

regular ocean swell rather than from the more variable waves. Lighthill was able to cleverly model the device and process and, as in so much of his other work, use complex analysis to pull out the relevant answers.

Like many other great scientists, his success was due to his uncanny ability to take a difficult, messy problem, distil out the essence and then sort this out rapidly and skilfully. Apart from his great physical intuition, he combined in himself a mastery of classical mathematical analysis with a remarkable capacity to carry out difficult calculations rapidly and effortlessly. He was also an excellent speaker who could hold his audiences spellbound with his erudition, enthusiasm and wit; he was greatly in demand at conferences.

For us in India, there was something special about Sir James Lighthill because, I believe, he had a soft corner for

India and Indian science. He has graciously written the preface for a number of books written by Indian scientists. I have always had the impression that he was especially generous in making helpful suggestions, in providing encouragement, and even in the matter of acceptance when he acted as editor for a journal; I have to ruefully admit that I have, myself, been a beneficiary of such generosity. But it has not all been one way. His collected papers have been edited by M. Y. Hussaini, now settled abroad but originally from Chennai, who was an advisee there of Prof. Abdurahiman, who was himself an early student of Lighthill at Manchester! Lighthill had visited India on a number of occasions. He first came in 1961 to give an invited talk at a conference organized in Bangalore by Dr. P. Nilakantan, the first Director of NAL. His visit in 1989 was in connection with the Golden Jubilee of

CSIR; he had been invited to give talks at a number of venues around the country. All of us who met him at the time were charmed not just by his scientific talks but also by his modesty and graciousness.

Yes, he will indeed be missed. We can no longer look forward to those fascinating papers; we shall have to be content to be inspired and guided by the monumental work that he has left behind. In contemplating the sad manner of his passing away, we can take solace in the fact that at least he was surrounded by those things that fascinated and delighted him – the water, the waves and the fishes.

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ERRATA

Synthesis of meteorological observations and modelling studies to assess climate change mitigation strategies over India

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[*Curr. Sci.*, 1998, 75, 95–97]

1. References 6, 11 and 14 should read as follows:

6. Dikshit, S. K., Sinha Ray, K. C., Mukhopadhyay, R. K. and Srivastava, H. N., Abstract, Symposium TROPMET-94, IITM, Pune, 1994.
11. Lal, M., Cubasch, U., Vons, R. and Waszkowitz, A., *Curr. Sci.*, 1995, 69, 752–763.
14. Goel, M. and Srivastava, H. N., *Bull. Am. Meteorol. Soc. USA*, 1990, 71, 1594–1600.

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Air pollution in Calcutta during winter – A three-year study

Gautam Samanta, Gautam Chattopadhyay, Badal K. Mandal, Tarit Roy Chowdhury, Partha P. Chowdhury, Chitta R. Chanda, Prabal Banerjee, Dilip Lodh, Dipankar Das and Dipankar Chakraborti

[*Curr. Sci.*, 1998, 75, 123–138]

The heading of column 4 of Table 10 should read, Pb ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) and not Pb (ng/m^3) as printed. The error is regretted.