

## COMING OF AGE – BOSE INSTITUTE UNDER D.M. BOSE

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*Bose Institute was established in 1917 by Sir Jagadis Chandra Bose (JCB) using his own savings and donations received from different sources to undertake research involving both the living and non-living. JCB was a physicist by training and did pioneering work in physics that was much ahead of his time, till the end of nineteenth century. His focus shifted from physics research to biological research at the beginning of twentieth century when he aspired to establish an institute of international repute on interdisciplinary science involving both the living and non-living. He was the director of the institute from its inception till his death in 1937 and was the first person to introduce 'biophysical research' in India, a term unknown at that time. Debendra Mohan Bose (DMB) inherited the position of directorship in 1938 after the death of JCB, when he was Palit Professor of Physics at the Calcutta University. Incidentally, DMB was also a renowned physicist with experience of working abroad and at par with his contemporaries like M.N. Saha, S.N. Bose, C.V. Raman and others. It was a challenging task for him to maintain the reputation of the institute established by JCB as well as to enhance its research programme with the progress of time. This article presents a brief review of the development of the institute during DMB's directorship which covers a span of about thirty years. This is a story of struggles and challenges faced and the fight to overcome difficulties in order to build the modern institute that we see today. Individual contributions of scientists or of individual departments are kept to a minimum because detail research activities of the institute have been published in Annual Reports of the institute which are available online.*

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