

**B R Guruprasad, PhD**  
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Vast professional experience as a Space Scientist, PR Professional, Academic and Science Communicator

## **Educational background**

Doctorate from Mysore University (for performing doctoral work at National Institute of Advanced Studies - NIAS), Indian Institute of Science Campus, Bangalore for the Thesis work “Contribution of External and Indigenous Technological Elements to India’s space Capabilities: An Appraisal”

Post-Graduation (Masters in Communications and Journalism) from Madurai Kamaraj University

Proficiency certificate in ‘Principles of Flight’

Graduation in Science (Physics, Chemistry and Mathematics from Bangalore University)

Up to Graduation at National Education Society, Basavanagudi, Bangalore

## **Professional Experience**

As Associate Director, Office Media and Public Relations (2018-2020), Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) Headquarters. Superannuated from ISRO in May 2020 after 37 years of uninterrupted service

As Public Relations Officer of ISRO (2005-2018)

As a Scientist at the Public Relations wing of the ISRO Headquarters during 2002-2005

As a satellite scientist in the domain of Satellite Mission Planning, Analysis and Operations (1983 to 2002) and worked for a total of 25 scientific, remote sensing and communications satellite missions

As an assistant at the Indian Institute of Science (1981-83)

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Specific duties performed:

At ISRO Satellite Centre:

Satellite Mission Planning – mission plans and other documents preparation

Mission Analysis pertaining to power and payload system

Mission Operations from India and abroad – Initial and normal phase as well as special operations

Systems Analysis – Holistic look at satellite as a system

## Simulator development

### At ISRO Headquarters:

Interfacing with media and Media management

Press Releases, Write-ups for Media, Interacting with media, talking in electronic and social media

Organising and Moderating Press Meets on numerous occasions

Bringing out Brochures, posters, books, booklets, exhibition panels, annual reports

Guest Relations – Hosting Indian and Foreign VVIPs, VIPs, Media Persons, Educators and Students

Organising and conducting Exhibitions in India and abroad (about 600 organised during 2002-2020) including the ones in Rome, Toronto, South Africa, Korea and Greece

Organising national and international events for professionals, media, educators and students including Water Rocket Making Workshops at local, national and international levels

Scripting and Making Documentaries

Interacting with students and general public in English and Kannada

Conducting Quiz on a variety of topics during Structured Training Programmes in ISRO and for Indian and foreign students

Handled a variety of administrative accounts, event management, purchase and logistics related tasks and interacted with a variety of people including local, state, central government officials and diplomats as well as private sector personnel, individuals, academicians, educators, journalists and general public

## **Deputations abroad**

German Space Agency DLR (1990-91) for satellite operations at Oberpfaffenhoffen near Munich

NASA (ground Station at Alaska- 1997) for sat ops.

Hamamatsu, Japan – as a panelist in an International conference on space science and technology (invited by Japanese Aerospace Exploration Agency JAXA) at Hamamatsu in 2008

Daejeon, Republic of Korea – to organise ISRO's participation in the exhibition on the occasion of International Astronautical Congress (2009)

France – for PR work related consultation – invited by Thales Alenia Espace of France (2010) at Toulouse

Thessaloniki, Greece – To organise ISRO's participation in Thessaloniki International Fair (2019)

## **Additional Experience**

On the Editorial Committee of the Journal of Aerospace Sciences and Technologies Published by Aeronautical Society of India. Writing and editing as well as subject expert sourcing (2020-)

On the Editorial Committee of 'Baala Vignana', a science magazine brought out by Karnataka Rajya Vignana Parishad (2020-)

Managing committee member of Gandhi Peace Foundation of Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan (2013-2015)  
As Managing Committee member of Jyothi Kendriya Vidyalaya. Organising a variety of programme for students and teachers and giving talks (1995-2010)

As Secretary of the Study Circle, Gokhale Institute of Public Affairs, Basavanagudi. Organising lectures, special programmes (1986)

