



भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान मुंबई INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY BOMBAY

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Professor Juzer Vasi Conferred the Padma Shri

Mumbai | May 26, 2026: Many congratulations to Prof. Juzer Vasi, Department of Electrical Engineering, on being conferred the prestigious Padma Shri 2026 award. In 2017, he was conferred the honorary Professor Emeritus position by IIT Bombay which he will hold for the lifetime.

Educational and Professional Background

He completed his B.Tech in Electrical Engineering from IIT Bombay in 1969 by topping his class. He went to Johns Hopkins University, USA for a PhD, and finished the PhD in 1973. In those days, very few people with expertise in semiconductors in the USA would return back to their home country. However, he returned to India in 1974 and joined as an Assistant Professor in IIT Delhi. After serving as a faculty member at IT Delhi from 1974-1981, he moved to IIT Bombay and served as a professor at the Department of Electrical Engineering at IT Bombay until his retirement from a regular faculty position in 2017. During his tenure at IIT Bombay, He was Head of the Department of Electrical Engineering during 1992-94, Deputy Director during 2006-2009 and Acting Director for 3 months in 2008. In 2017, he was conferred the honorary Professor Emeritus position by IIT Bombay which he will hold for the lifetime.

Research Contributions

During most of his tenure as a faculty member, until 2010, Prof. Vasi worked on various aspects of semiconductor devices such as radiation hardening of electronics (to enable usage of electronics for space applications), reliability of semiconductor devices etc. Post 2010, he pivoted to Solar Photovoltaics and made pioneering contributions to the area of field performance and reliability assessment of solar PV modules, especially in Indian climates. He has published over 200 research papers in leading journals and international conference proceedings and he has also served as the

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Editor of IEEE Transactions on Electron Devices for 8 years, which is a leading international journal on semiconductors.

Contributions towards Building Semiconductor & Photovoltaics Ecosystems in India

The selfless leadership style, excellent oratory and written communication skills and a bright academician in Prof. Vasi was a perfect chemistry needed to make pioneering contributions towards building the seeds that led to the development of semiconductor and solar photovoltaic ecosystems in India. Prof. Vasi played major roles (e.g. founding Principle Investigator) in conceiving major inter-disciplinary and collaborative research projects like the Centre of Excellence in Nanoelectronics (CEN), the Indian Nanoelectronics Users' Programme (INUP), National Centre for Photovoltaic Research and Education (NCPRE), the Photovoltaic Users and Mentorship Program (PUMP), and the Solar Energy Research Institute for India and the United States (SERIUS). These initiatives have led to the development of a vast national-level infrastructure for research in semiconductor and photovoltaic devices and technologies. These projects also created unique capabilities at IIT Bombay which has attracted a large number of researchers of Indian origin from abroad back to India who joined as new faculty members at IIT Bombay. One of Prof. Vasi's greatest strength is his ability to bring together people with diverse interests and capabilities and channelize their efforts toward a cohesive goal of interdisciplinary research which would otherwise not exist. Because of this, he was not only able to create large interdisciplinary centres like CEN / NCPRE but also successfully run them by holding these teams together for years.

Teaching Contributions

Prof. Vasi taught courses related to semiconductor devices, at undergraduate and graduate levels, at IT Delhi (1974-1981) and IIT Bombay (1981-2017). His teaching style, the clarity with which he presented the subject, his board work, his commitment to the profession, and his sense of humour, made a lasting impression on students. Indeed, many of them acknowledge to this date that Prof. Vasi was the sole motivator for their decision to take up electron devices as a career. Based on the

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feedback from students, IIT Bombay conferred the "Excellence in Teaching" award to Prof. Vasi in 2000, 2009, and 2013. He became a Fellow of the IEEE for "Leadership in Microelectronics Education" in 2005. He was also conferred the 2025 Simon Min Sze Education Award for his work in semiconductor education.

About IIT Bombay

The Indian Institute of Technology Bombay, set up in 1958 as the second IIT, is recognised worldwide as a leader in the field of science and engineering education and research. The Institute was granted the status of 'Institution of Eminence' by the Ministry of Education (the then Ministry of Human Resources Development) on July 9, 2018. IIT Bombay is reputed for the quality of its faculty, cutting-edge research, industry relations, and the outstanding caliber of students graduating from its undergraduate and postgraduate programmes. The Institute has 81 academic divisions. Over the last six decades, more than 75,000 engineers and scientists have graduated from the Institute. It is served by 760 faculty, including 121 women faculty (plus 241 part-time faculty), considered not only amongst the best within the country but also highly recognised in the world for achievements in the field of education and research. On June 19, 2025, IIT Bombay was ranked 2nd in India and 129th in the world in the Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) World University Rankings for 2026.

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