The saga of an institute of research

Today, the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, a premier institution for scientific research and training, begins the 100th year of its existence.

N. Gopal Raj

In November 1896, Jamsetji Nusserwanji Tata wrote a letter to Lord Curzon, then Governor General of India, proposing the establishment of a research institution. He envisioned a place where scientific research could be conducted with the aim of promoting industrial progress in India.

The Indian Institute of Science was founded in 1908, following the establishment of the University of London in 1857, under the leadership of Lord Kelvin. The institute was established to provide a platform for scientific research and to train students in the fields of science and technology.

The institute's first head was Dr. K. Gopinathan, a renowned scientist who played a pivotal role in the development of the institute. Under his leadership, the institute grew rapidly and became one of the leading institutions for scientific research in India.

In 2008, the institute celebrated its 100th year of existence, marking a century of excellence in scientific research and education. The institute has made significant contributions to various fields, including physics, chemistry, biology, and engineering, and has trained thousands of scientists and engineers who have gone on to make significant contributions to science and technology.

In conclusion, the Indian Institute of Science is a true testament to the power of scientific research and education. It has played a crucial role in the development of India and has made significant contributions to the advancement of knowledge.

The Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore... an unprecedented outpouring of philanthropy by J.N. Tata. PHOTO: K. GOPINATHAN