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Indian-born scientist to head top physics institute

Katie Mantell 15 November 2002 Source: SciDev.Net

Indian-born physicist Katepalli R. Sreenivasan has been named as the new director of the Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics in Trieste (ICTP).

The United Nations-backed centre, which was set up in 1964 by the Pakistani-born Nobel laureate Abdus Salam, aims to foster advanced studies and research in physics in developing countries.

Sreenivasan was educated in India, first at the University of Bangalore and then at the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, where he earned a doctorate in aerospace

engineering. He subsequently worked in both Australia and the United States, and is now a professor of physics and mechanical engineering at the University of Maryland

The previous director of the ICTP, Argentine scientist Miguel Angel Virasoro, retired in May. Sreenivasan, who is a US citizen, will take over the position in March.

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