

B'lore to host *Science and beyond* soon

DH News Service

BANGALORE, Dec 26

Bangalore will be the venue of an international symposium "Science and Beyond", a programme which will explore the relationship between science and philosophic thought.

Scheduled to be held from January 8-11, the event is being organised jointly by the National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS) and the John Templeton Foundation, United States.

NIAS Director Roddam Narasimha said the theme of the conference would be "Cosmology, consciousness and technology in the Indian Traditions". He said scientists, theologians and philosophers from India and abroad will participate in the unique symposium to find an answer to a fundamental question of whether there is anything beyond science.

The programmes will include lectures by Oxford University Professor of Mathematics Roger Penrose, Noble Laureate and inventor of the Laser, Charles Townes, Agricultural Scientist M S Swaminathan, Astrophysicist Ramnath Cowsik and Prim-

atologist Jane Goodall. The event is considered unique as it attempts to connect with disciplines like religion and philosophy, spirituality, humanism and other similar paths to an integrative view of life and the universe, Prof Narasimha said.

Prof B V Sreekantan, former director of Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR), now with the NIAS, said the event would also include a theme on biotechnology and values and would focus on the ethics of cloning and how people view it from religious and philosophical angles.

The themes for the symposium would include science and beyond, cosmology and consciousness, science and society, methods and epistemology, identity, consciousness and the self, biotechnology and values, technology, society and values and health and environment.

Infosys Technologies Chairman N R Narayana Murthy, Union Human Resource Development Murli Manohar Joshi and Rajya Sabha member Karan Singh will also participate. For details, contact NIAS on Phone: 3604351.