

S. K. Manchanda

An obituary

Surender Kumar Manchanda was born on 8 November 1931 in the Punjab province of undivided India (region now in Pakistan). He, along with his parents and relatives migrated to India, at the time of partition. He graduated in Medicine from Jaipur. He then joined the newly formed All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), at New Delhi, in 1957 as demonstrator in the Department of Physiology under B. K. Anand. He did his MD and PhD from AIIMS. He was awarded the fellowship of the National Academy of Medical Sciences in 1977.

He took over as Professor and Head of the Department of Physiology, AIIMS, in February, 1974, after the retirement of his illustrious teacher B. K. Anand. During his period in office, Manchanda conducted several workshops and conferences. He was the Organizing Secretary of the Congress of the International Union of Physiological Sciences (IUPS), which was held at New Delhi in 1974. He was among the few physiologists from India, who had been nominated to the Executive Council of IUPS. He retired on 30 November 1991, but continued his rapport with the Department of Physiology, AIIMS and its faculty.

He was instrumental in organizing the Second Congress of the Federation of Asian and Oceanian Physiological Societies at New Delhi in 1992. He was one of the founder members of the Federation of Asian and Oceanian Physiological



Societies (FAOPS). He was elected as Vice President of the FAOPS in 1992. He played a major role in uniting the four Physiological Societies in India. He was the Founder President of the Federation of Indian Physiological Socie-

ties, a position which he held till the end.

He had made major scientific contributions in the field of neurosciences and reproduction. He had also played a major role in reorganizing the teaching of physiology in India and abroad. He had worked as Visiting Professor at the University of Malaysia, University of Western Ontario, Canada, University of Kannajawa, Japan and University of Basra, Iraq. He was not only an excellent scientist and teacher, but also an excellent organizer. The image that Indian physiologists have in the international forum today is largely due to the efforts of S. K. Manchanda. The scientific community in India is deeply indebted to him for this contribution.

S. K. Manchanda passed away on 20 July 1998, at Al-Ain, UAE, after a brief illness. He was cremated at New Delhi on 24 July 1998. The entire world community of physiologists has lost an excellent scientist.

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