

## BARC GETS A NEW DIRECTOR

Dr S. Banerjee, Director, Materials Group, BARC, took over as Director, BARC, on April 30, 2004, from Mr B. Bhattacharjee at a simple but impressive ceremony held at BARC. Dr Anil Kakodkar, Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission and Secretary, Department of Atomic Energy, was present. Dr S. Banerjee is internationally well known for his work in the field of physical

metallurgy and materials science. He has contributed extensively in basic research on metallurgy of zirconium and titanium based alloys and their applications in the development of thermo-mechanical treatments for processing several nuclear reactor components. His work provides a basis for analysing the radiation stability of structural materials in nuclear reactors.



*Dr S. Banerjee, (left) Director, Materials Group, BARC, taking over as the Director, BARC, from the outgoing Director, BARC, Mr B. Bhattacharjee (right), in the presence of (centre) Dr Anil Kakodkar, Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission and Secretary, Department of Atomic Energy*



*Dr S. Banerjee, the new Director, BARC, presenting a bouquet to Mr B. Bhattacharjee, the outgoing Director, BARC. Dr Anil Kakodkar, Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission and Secretary, Department of Atomic Energy, looks on.*

The contributions of Dr Banerjee and his colleagues with regard to the development of shape memory alloys and their applications in heat shrinkable couplings are finding extensive applications in the light combat aircraft project.

An outstanding scientist, Dr Banerjee has been the recipient of many awards and honours. These include Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Award in Engineering Sciences (1989), G.D. Birla Gold Medal of the Indian Institute of Metals (1997), INSA Prize for Materials Science (2001) and Indian Nuclear Society Award (2003). Notable among the international awards received by him are Acta Metallurgica Outstanding Paper Award (1984) and Humboldt Research Award (2004). Dr Banerjee is a Fellow of Indian National Science Academy, Indian Academy of Sciences, Indian National Academy of Engineering and the National Academy of Sciences.