

DR.K. SIVAN



Kailasavadivu Sivan (born 14 April 1957) is an Indian aerospace engineer who served as the secretary of the Department of Space and chairman of ISRO and Space Commission. He has previously served as the director of the Vikram Sarabhai Space Center and the Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre.

Sivan is the son of a mango farmer and studied in a Tamil medium Government school in Sarakkalvilai Village and later in Vallankumaranvilai, in Kanyakumari district. **He is the first graduate from his family. Later Sivan graduated with a bachelor's degree in aeronautical engineering from Madras Institute of Technology in 1980.** He then got a master's degree in aerospace engineering from the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore in 1982, and started working in ISRO. He earned a doctoral degree in aerospace engineering from the Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay in 2006. He is a Fellow of the Indian National Academy of Engineering, the Aeronautical Society of India and the Systems Society of India. He was conferred Doctor of Science (Honoris Causa) from Sathyabama University, Chennai in April 2014.

Sivan worked on the design and development of launch vehicles for Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO).[10] Sivan joined ISRO in 1982 to participate on the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) Project. Sivan played a major role in reviving the GSLV programme. The 6D trajectory simulation software SITARA was developed under the guidance of Sivan. He was appointed the director of ISRO's Liquid Propulsion Systems Centre on 2 July 2014. On 1 June 2015, he became the Director of Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre.

Sivan was appointed the chief of ISRO in January 2018 and he assumed office on 15 January. Under his chairmanship, ISRO launched Chandrayaan-2, the second mission to the Moon on 22 July 2019, of which Vikram lander and the Pragyan rover crashed; the orbiter was not affected and is still orbiting the Moon as of September 2023.

On 30 December 2020, his chairmanship was extended by a year to January 2022. His earlier tenure was up to January 2021. He was a recipient of Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam Award in 2019.

One of the three students, Dr. K. Sivan served in ISRO for four decades.

