



R.A. MASHELKAR, F.R.S.

BIODATA

Dr. R.A. Mashelkar was till recently the Director General of Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), the largest chain of publicly funded industrial research and development institutions in the world, with thirty-eight laboratories and about 22,000 employees.

Dr. Mashelkar is only the third Indian engineer to have been elected as Fellow of Royal Society (FRS), London in the twentieth century. He was elected Foreign Fellow of US National Academy of Engineering (2003), Foreign Fellow of US National Academy of Science, Fellow of Third World Academy of Engineering, U.K. (1996), and Fellow of World Academy of Art & Science, USA (2000). Fifteen universities have honoured him with honorary doctorates, which include Universities of London, Salford, Pretoria, Wisconsin, Delhi.

In August 1997, Business India named Dr. Mashelkar as being among the 50 path-breakers in the post- Independent India. In 1998, Dr. Mashelkar won the JRD Tata Corporate Leadership Award, the first scientist to win it. In June, 1999, Business India did a cover story on Dr. Mashelkar as "*CEO OF CSIR Inc.*", a dream that he himself had articulated, when he took over as DG, CSIR in July 1995.

In the post-liberalized India, Dr. Mashelkar has played a critical role in shaping India's S&T policies. He was a member of the Science Academy Council to the Prime Minister and also of the Scientific Advisory Committee to the Cabinet set up by successive governments. He has chaired eight high powered committees set up to look into diverse issues of higher education, national auto fuel policy, overhauling the Indian drug regulatory system, dealing with the menace of spurious drugs, etc. He has been a much sought after consultant for restructuring

the publicly funded R&D institutions around the world; his contributions in South Africa, Indonesia and Croatia have been particularly notable.

Dr. Mashelkar has won over 40 awards and medals, which include S.S. Bhatnagar Prize (1982), Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru Technology Award (1991), G.D. Birla Scientific Research Award (1993), Material Scientist of Year Award (2000), IMC Juran Quality Medal (2002), HRD Excellence Award (2002), Lal Bhadur Shastri National Award for Excellence in Public Administration and Management Sciences (2002), World Federation of Engineering Organisations (WFEO) Medal of Engineering Excellence (2003) by WFEO, Paris etc.