



It is my great honour and privilege to extend to all of you my warmest greetings and best wishes for a very Happy, peaceful, and scientifically enriching New Year, 2026.

At the very outset, I wish to place on record a deep sense of gratitude and appreciation to the outgoing President, Prof. Ashutosh Sharma, and to the distinguished members of the Council whose term concluded on 31st December 2025. Service to the Council and leadership of a national academy demand exceptional personal commitment, wisdom, and foresight. Such service plays a vital role in nurturing scientific excellence and in providing guidance to the scientific community. The Indian National Science Academy has a unique and pivotal role in public engagement, in strengthening India's partnership with the global scientific community, and in preserving and promoting the rich history of science in our country. The outgoing President and those members whose term concluded in the Council have rendered exemplary service in advancing these missions, and they deserve our sincere appreciation.

As we stand at the threshold of a new year, it is appropriate that we renew our collective commitment to the core values of the learned academies of our nation, and in particular of the Indian National Science Academy—values that uphold scientific integrity, scholarly excellence, independence of thought, and service to society.

The year 2026 holds special significance for Indian science, as it marks the sesquicentennial celebration of the Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science, the first scientific institution of its kind established in our country. For 150 years, this great institution has made profound and lasting contributions to the growth of Indian science and scientific temper. I extend our heartfelt greetings and best wishes to all its past and present members on this historic occasion.

The coming year also renews our collective resolve that science-led development will continue to serve as a powerful driver of national progress and societal well-being. May the year strengthen our shared endeavour to place science at the service of humanity.

I once again extend my very best wishes to all of you for a Happy and fulfilling New Year 2026.

With warm regards,

Shekhar Mande