

## OBITUARY

### Dr. B.N. Sinha



### Dr. B.N. Sinha (15.01.1924 – 07.11.2015)

Dr. B.N. Sinha, Deputy Director General (Retd. In 1982), Geological Survey of India passed away on 7 November 2015 at Bangalore at the age of 93. He had many accomplishments during his years of service and was universally liked for his sterling qualities. He was an expert in tapping ground water resources and as Engineering Geologist, he had numerous large scale successful projects to his credit. He was an alumni of Banaras Hindu University during the guardianship of Pandit Madan Mohan Malviya, Dhanbad School of Mines and then went on to do his D.Sc. in Geology from Colorado School of Mines, Golden Colorado in 1948 after being selected by the British Government. Through his illustrious career, he worked in the field of Ground Water resources, Engineering Geology and Mining. The projects ranged from wells and dams in Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka to projects executed in the Chang La Pass along with military generals of the Border Roads Organisation. In 1962 when Goa was liberated from the Portuguese, he was part of the group representing government of India overseeing the takeover of Goa. He also played an important role in design and construction of The Tenu Ghat Dam in Hazaribagh district of erstwhile Bihar state; The Dhanikhari Dam in Andaman & Nicobar Islands which was the first dam taking care of water needs of the city of Port Blair.

Dr. B.N. Sinha was a Life Fellow of the Geological Society of India. He also served ISEG as its President.

He was a jovial personality, but remained steadfast to his principles and convictions during his life in the face of trying circumstances and was thus rightly recognised as 'The Lion' by his colleagues. He left behind his two sons and two daughters along with their families, including grandchildren and great grandchildren.

May his soul rest in peace.

## **OBITUARY**

### **Dr. Subinoy Gangopadhyay**

Dr. Subinoy Gangopadhyay borned on 15.07.1935 in Faridpur district (now in Bangladesh) of undivided Bengal, obtained his M.Sc. degree in 1<sup>st</sup> class in 1957 from Presidency College and Ph.D. degree in 1972, from Calcutta University, Kolkata. He joined Geological Survey of India as an Assistant Geologist in Engineering Geology Division on 18.12.1959 and superannuated from service in July, 1993 as Director (Selection Grade), Engineering Geology Division, Eastern Region, GSI, Kolkata.

Under an International Fellowship, he carried out extensive research work on soil and rock mechanics in Norwegian Geotechnical Institute, Oslo and achieved his diploma in Geotechniques. He also visited several Geotechnical Institutions like Soil & Rock Mechanics Laboratory of Stockholm, Sweden, Imperial College of Science, London, U.K. and exchanged knowledge in related field with dignitaries of the Institution. He had rare privilege of working with Dr. J.B. Auden, the late head of UNO for water resource development and received high appreciation.

During his 34 years of service as Engineering Geologist in GSI, he guided and associated with nearly 150 civil engineering projects in India and abroad. He was actively associated with the in-service training programme of GSI and imparted practical training in Engineering Geology to young Geologists. On Government deputation, he visited several East and North African countries for assistance and co-operation to those countries on geotechnical works on various engineering projects. He served as a geotechnical consultant in a gold mining project of Ethiopia. He, as a ground water expert, also worked in Algerian Oil field of North Africa advising on fluid flow in sub-surface rocks. In Tanzania and Ethiopia, he worked as a Geothermal Expert also. For his significant contributions and achievements in Engineering Geology and related fields of study, he will be remembered as one of the pioneers.

Dr. Gangopadhyay was a founder member of Indian Society of Engineering Geology and served as Editor and Vice President of the Society. He has written nearly 150 reports on geotechnical aspects of engineering projects of India including some projects abroad where he worked as a Consultant. He published 52 technical papers in reputed national and international journals. Braving his serious illness in 2012, he completed writing a book 'Engineering Geology' which was published by the Oxford University Press in 2013. In addition, he had two other books to his credit, namely, 'Monuments of India' and 'Prehistoric Indians' marketed by Mason in USA and also in Europe. Apart from these, he had a flair for writing popular articles both in English and in Bengali. In 1963, he won the Gold Medal for his article from the Mining, Geological & Metallurgical Institute of India, Kolkata.

Dr. Subinoy Gangopadhyay left for heavenly abode on 28<sup>th</sup> November, 2015 while staying with his wife and daughter in California, USA. He left behind his wife, son, daughter and six grandchildren.