

## About the Speaker:



Prof. Veena Sahajwalla

Prof. Veena Sahajwalla obtained her B. Tech degree in metallurgical engineering from IIT Kanpur in 1986. Subsequently, she earned her MASc (1988) in metals and materials engineering from university of British Columbia, Canada and Ph.D. (1992) in materials science and engineering from University of Michigan, USA. After a brief stint (1992-94) as a research scientist in CSIRO division of mineral and process engineering, Dr. Sahajwalla joined university of New South Wales, Australia in 1994 where she is currently scientia professor in the school of materials science and engineering. She is also the associate dean (Strategic Industry Relations) faculty of science at UNSW Australia and is also associated with Australian Research Council as its Laureate fellow. Professor VeenaSahajwalla is the founding director of the centre for sustainable materials research and technology (SMaRT).

Prof. Sahajwalla is an internationally respected scientist and engineer. Her research focuses on the sustainability of materials and processes with an emphasis on environmental and community benefits. One of her most celebrated achievements is the invention of Polymer Injection Technology (PIT)- a process of recycling plastics and rubber tyres in steelmaking by electric arc furnace route, now known around the world as “Green Steel”.

Prof. Sahajwalla has successfully collaborated with several companies and institutions in Australia and overseas. She has established strong partnerships that have enriched the knowledge of industrial processes and problems. As the director of the SMaRTcentre, she has provided leadership for research programs on sustainable materials, placing a strong emphasis on the skills and knowledge that are urgently needed to enhance sustainability. Dr. Sahajwalla is passionate about science and engineering and continues to play a very active role in communicating her ideas to industry, government, students and the wider community. Prof. Sahajwalla has presented widely on her research and experiences in Australia and overseas and has published in excess of 250 papers in leading scientific journals.

Prof. Sahajwalla has received several awards and recognitions for her work. Some of these include Eureka Prize (2005), PravasiBhartiyaSamman for outstanding achievement in science (2011), Telstra National Award for business innovation (2011), CRC Australian collaborative innovation award (2012); Overall winner of the Australian innovation challenge (2012), Howe memorial award by AIST (2013) and Sydney engineer’s excellence award (2014), Australian Research Council Laureate Fellowship in 2014 and IIT Kanpur Distinguished Alumnus Award 2015.

Throughout her career, Prof. Sahajwalla has been looking for ways to transform waste into something useful. She is currently working with companies in the developing world to extract maximum value from electronic waste products, and at the same time finding ways to reduce the pollution and harmful health effects associated with their recycling.