

# Boltzmann Medal 2022 for Prof. Deepak Dhar



The TIFR community is proud and happy to announce that our long-time colleague Professor Deepak Dhar has been awarded the prestigious Boltzmann Medal 2022 by the International Union of Pure and Applied Physics, *“for his seminal contributions to several areas of statistical physics, including exact solutions of self-organized criticality models, interfacial growth, universal long-time relaxation in disordered magnetic systems, exact solutions in percolation and cluster counting problems and definition of the spectral dimension of fractals.”*

Prof. Dhar shares the medal with Prof. John J Hopfield of neural network fame. Previous recipients include, among others, luminaries like Nobel laureates Giorgio Parisi and K G Wilson, Abel Prize winner Yakov Sinai, and legendary figures such as Michael Fisher, Leo Kadanoff, and Sam Edwards. He is the first Indian to be conferred this prestigious award.

Prof. Dhar spent over three decades as a Faculty Member in the Department of Theoretical Physics at the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Mumbai, where he was a Distinguished Professor at the time of his superannuation in September 2016. A significant part of his influential works was carried out during his illustrious career at TIFR.

Born on October 30th, 1951 in Pratapgarh, Prof. Dhar obtained his BSc degree from the University of Allahabad, MSc from IIT Kanpur, and PhD from California Institute of Technology, USA. From 1978 to 2016, he was in the Department of Theoretical Physics at TIFR Mumbai. Currently, he is a NASI Senior Scientist and a Distinguished Visiting Professor at the IISER Pune and an Adjunct Faculty at TIFR Mumbai.

Prof. Dhar is an internationally renowned scientist. He won the Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize for Science and Technology in 1991, awarded by the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research. The International Center for Theoretical Physics in Trieste awarded him the J R Schrieffer Prize in 1993, and The World Academy of Sciences Prize in 2002. Among his many other accolades, he won the INSA Young Scientist Medal in 1983, the S N Bose Medal in 2001, and the J C Bose Fellowship in 2008. He is an elected Fellow of all the three major Indian Science Academies – Indian Academy of Sciences, Indian National Science Academy, and National Academy of Sciences, India – as well as of The World Academy of Sciences.