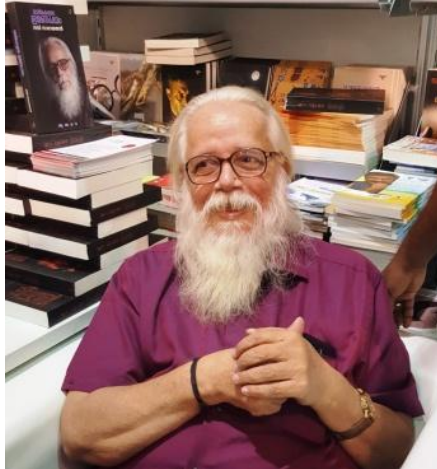


Shri Nagarajan Vedachalam
(1964-Mech)

Shri Nagarajan Vedachalam was conferred **Padma Shri in 2003** by the Government of India for his work in the field of Science and Engineering. He completed his **BE Mechanical Engineering in Thiagarajar College of Engineering, Madurai** in the year **1964**. Before joining the Indian Space Research Organization in 1969, he worked in Defense Research & Development Laboratory, Hyderabad, for four years, specializing in the development of an Anti Tank Missile Gyroscope. In a career spanning over 34 years in Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO), Shri Vedachalam had held several important positions like Group Director, Navigation Guidance Control Group, Programme Director, Inertial Systems Laboratory and Director, ISRO Inertial Systems Unit at Thiruvananthapuram.



Shri S. Nambi Narayanan
(1965- Mech)

Shri S. Nambi Narayanan was conferred **Padma Bhushan** award by the Government of India in the year 2019 for his work in the field of Science and Engineering. He completed his **BE Mechanical Engineering** in **TCE** in the year **1965**. He was a Scientist in Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO). As a senior official at the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) he was in-charge of the cryogenics division. He was instrumental in developing the Vikas Engine that was used in the first PSLV that India launched.

Padma Bhushan Nambi Narayanan introduced the liquid fuel rocket technology in India in the early 1970s, when A. P. J. Abdul Kalam's team was working on solid motors. He foresaw the need for liquid fuelled engines for ISRO's future civilian space programmes and received encouragement from the then ISRO Chairman Dr. Satish Dhawan.



Shri Vasudevan Gnana Gandhi
(1968- Mech)

Shri Vasudevan Gnana Gandhi is an Indian rocket scientist, known as the pioneer of cryogenic rocket science in India. A graduate in **Mechanical Engineering** from **Thiagarajar College of Engineering, Madurai (1968 batch)**, Gandhi started his career by joining the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) in 1968 and held many positions such as Project Director and Programme Director at ISRO. He is a recipient of the **Aeronautical Society of India Award in 2002** and was conferred the **Padma Shri** award by the Government of India in **2005**. His contributions include the development of booster liquid stages for Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle and the upgrading of VIKAS engine.



Dr. A. Sivathanu Pillai with a Brahmos Missile (Source: AFP)
(1969- EEE)

Dr. A Sivathanu Pillai is a recipient of two significant awards- **Padma Shri in 2002** and **Padma Bhushan in 2013**. He completed his graduation in **Electrical Engineering** from **Thiagarajar College of Engineering, Madurai (1969 batch)**. As an Indian scientist, he served as an Honorary Distinguished Professor at Indian Space Research Organisation and an honorary professor at IIT Delhi in the Department of Mechanical Engineering and a Visiting Professor at Indian Institute of Science. His fields of interests are Nuclear physics, Aerospace Engineering, Electrical engineering. He is also the founder-CEO and managing director of the **BrahMos Aerospace Private Limited**. The BrahMos Aerospace Limited is a joint venture between the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) of India and the Federal State Unitary Enterprise NPO Mashinostroyeniya (NPOM) of Russia under BrahMos Aerospace. The BrahMos missile is named after two rivers, the Brahmaputra and the Moskva.