



President K R Narayanan and Governor Khurshed Alam Khan are seen with the portrait of Prof K S Krishnan whose birth day celebrations were held in Bangalore on Tuesday. DH photo

N-tests aimed at liquidating nuclear club: Narayanan

DH News Service

BANGALORE, July 28

President K R Narayanan today said the recent nuclear tests by India were aimed at liquidating the nuclear club and not at blasting its way into it.

Participating in the birth centenary celebrations of renowned scientist K S Krishnan at National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS) here, Dr Narayanan said: "Our objective... is to awaken the people of the world and work together with all nations for the liquidation of any such club along with the stock of weapons of mass destruction."

DISARMAMENT: No country had pleaded so passionately and consistently for disarmament and elimination of nuclear weapons as India did. For 24 long years after India demonstrated its nuclear capability, it refrained from weaponising this capability, pleading for some progress towards nuclear disarmament by the great powers. But India's pleas went unheeded, he said.

He said even as India was advo-

cating disarmament, the nuclear powers, instead of making any genuine efforts to reduce and eliminate their nuclear weapon arsenals, persisted with attempts to make them more sophisticated and destructive.

He said the long-term scenario of India's scientific development worked out by eminent scientists such as Homi Babha, Vikram Sarabhai and others had stood the test of time and met the needs of the country. In atomic energy, space, computers or missiles, India's scientists had achieved phenomenal success despite all manners of embargoes.

"It appears that the genius of India expresses itself at its best in the face of overwhelming challenges," Dr Narayanan remarked.

The president observed that India's future as a democracy rested on co-operative efforts in the fields of politics, economics and science, and on equitable sharing of the fruits of development among various sections of people.

RAMAN EFFECT: Paying glowing tribute to the late K S Krishnan, the president recalled that the first

announcement of the discovery of "Raman Effect" was made in a letter published in Nature on May 5, 1928, signed jointly by Sir C V Raman and Dr Krishnan. "I am not aware of the debate on whether Dr Krishnan has been given enough recognition for his contribution to the "Effect" which brought Raman the Nobel prize. I have heard it being said that the discovery could have been called the Raman-Krishnan Effect," Dr Narayanan observed.

Governor Khurshed Alam Khan and Chief Minister J H Patel, whose message was read out in absentia, also paid tributes to the late scientist and hailed his contributions to science. NIAS Director Roddan Narasimhan and Rajya Sabha member and former director of NIAS Rajaramanna were among those present on the occasion.

DH NEWS ON PHONE

For the latest news, call
559 3445 or 559 3446