

# Indian Scientist

# Anil Kakodkar

**Padma Shri (1998), Padma Bhushan (1999), and Padma Vibhushan (2009)**



**(Born On 11 November 1943)**

Anil Kakodkar is one of India's leading nuclear scientists and engineers. Born on 11 November 1943 in Barwani, Madhya Pradesh, he was inspired by his freedom fighter parents, Kamala and Purushottam Kakodkar, whose values of dedication and service shaped his life.

From an early age, Anil Kakodkar was interested in science and engineering. After graduating in Mechanical Engineering from VJTI, Mumbai, in 1963, he joined Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) in 1964 and contributed to the development of the Dhruva reactor.

## Scientific Contributions

Anil Kakodkar played a major role in developing India's PHWR technology, the Dhruva reactor, and the Pokhran nuclear tests of 1974 and 1998. He promoted thorium-based energy, supported the Advanced Heavy Water Reactor (AHWR), led reactor rehabilitation projects, strengthened India's nuclear self-reliance, and published over 250 scientific papers.

## Awards and Recognitions

Anil Kakodkar received several prestigious honours, including the Padma Shri (1998), Padma Bhushan (1999), and Padma Vibhushan (2009) for his contributions to nuclear science.

He also received the Maharashtra Bhushan and Gomant Vibhushan awards.

## Legacy

Anil Kakodkar's legacy lies in his remarkable contribution to India's nuclear science and energy development. He played a major role in making India self-reliant in nuclear reactor technology and atomic energy. His vision for thorium-based clean energy has helped shape India's future energy plans. Through his scientific leadership and dedication, he inspired many young scientists and engineers. His work continues to strengthen India's progress in science, technology, and national development.



## Present Role

Anil Kakodkar currently serves as the Chancellor of Homi Bhabha National Institute (HBNI), a premier institution for advanced studies and research in nuclear science and engineering. He is also widely respected as a senior advisor and mentor in India's atomic energy and scientific research sectors.