

PM addressing the Directors at the Conference. Seated from I to r are: Dr VS Arunachalam, SA to RM; Shri Arun Singh, RRM; Shri Sukh Ram, RRM; Shri Vivek R Sinha, Addl Secy (DR)

DEFENCE RAD DIRECTORS' CONFERENCE

Defence Science Library was the venue of the 19th Defence R&D Directors' Conference held during 21–23 April 1986. Inaugurating the Conference, the Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi presented the 'Scientist of the Year' awards to DRDO scientists and cash awards to teams of scientists for their outstanding performance in the year 1984 and 1985. The Prime Minister also presented the Silicon and Titanium Trophies to Laboratories for their best performance in systems and sciences.

In his inaugural address, the Prime Minister emphasized the need for interaction between the scientists in the laboratory and the people involved in the development, production and the training process. He asked DRDO scientists to rise to the occasion and respond to the challenges of the future. The dignitaries present at the conference were

the Minister of State for Defence Research, the Minister of State for Defence Production, the three Service Chiefs, the Defence Secretary, Secretary, Department of Defence Production and Supplies, Scientific Adviser to Raksha Mantri and Director General Research & Development and some distinguished invitees. About 80 Directors of DRDO Labs/Estts and the Headquarters participated in the Conference.

The theme of the Conference was: Technologies for the next decade and implementation of the Seventh Five-Year Plan for DRDO. The Minister of State for Defence Research, Shri Arun Singh also addressed the Directors. Dr VS Arunachalam, SA to RM gave a presentation on the growth and achievements of DRDO during the plan period, 1980—85 and the approaches to the Seventh Five-Year Plan.