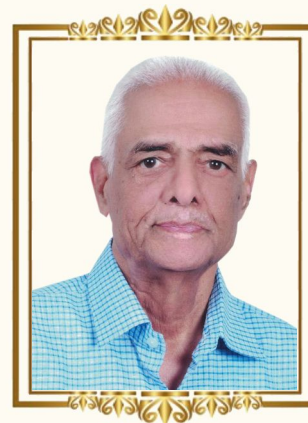




DR. R. SREEDHER



Dr. R. Sreedher, a veteran radio broadcaster with experience of more than five decades, is a person committed to visualising and adopting futuristic technologies in radio and audio podcasts. He is now an Emeritus Professor at Apeejay Stya University and also the President of Media4Community Foundation.

2. Born on 6th June, 1947, Dr. Sreedher received his Bachelor's, Master's degrees and Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Chemistry from University of Madras. He joined Aakashvani in 1976 and joined Doordarshan (Television) later, working his way up from a freelancer to Director in both Aakashvani and Doordarshan. He was Director of Electronic Media Production Centre (EMPC) of Indira Gandhi National Open University, New Delhi and media research centers at Anna University and IIT, Roorkee. He retired as the Director of the Commonwealth Educational Media Centre for Asia (CEMCA). He has also worked as a consultant to UNESCO, UNICEF, Commonwealth of Learning and other international organizations.

3. Dr. Sreedher is a passionate advocate of educational, interactive and participatory radio to blend edutainment and infotainment to engage audience proven by a program called Telecommunication with people on the move (1983), a live real-time audio programme, in which listeners' questions on science were answered by experts over radio, when mobile phones were not in operation for grass root communication. His early use of satellite technology enabled path-breaking interactive radio programmes like tele-meet (1984) and linked remote regions such as Leh, Lakshadweep and also Antarctica via INSAT-1B. For the scientists working in Antarctica, children thousands of kilometers away sang national poet Subrahmanyam Bharti's song 'odi vilayadu papa' in one voice highlighting National Integration.

4. Dr. Sreedher in association with the National Council for Science and Technology Communication, Department of Science and Technology developed the longest radio science serial for children titled "The Human Evolution" (Manav Ka Vikaas) broadcast in 18 Indian languages simultaneously through 200 radio stations with 1,40,000 school children as registered listeners during the pre-internet era. He also established more than 500 "Rural Radio Science Clubs" to promote science communication at the grass root level and launched "Radio Schools" aimed at providing continuing science education through air waves.

5. Dr. Sreedher has played a central role in launching Gyaan Darshan group of channels, the first 24-hour educational Television Channel and Gyaan Vaani, an educational FM Radio network which revolutionised the Open and Distance Learning (ODL) system in the country. He designed and launched India's first Community Radio station at Anna University in 2004 and instrumental in establishing more than 300 Community Radio stations in India and is now aptly and fondly known as the "Father of Community Radio" in India.

6. Dr. Sreedher launched a radio podcast service called "Anubhav" to showcase the skills and record lifetime experiences of senior citizens to help both young and old and energise their lifestyle, thereby improving their mental and physical health. His other radio podcast service, "Sainik Vaani", is aimed at celebrating Kargil Vijay Diwas, in which talents and real-time experiences of Ex-servicemen are featured. He is also into giving voice to transgender individuals in the name of Ashirwad Radio, and trying to motivate children of 21st century to have a dialogue with their grandparents to understand traditional methods followed by our elders in preserving the nature. He created Radio Vision using World Space Radio in 2002 and is now dreaming of visual radio using 5G or 6G or DRM or DAB technologies to replace news television.

7. Dr. Sreedher has received four Aakashvaani National Award for innovative Radio Programmes and a National Award for Science Popularisation. He was a finalist for World Technology Network Award 2002 in Education. He has received an International Lifetime Achievement Award from Asia Pacific Institute of Broadcasting Development (AIBD) in 2025.