Santanu Chowdhury, Distinguished Scientist, assumed office of National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC), Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), Department of Space (DOS) on April, 2018.

He graduated in Electronics & Tele-Communication Engineering from Jadavpur University, Calcutta in 1982 and obtained his M Tech in Electrical Engineering with specialization in Signal Processing in 1984 from IIT, Madras. He joined Space Applications Centre (SAC), ISRO, Ahmedabad in August, 1984.

He was engaged in the design of digital systems till 1996. He was the core designer for BitSlice & Vector Processors and the first indigenous image display system ISRO-VISION. He was guest scientist at German Aerospace Agency (DLR), Munich in 1991 where he designed digital systems for the Airborne Synthetic Aperture Radar Real Time Processor.

He was Head, Advanced Image Processing Division in Jan 1999 and Deputy Director, Signal & Image Processing Area in Nov 2011. He developed the Data Quality Evaluation (DQE) Software for Oceansat-1 in 1999. Thereafter, he got involved in radiometric characterization of ISRO optical payloads e.g. Oceansat-1, Resourcesat-1, Cartosat-1/2, IMS-1, Chandrayaan-1 and YouthSAT. He has been the core designer for the data products algorithms and software for Oceansat-1 MSMR payload, IMS-1 Multispectral & Hyperspectral payloads, Airborne hyper-spectral sensors, Oceansat-2 Scatterometer payload, Megha-Tropiques Radiometer payloads, YouthSAT Electron Density Tomogram payload & ROSA Radio Occultation payload, RISAT-1 SAR payload, INSAT 3D imager & sounder payloads and MARS MCC camera. These software systems have been operational at NRSC & Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS) in Hyderabad, at Indian Space Science Data Centre (ISSDC) in Bangalore, at India Meteorological Department (IMD) and Mahalanobis National Crop Forecasting Centre (MNCFC) in Delhi and in various International Ground Stations.

He contributed to conceptualization of ground segment architectures consisting of geographically distributed reception systems and data centers adopted by Oceansat-1 Scatterometer, Megha-Tropiques & SARAL global missions.

Between April, 2015 to March, 2018 where he was leading teams to deliver high quality data products & Reference Layers from ISRO's high resolution satellites, Digital Elevation Models, Data Centres & Secured Networks, Real-time Processors for Satellite Data Processing Chains and geo-spatial decision support solutions for user communities.

His primary interests are in Image Processing, Computer Vision & Pattern Recognition. He is a recipient of ISRO Merit award 2012 & ISRO Performance Excellence award 2015.