orbiter Mission*. His team have PI-lead experiments on *Chandrayaan-2*, and *Chandrayaan-3* missions, the first Indian Solar mission *Aditya-L1*, as well as upcoming Planetary and Space Science missions.

Prof. Bhardwaj has published about 200 peer-reviewed research papers in international journals and chapter in Books, and has supervised several Ph.D., M.Tech., M.Phil., M.Sc., B.Tech. students and PDFs. His research findings led to several Press Releases by NASA, European Space Agency, ISRO, and Cover pages of American and European journals, and media highlights. He has been the Editor/Editorial Board Member of several international journals, member of Governing Council of a number of elite research institutions in India, and Chairman of many National Science Committees.

Prof. Bhardwaj is an elected *Fellow* of all *three National Science Academies* in India, and has received recognition at both national and international level – including two most prestigious science awards – *Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize* (2007) and *Infosys Prize* (2016). He is also a recipient of *AOGS Planetary Science Distinguish Lecture*, Japan (2014), *INSA-Vainu Bappu Memorial International Award* (2016), *Decennial Award of Indian Geophysical Union* (2017), and *J.C. Bose National Fellowship* (2019).

The *Distinguished Alumni Awardee* of *IIT-BHU* (2015) and *Lucknow University* (2022), Prof. Bhardwaj is revered by *ISRO* in 2017 with *highest in-service award – The Outstanding Achievement Award*. He received the *Prof. M. G. K. Menon Lecture Award* of *NASI* (2021). He was President of *Asia Oceania Geosciences Society Planetary Science* during 2006-2010, and *Vice-Chair of COSPAR Commission B* during 2012-2020.

Currently, Prof. Bhardwaj is a *Member of the NASI Council*, *Chairman* of the National Committee of *INSA-International Science Council for COSPAR and SCOSTEP*; President of the Indian Committee of *URSI* (International Union of Radio Sciences), and the Founding President of *Indian Planetary Science Association* (IPSA).

A Chapter "A Rocket to Poke Martians" on *the Life and work of Prof. Anil Bhardwaj* is published in Children's Book "They Made What?" (2021). He is also featured in the Book '*100 Great IITians: Dedicated to the Service of the Nation*', to be published in 2023.