

## **Indian to boost physics in poorest countries**

**Rome** Indian-born experimental physicist Katepalli R. Sreenivasan has been named director of the Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics in Trieste, Italy. The United Nations-backed centre, which was founded in 1964, trains physicists and fosters research in the developing world.

Sreenivasan received a doctorate in aerospace engineering from the Indian Institute of Science in Bangalore in 1975. He subsequently worked in Australia and the United States, conducting research in fields such as complex fluids, combustion, cryogenic helium and nonlinear dynamics.

Sreenivasan is scheduled to take over from current director Miguel Angel Virasoro next March. Virasoro's appointment in 1995 was marred by complaints that a researcher from a developing country should have been given the post. Virasoro is Argentinean and has worked in Italy for most of his life.

▶ [www.ictp.trieste.it](http://www.ictp.trieste.it)