

INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON SCIENCE AND BEYOND

EXPLORING THE LIMITS: Chief minister S.M. Krishna speaks to Member of Parliament Dr Karan Singh and Infosys Technologies Limited chairman and chief mentor N.R. Narayana Murthy during the inaugural function of the International Symposium on Science and Beyond, in Bangalore on Wednesday. A photograph by Shashidhar B.

Murthy stresses on sound value system

Bangalore, Jan. 8: Infosys Technologies chairman and chief mentor N.R. Narayana Murthy on Wednesday spoke of the need for a sound value system to use technology for the social and economic progress of society and for strong values in business practices.

In his address to eminent scientists and spiritual thinkers from across the globe attending a meeting on "science and beyond," he called for practising "values that put the interest of the community ahead of yourself."

Addressing the meet organised by the National Institute of Advanced Studies and the US-based John Templeton Foundation here, he said technology enabled application of scientific knowledge to practical tasks but stressed on a sound value system providing the framework for using technology.

Apart from highlighting the need for a value system for sustainable development, he also referred to instances of fraud in the corporate sector, citing greed and pettiness as the chief reasons for it.

A strong value system "that will act like a rudder" was required in business practices, he said. (PTI)

Society needs a global renaissance: Karan Singh

BY OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Bangalore, Jan. 8: A new global renaissance, an integration between apparently conflicting concepts of science and spirituality, has to be the watchword for the emerging global society, member of Parliament Karan Singh said on Wednesday.

Speaking at the inaugural function of the International Symposium on Science and Beyond: Cosmology, Consciousness and Technology in the Indic Tradition at the National Institute of Advanced Sciences, he said: "It is tragic that we in India

with our unique spiritual and intellectual background in the field of spirituality should still be lagging behind. If only the programme on project consciousness initiated by me in Nimhans had continued, we could well have produced the first Nobel laureates in the field of consciousness research."

Science is now in a creative period and old barriers are breaking down, with people beginning to discern the outlines of a convergence between science and spirituality, he pointed out.

"Spirituality transcends theologi-

cal divisions and cuts across barriers of race, religion, creed and nationality, seers of all great faiths have tried to explain an indescribable experience. Clearly there are higher states of consciousness which transcend all barriers. This consciousness itself ultimately can become the cornerstone of a sane and harmonious global society," he said.

"If India with its Vedas and the Upanishads and great tapasvis like Buddha, Mahavira, saints like Ramakrishna Pramahansa, cannot lead the world in its renaissance, who else can? chief minister S.M.

Krishna asked continuing in the same vein as Mr Singh.

Global renaissance has acquired a new meaning and dimension with spiritual reawakening but people should understand how science correlates with spirituality and how one becomes important to the other, he said. Bangalore has been the IT capital but it should also become the capital of art, culture, letters and philosophy, he said.

Centenarian and former governor Justice Nittoor Srinivasa Rau, in a short and clear speech pointed out that both science and technology

owe allegiance to Truth. People thought Newton's three laws would solve all problems, but then Einstein came along with his relativity theory and the dead certainty of science was destroyed. Mahatma Gandhi aptly titled his autobiography, *My experiments with truth* and that is the aim of science and spirituality, he said.

Mr Philip Clayton of the Sonoma State University, USA in his keynote address cautioned the speakers to proceed cautiously on the subject. Philosophers have much to learn from the way scientists approach the subject, he said.