

Profile – Dr. Kota Harinarayana



Dr. Kota Harinarayana was born in Berhampur, Orissa, in 1943 and graduated from BHU in Mechanical Engineering. He did his post-graduation in Aero Engineering at IISc, Bangalore. He did his Ph.D. at IIT Bombay and also he is holding a Bachelor's degree in Law.

He started his career in 1967 at HAL. He moved to DRDO HQ in 1970 and till 1982 held various positions. He rejoined HAL in 1982 as Chief Designer in Nasik Division. He was deputed to DRDO in 1985 and assumed charge as Director, ADE, Bangalore. He was appointed as LCA Programme Director in December 1985. During 1995 he was elevated as Distinguished Scientist by DRDO. As Programme Director and Chief Designer of Light Combat Aircraft, he successfully directed the project leading to flight testing and clearance for limited series production. Thanks to his efforts, India succeeded in developing a state-of-art, high technology fighter aircraft of world class.

He is the Fellow of Aeronautical Society of India (former President of the Society), National academy of sciences and Indian National Academy of Engineering. He received distinguished alumnus award from Indian Institute of Science and from IIT Bombay. He was awarded National Aeronautics Prize and FIE Foundation Award in 1996. He received SBI-Pragna Puraskar in 2001. He received the Dr. Y. Nayudamma Memorial Award for 2001. He received the DRDO Technology Leadership Award for 2001. He was

honoured with Padma Shri by Government of India in 2002. He received Gujar Mal Modi Science foundation award for the year 2006. Indian National Academy of Engineering conferred up on him, the life time contribution award in engineering, for the year 2006. He was awarded Shri Om Prakash Bhasin award for Science & Technology for the year 2007 in the field of engineering including Energy & Aerospace. He received DRDO life time achievement award in 2008. Berhampur University conferred on him honorary doctorate in the year 2008. Acharya Nagarjuna University conferred on him honorary doctorate in the year 2012. SOA, Bhubaneswar conferred honorary doctorate in the year 2013. He received Lokamanya Tilak puraskar in 2011.

He was formerly Vice-Chancellor of University of Hyderabad till 15th July, 2005. He was also chairman of Research councils of CSIO, Chandigarh (CSIR LAB) and Centre for Wind energy Technology, CWET (MNRE Institution) , distinguished visiting professor at IIT, Bombay, Pratt & Whitney Chair professor at University of Hyderabad, Member of UGC empowered committee on Basic research in Science and Dr. D S Kothari DRDO Chair at ADA, Bangalore. At present he is Distinguished professor at IIT, Bombay , Chairman , Board of Governors of IIITDM, Jabalpur and advisor to CSIR-NAL