

## *New Director to BARC*

### **Context:**

Dr. A.K. Mohanty, Distinguished Scientist and Director, physics group of the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) and Director, Saha Institute of Nuclear Physics, Kolkata took over as Director, BARC.

### **About BARC:**

- Homi Jehangir Bhabha conceived the Nuclear Program in India. Dr Bhabha established the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR) for carrying out nuclear science research in 1945.
- To intensify the effort to exploit nuclear energy for the benefit of the nation, Dr Bhabha established the Atomic Energy Establishment, Trombay (AEET) in January 1954 for multidisciplinary research program essential for the ambitious nuclear program of India.
- After the sad demise of Bhabha in 1966, AEET was renamed Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC).

**Motto:** Atoms in the service of the Nation.

**Headquarters:** Trombay, Mumbai, Maharashtra

**Parent organisation:** The Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) is a department directly under the Prime Minister of India.

### **Atomic Energy in India:**

- Atomic Energy has a key role in reducing the carbon intensity of the overall Power sector of India.
- Coal-based thermal power contributes 186,293 MW (July 2016), 61% of the total installed power while renewables and nuclear contribute 44,237 MW (14.5%) and 5,780 MW (1.9%) respectively.
- While renewable sources of energy are environment friendly, they are intermittent sources of power. Nuclear power, being a non-intermittent and concentrated source of power with negligible carbon footprint, is an essential component of the Indian power-mix to meet the International environmental commitments of India.

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