As a member of the Managing Committee of the Bangalore Science Forum, National College, Basavanagudi. In organising Science Festivals and lectures (1980)

## **As Science Communicator**

Written more than 500 articles on science in English and Kannada Newspapers, Magazines and Newsletters

Written twelve books on Astronomy and Space in English and Kannada and contributed to many Encyclopaedias and Compendiums (one of the books translated to eleven other Indian languages including Sanskrit)

Broadcast nearly one hundred variety science programmes including Live Phone-in Programmes in All India Radio (AIR), Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) FM station Gyan Vani, Door darshan (Indian State Television) and Private TV Channels

Delivered more than 500 lectures on various science topics in educational and public service institutions and teacher's reorientation programmes both in English and Kannada

Made TV documentaries on space and astronomy in English and Kannada

Conducted many Water Rocket Making Workshops and Launch Competitions at National and International Level

Conducted more than 150 quiz programmes in various institutions in many parts of India and in radio and TV at different levels (including students from abroad) on a variety of subjects

As a resource person on Space and Astronomy, taught the teachers community all over Karnataka through satellite as part of Karnataka Directorate for State Educational Research and Training SATCOM programme

Lectured and interacted with students and teachers in different parts of India and abroad simultaneously through webcasts and Webinars

## **Travel Experience**

As part of discharging official duties as ISRO Scientist, and Public Relations Executive and Science Communicator and Resource Person, travelled extensively all over India and arranged ISRO outreach Programmes

Countries visited include Austria, Dubai, France, Germany, Greece, Hong Kong, Japan, Qatar, Singapore, South Korea, Taiwan, Thailand and the United States

## **Publications**

### **Journal Articles**

1. Understanding India's International Space Cooperation Endeavour: Evolution, Challenges and Accomplishments, India Quarterly, 74(4), 455-481
2. PSLV: The Versatile Workhorse Launch Vehicle of India (written jointly with M Mayilvaganan), Journal of Aerospace Sciences and Technologies, Vol.71, No.1, Feb 2019, pp1-15
3. Indian Space Reforms: Providing Added Thrust through Enhanced Partnership with the Private Sector, Journal of Aerospace Sciences and Technologies, Vol.72, No.2, 65-69)
4. Chandrayaan-2 successfully completes one year in lunar orbit, Journal of Aerospace Sciences and Technologies, Vol.72, No.3, pp 174-176

## **Interests**

### **Post-Doctoral Research**

Aerospace, strategic, international relations and science diplomacy related topics including:

1. Evolution of different facets of the Indian space programme encompassing such diverse technology related topics like
  - a. Satellite as well as sounding rocket and launch vehicle design development and testing
  - b. Launch infrastructure
  - c. On-orbit management of satellites
  - d. Space applications
  - e. Contribution of space technology to overall national security and strategic interests
  - f. Space and global security
  - g. Space situation awareness
  - h. Space commerce
  - i. Space policy
  - j. Space law

## 2. Additionally,

- Chinese Space Programme and its global implications
- Vision and policy framework for the Indian space programme in the 21<sup>st</sup> century
- Space and foreign policy
- Sustainable growth of the Indian space programme
- India's international space cooperation programme
- Implications of the commercialisation of Indian space programme
- Emerging space technologies and their relevance to the Indian space programme
- Media and the Indian space programme

## 3. Other interests

- a. Academics including teaching
- b. Media management
- c. Event Management
- d. Organising outreach activities
- e. Writing and Broadcasting on different topics including travel writing
- f. Documentary/Docu-drama making
- g. Scientific/Technical/Academic Administration
- h. Public Speaking

## **Hobbies**

Reading on a variety of subjects in English and Kannada transcending the traditional boundaries to which human knowledge is categorised

Listening to Karnatak, Hindustani, Western Classical, Jazz, Country and Pop music

Singing, writing and travelling

Studying Painting, Sculpture and Architecture

Meeting and interacting with people

Sharing experiences with students at different levels, teachers and general public