

OBITUARY

It is with deep sorrow that the Society records the untimely demise of Shri B. Krishnamoorthy, Scientific Officer (Grade-SF), who was holding the charge of Airborne Survey, Photogeology & Remote Sensing Section of Atomic Minerals Division, Department of Atomic Energy on 29th June, 1984 at Chicago, while he was there on a holiday.

Sri Balasubramanian Krishnamoorthy was born on 24th November, 1926 at Tanjavur in Tamil Nadu. He had his early education in Chittoor, Andhra Pradesh. After his graduation in 1948 from the Presidency College, Madras, he obtained his Master's degree in Geology in 1950 from the Madras University.

Shri Krishnamoorthy joined the the then Raw Materials Division (now called Atomic Minerals Division) when it was formed in October, 1950. Since then he served the Division in various capacities. He undertook extensive field investigations in different parts of the country for locating radioactive minerals, production of beryl and assessment of monazite and other heavy minerals along the east coast.

Inducted into Airborne Radiometric Surveys in 1959, he assumed full charge of this Group in 1961. He headed the Aerial Survey, Photogeology and Remote Sensing Section of AMD when it was set up in 1971. A pioneer in the application of photogeology and remote sensing techniques to uranium exploration, he was responsible for the establishment of a full-fledged Remote Sensing Laboratory in AMD, Hyderabad. Under his stewardship various geologically favourable areas in the country were covered by aerial surveys employing high sensitivity gamma-ray spectrometer. The integrated approach employing Landsat analysis data, airphoto-interpretation and airborne gamma-ray spectrometric and magnetic surveys, made by Shri Krishnamoorthy, had resulted in evaluation of the potential of several significant uranium finds in different parts of the country.



*Sri Balasubramanian Krishnamoorthy
1926-1984*

He was associated in the planning and execution of the first remote sensing project in India for early detection of root wilt disease in coconut palm in Kerala by aerial infra-red photography in the late sixties. He was member-secretary of the Sarabhai Committee on Aerial Surveys (1969), a member of the delegation sponsored by Government of India to the International Symposium on Remote Sensing of Environment, Ann Arbor, USA (1969), representative of AMD on IGCP Project-143 on Remote Sensing for Minerals Exploration, and an expert participant in the Panel discussions organized by the Syrian Atomic Energy Commission, Damascus (1982). He was the Principal Investigator for several remote sensing projects in uranium exploration taken up under the NNRMS and nominated as a member of the Task Force on Geology constituted by the Planning Commission. He had toured several centres of Remote Sensing on the American and European continents.

He had to his credit several publications in national and international journals, on airborne surveys, photogeology, remote sensing and other geosciences. He has shown keen interest in the activities of the Indian Society of Photo-interpretation and Remote Sensing and has been a source of inspiration to all those who have been associated with remote sensing activities in the country.

Shri Krishnamoorthy was a dedicated geologist and a very soft-spoken, well-mannered, suave, affable and polished gentleman who endeared himself to all in his working and social circles.

Sudden and untimely demise the scientific community has suffered an irreparable loss. He leaves behind, his wife and two daughters.

May his soul rest in peace.