

## PERSONAL NEWS

good writer and actor. He was a loving and caring husband – a devoted son, brother, and doting father.

When one of his students called him a few days before his death, Chakrabarti enquired about the COVID-19 illness of the student in detail and only later energetically quipped that he was well but at the hospital bed being treated for COVID-19 and

other co-morbidities. He leaves an indelible mark as a father figure in the professional and personal lives of two generations of his students and colleagues.

RISHIRAM RAMANAN<sup>1,\*</sup>  
AMIT BAFANA<sup>2</sup>  
SARAVANADEVY SIVANESAN<sup>2</sup>  
KANNAN KRISHNAMURTHI<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Department of Environmental Science, Central University of Kerala, Tejaswini Hills, Kasaragod 671 316, India*

<sup>2</sup>*Health and Toxicity Cell (HTC), CSIR-National Environmental Engineering Research Institute, Nagpur 440 020, India*  
*\*e-mail: rishi@cukerala.ac.in*

## Ashok Kumar Srivastava (1960–2022)

Prof. Ashok Kumar Srivastava, a great teacher, devoted researcher and an extraordinary communicator of Indian Geology, breathed his last on 19 February 2022 morning during a prolonged treatment for brain haemorrhage at Kokilaben Hospital, Mumbai. He was born on 1 June 1960 in Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh. After attending his schooling at DAV Intermediate College, High School, Gorakhpur, he completed his graduation, post-graduation and Ph.D. degrees from Lucknow University, Lucknow. He worked extensively on sedimentological studies of the Triassic succession of Malla Johar area, Tethys Himalaya, under the guidance of S. Kumar. His area of interest was Antarctica, Tethys Himalaya, Gondwana, Lameta, Intertrappeans and Purna alluvial basin.

Srivastava worked as a Senior Research Scholar at Lucknow University from 1985 to 88. He was awarded SERC Visiting Fellowship in 1998 by the Department of Science and Technology, New Delhi. He joined the Department of Geology at Sant Gadge Baba Amravati University in 1991, served as a Lecturer till 1996, and retired in 2020 as a Professor. He was the pioneer in starting and establishing the P. G. Department of Geology at Sant Gadge Baba Amravati University, Amravati. He introduced various facilities in the department for students, viz. labs, a thin section preparation unit, a museum, etc. He was the Chairman of the Research Cell and a member of several committees, including the BOS (Faculty of Science), Senate, and Academic Council.

He was very popular among the students. His area of specialization was Sedimentology and Palaeontology. He began his studies on sedimentological and palaeontological

logical characteristics of Cretaceous rocks from the Malla Johar area, Tethys Himalaya.

He became a pioneer researcher on Gondwana and Lameta sediments exposed at Salbardi, Bairam, Belkher and Pandhari areas of Amravati and Betul districts of Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh after joining the Department of Geology at SGB Amravati University.



He explored various aspects of sedimentology and palaeontology. He discovered dinosaurs' remains from Lameta sediments of these areas. He also explored Quaternary sediments of Purna alluvial deposits at various localities exposed in Amravati, Akola, and Buldhana districts of Maharashtra for various sedimentological, palaeontological, structural, hydrological and geochemical aspects. Recently he was working on Tephra beds exposed Quaternary sediments of the Purna alluvial basin.

He guided 8 Ph.D. and 3 M.Phil. students, more than 100 M.Sc. dissertations, and published more than 80 research papers in national and international journals, proceedings, and books.

He completed five major and two minor projects funded by the Central Government agencies and actively participated in national and international seminars, symposiums, and workshops.

He organized the Convention of the 34th Indian Association of Sedimentologists in 2017. He delivered several invited talks on Geology and allied subjects at various Seminars, Conferences, Colleges and Universities. He was a Fellow and Life Member of 6 Professional Organizations such as Geological Society of India, Indian Association of Sedimentologists, Aligarh; Geological Society of India, Bangalore; Palaeontological Society of India, Lucknow; Gondwana Geological Society, Nagpur; Indian Science Congress, Kolkata and Indian Geological Congress, Roorkee. He was one of the members of the 21st Indian Antarctic Expedition to Antarctica, organized by the Department of Ocean Development, Ministry of Earth Sciences, Government of India.

Srivastava is survived by his two sons – Utkarsh, a Mechanical Engineer working in Japan, and Shadwal, an Electronics and Telecommunication Engineer working in Bangalore. With the sad demise Srivastava, the Geological fraternity and the students of Geology in this part of the country have lost an excellent teacher and devoted researcher. It is a significant loss for the field of Geology.

RUPESH S. MANKAR

*Department of Geology, Arts, Science and Commerce College Chikhaldara, Amravati 444 807, India*  
*e-mail: rupeshmankar2008@rediffmail.com*