

Patel likens politics to a gutter full of insects

Staff Reporter

BANGALORE: Karnataka Chief Minister J.H. Patel on Monday said the recent Lok Sabha elections have thrown up more confusion compared to the situation a year ago, and likened politics in general to "gutters full of insects from where all evils spread". He was speaking here after presenting the 1997 Sir M. Visvesvaraya awards for senior scientists and Sir C.V. Raman awards for young scientists.

Mr Patel recalled what Jayaprakash Narayan had to say:

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"Unless electoral reforms are undertaken, the country will lose out on democracy." We should get our priorities right, Mr Patel said. He called for reforms in the electoral system and sharing the fruits of economic prosperity among all sections of society.

The Sir M. Visvesvaraya awards for senior scientists during 1997 went to Dr R. Martanda Varma and Prof Kanakanahalli Ramachandra. The recipients of the Sir C.V. Raman awards for young scientists were Dr Vinod Kumar Agarwal, Dr Lalitha Ramakrishna Gowda, Dr Kariappa Rangaiah, Dr Mohan Delampady, Dr P.H. Ramanjini Gowda, S. Mohan Kumar and Dr P. Satishchandra. Awards committee member B.V. Srikantan said research institutions and other bodies should send in nominations for awards in large numbers. "There is lack of information about the awards which is resulting in fewer nominations." The function was organised by the planning, institutional finance and statistics and science and technology departments and Karnataka State Council for Science and Technology.

IISc Director G. Padmanabhan also spoke.



Prof R. Martanda Varma and Prof Kanakanahalli Ramachandra (sitting) were awarded the Sir M. Visvesvaraya awards for senior scientists. The Sir C.V. Raman awards for young scientists were (from left) conferred on Lalitha Ramakrishna Gowda, S. Mohan Kumar, P.H. Ramanjini Gowda, Kariyappa Rangaiah, Vinod Kumar Agarwal and P. Satishchandra. The awards were given away at a function in Bangalore on Monday.