OBITUARY

S. C. Puranik
(1953-2012)

We record with deep sorrow the sudden and untimely demise of our beloved colleague, Dr. S.C. Puranik, Professor, Department of Geology, Karnatak University, Dharwad on 9.10.2012. With his death we have lost a good friend and a senior colleague.

Dr. Puranik was born on 10.04.1953 in Belgaum. He did B.Sc. at Karnataka Science College, M.Sc. and Ph.D. from Karnatak University, Dharwad. He joined as a Lecturer in 1977 in the College of Geology and Mineral Processing at Nandihalli, Sandur, a Post-graduate Centre of the Karnatak University. In 1981 he joined Bangalore University as a Lecturer in Geology but came back to Dharwad, in 1983, to join as a Lecturer in Geology in Karnataka Science College. In 1985 he joined the Department of Geology, Karnatak University, Dharwad as a Reader and was promoted as Professor in 1995 and became the Chairman of the Department during 2004-2006.

Dr. Puranik's simplicity and easy approachable manner attracted many students and research scholars. He successfully guided 15 Ph.D. students and 5 M.Phil. students. He published more than seventy papers and reviewed several research articles for national and international journals. He had a wide range of research interest like, Economic Geology, Mineral Beneficiation, Environment Geology, Soil Geology and Hydrogeology. But most of his research work pertains to hydrogeology, and was widely recognized as a

well-known hydrogeologist in the Geological Community. Considering his rich research experience in the field of hydrogeology, the Association of Hydrogeologists of India (AHI) instituted an award in his name (Dr. S.C. Puranik Award) which is awarded to a young geoscientist for best presentation of paper at the Seminar of AHI.

Dr. Puranik served the Karnatak University in various capacities. He was Academic Council Member, Syndicate Member and Dean, Faculty of Science. He was I/C Vice-Chancellor and I/C Registrar of the University. He was a member of several committees and by virtue of which he amicably solved the problems of many persons on the campus.

As a person, Dr. Puranik was a blend of many good qualities. He was an active, disciplined, soft-spoken, amicable, humble, honest and affectionate person. His death is an immense loss not only to his family, our Department but also for the entire community of the Karnatak University. He is survived by his wife and two sons. The teaching staff, non-teaching staff research scholars and M.Sc. students of our department pay their deep respects to Dr. Puranik and pray almighty to bestow peace to the departed soul.

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