

# INDIAN PHYSICS ASSOCIATION



*The second R. D. Birla Memorial Award  
of the Indian Physics Association for  
the year 1982 is presented to  
Professor G. V. Sreekantan,  
Tata Institute of Fundamental Research,*

*in recognition of his pioneering & sustained contributions in  
Cosmic Ray Physics. The deep underground experiments  
at Kolar Gold fields during the exploratory phase of  
Cosmic Ray research provided the first convincing visual  
evidence of neutrino interactions & high energy cosmic  
ray muons. These pioneering experiments at an early  
stage helped setting an upper limit on the proton life time.  
The extensive air shower experiments at Cotacamund gave  
direct evidence for an increase in the cross-section for the  
production of nucleon antinucleon pairs with energy. Very  
recent experiments at Kolar Gold fields have generated  
five candidate events of which at least one has the full  
signature of proton decay. Theories developed to date which  
aim to unify all fundamental forces of nature imply the  
decay of a proton, in confirmation with the event detected.*

*Professor Sreekantan's research career has  
provided an outstanding case for conducting pioneering  
experiments contributing to our understanding of the  
fundamental laws of nature through Cosmic Ray events,  
away from accelerators.*

*R. Ramanna*

*(R. Ramanna)  
President*

Indian Physics Association.

