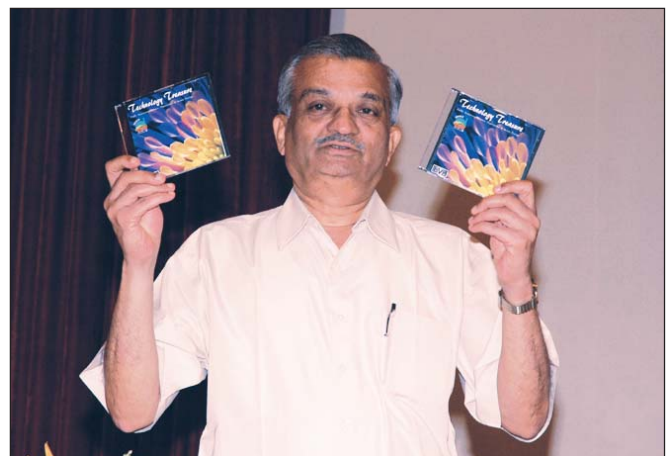


DAE Observes National Technology Day at BARC on May 12, 2005

Dr. Anil Kakodkar, Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission & Secretary to Department of Atomic Energy felicitated Shri S.B. Bhoje, former Director, Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research (IGCAR) and Dr. S. Banerjee, Director, BARC - who were bestowed Padma Shri in 2003 and 2005 respectively. Dr. Kakodkar in his opening speech said, "Department of Atomic Energy is a technological organization so it is appropriate that we celebrate National Technology Day. It also brings us all together to discuss the various technological developments during the year gone by." He further said "... in view of our fuel resources there are several technologies we have to develop and take a global leadership position. This particularly includes technologies to harness vast thorium resources available in India. He said that our country is looking for energy technologies to meet our growing energy requirements and this is the main mandate of our Department." He released a film "Technology Treasure" on this occasion.



Chairman, AEC releasing the CD of the film "Technology Treasure"



Being felicitated : Shri S. B. Bhoje, former Director, Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research, and Dr. S. Banerjee, Director, Bhabha Atomic Research Centre



Talks on recent technological achievements in DAE highlighted the landmark achievements. Dr. K.B. Dixit, Associate Director, Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL) spoke on India's first 540 MWe PHWR at Tarapur which went critical on March 6, 2005. Built despite technology denial regimes, it marks a milestone in India's Nuclear Power Programme. Shri A.K. Wechalekar, Sr. Executive Engineer (Tech.), Heavy Water Board (HWB) spoke on Front-end technology for ammonia based Heavy Water Plant (HWP) which helped re-commission Baroda HWP. Shri K. Jayarajan, from Division of Remote Handling and Robotics gave a talk on the technology for societal development 'BHABHATRON' - India's first indigenously developed computer aided economical teletherapy machine.

Recipients of the Homi Bhabha Science & Technology Awards and Technical Excellence Awards - 2004, Dr. A.P. Tiwari, Dr. (Smt.) K. Indira Priyadarshini, Shri A. Rama Rao and Dr. Lalit Varshney, all of BARC, concluded the session with their presentations.