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DAE in the Deccan

A journey in institution building

DINESH C SHARMA
(Author and Senior Journalist)

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The organisation of scientific research in India post-1947 is an important facet of the larger exercise of nation-building. A range of institutions were built across the country led by two umbrella organisations - the Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) and the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR). Several factors - scientific, geographic, historical, political, and cultural - influenced the location of new institutions and laboratories. Hyderabad, a newly integrated Princely state, was placed at the centre of this institution-building exercise in the 1950s onward, and DAE was pivotal in this scheme. The institutions created by DAE - and other scientific agencies - in Hyderabad in the 1960s and 1970s laid the foundation of an ecosystem for what Hyderabad was to be in future a science and technology hub.

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