



Dr. K. S. GOPALKRISHNAN

Obituary

Dr. K. S. GOPALKRISHNAN, was born in Bangalore, India on December 2nd, 1921 and through early years of personal struggle for attainments in education and science, graduated with honours from the University of Mysore with a master's degree in 1941.

Subsequently he traveled to the United States on a J. N. TATA fellowship and received a doctorate in biology from the Notre Dame University in South Bend, Indiana.

From an early career in plant pathology and mycology he received further training at the Istituto Superiore di Sanita in Rome and on his return to India was part of the team involved in the research and development of penicillin and other antibiotics at Hindustan Antibiotics Ltds, Pimpri, India, where he rose to be General Manager R & D before his retirement in 1979.

For the next five years he was Chairman of the Department of Biochemical Engineering at the Indian Institute of Technology in New Delhi, India and then from 1984 until the day of his passing in 1987 was Visiting Professor at the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, India.

With nearly 100 research publications, some of which had the pleasure of co-authoring, he was visiting professor to several universities in India. He held the office of the President of the Association of Microbiologists of India, in 1979 and that of the Center for Advancement of Biotechnology, Bangalore, India.

He ably served as editor and then chairman of the Hindustan Antibiotics Bulletin from 1977 to 1980 and was on the editorial board of The Journal of Antibiotics, Japan from 1976 until his passing.

His first scientific assignment was given by the late Professor M. J. NARASIMHAN Sr., in 1943 at Balehonnur, Mysore on coffee diseases and over the years through plant pathology to the years in Hindustan Antibiotics Ltds, Pimpri, the scientific and personal association, relationships and friendships has been a long and deep one. His charming personality and intense industriousness shall always be remembered by those that knew him. The last conversation on the phone in 1982, when he visited the US, after having recovered from a heart attack was very poignant, since it reflected the long standing friendship.

Dr. K. S. GOPALKRISHNAN is survived by his wife Mrs. SUNDARI GOPALKRISHNAN, who accepted the Watumull Foundation award, posthumously and by one child. Dr. GOPALKRISHNAN, will be missed by all those who knew him, over the years.

Dr. M. JEERSANNIDHI THIRUMALACHAR
Dr. M. JEERSANNIDHI NARASIMHAN, Jr.