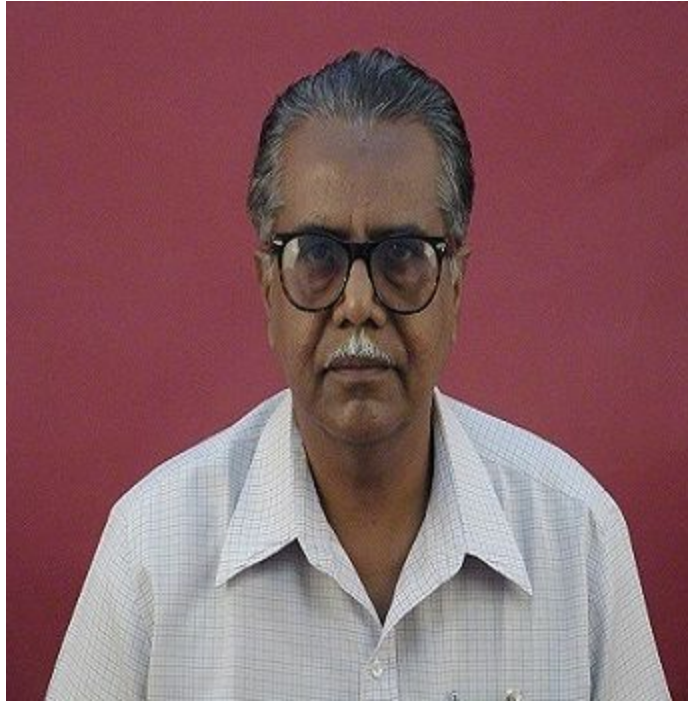


# Know your Alumni

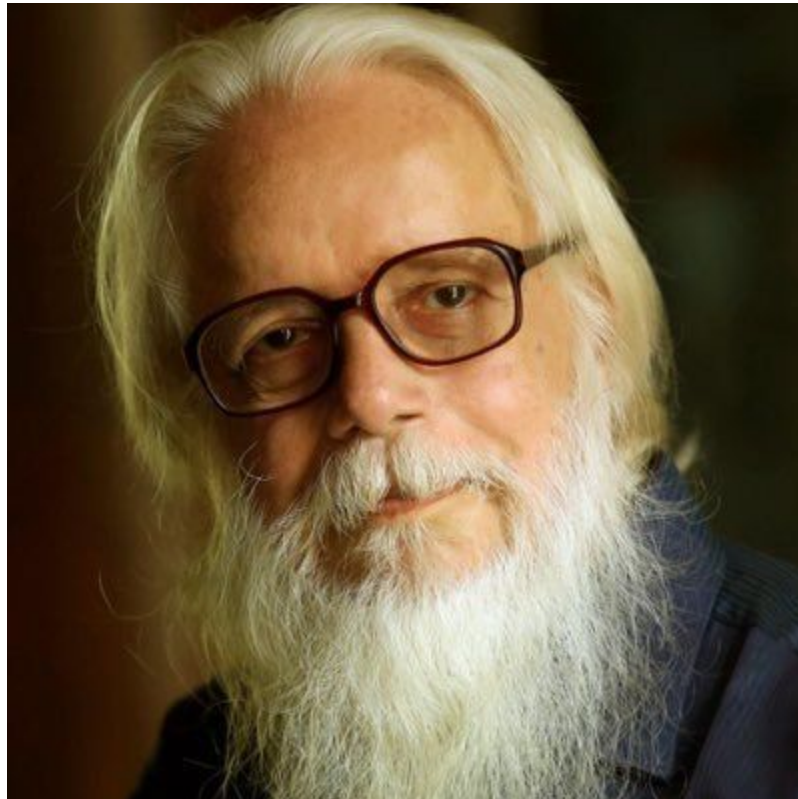
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## **Padma Shri, Shri NAGARAJAN VEDACHALAM**

- **Padma Shri, Shri NAGARAJAN VEDACHALAM** was born on 28<sup>th</sup> October 1942 at Madurai, educated at Capron Hall, Sethupathi High School and Madurai College, prior to his Engineering education at **Thiagarajar College of Engineering, Madurai (1964 batch)**.
  - He obtained his Bachelor of Engineering Degree from the University of Madras in 1964.
  - Before joining the Indian Space Research Organisation in 1969, he worked for four years in **Defence Research & Development Laboratory, Hyderabad**, specializing in the development of an **Anti Tank Missile Gyroscope**.
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- He joined **ISRO in July 1969** as Scientist/Engineer at Space Science & Technology Centre, Thumba, Thiruvananthapuram.
  - In a career spanning over 34 years in Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), Shri Vedachalam had held several important positions like Group Director, Navigation Guidance Control Group, Programme Director, Inertial Systems Laboratory and Director, ISRO Inertial Systems Unit at Thiruvananthapuram.



### **Mr. S. Nambi Narayanan**

- **S. Nambi Narayanan** (12 December 1941) is an Indian scientist and aerospace engineer and **Padma Bhushan** award winner.
- **We are very proud to say that he is the alumnus of Thiagarajar College of Engineering, Madurai.**
- **He completed his BE in Mechanical Engineering in the year 1965.**

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- As a senior official at the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), he was in-charge of the cryogenics division.
  - Narayanan introduced the liquid fuel rocket technology in India in the early 1970s, when A. P. J. Abdul Kalam's team was working on solid motors.
  - He foresaw the need for liquid fuelled engines for ISRO's future civilian space programmes, and received encouragement from the then ISRO chairman Satish Dhawan, and his successor U. R. Rao.
  - Narayanan developed liquid propellant motors, first building a successful 600 kilograms (1,300 lb) thrust engine in the mid-1970s and thereafter moving on to bigger engines.



### **Mr. Vasudevan Gnana Gandhi**

- **Vasudevan Gnana Gandhi** is an Indian rocket scientist, known as the **pioneer of cryogenic rocket science in India**.
- A graduate in **Mechanical Engineering** from the **Thiagarajar College of Engineering, Madurai**(1967 batch), Gandhi started his career by joining the Indian

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Space Research Organization in 1968 and held many positions such as Project Director and Programme Director at ISRO.

- His contributions are reported behind the development of booster liquid stages of Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle and the uprating of VIKAS engine.
- A recipient of the Aeronautical Society of India Award, Gandhi was honored by the Government of India, in 2005, with the fourth highest Indian civilian award of Padma Shri.



### **Mr. A Sivathanu Pillai**

- A Sivathanu Pillai was born in 1947 at Nagercoil.
- He completed his graduation g in Mechanical Engineering from Thiagarajar College of Engineering, Madurai (1969 batch).
- As an Indian scientist, he served as a Honorary Distinguished Professor at Indian Space Research Organisation and an honorary professor at IIT Delhi in the Department of Mechanical Engineering and a Visiting Professor at Indian Institute of Science.

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- The Government of India honoured him with the significant awards- Padma Shri and Padma Bhushan.
  - His fields are Nuclear physics, Aerospace Engineering, Electrical engineering