

Report on Prof. R. Vaidyanadhan's Visit to the Society's New Office Premises, Kathriguppe, Banashankari 3rd Stage, Bengaluru

P. Krishnamurthy*, K. V. Krishnamurthy and N. Rajendran

Geological Society of India, Bengaluru - 560 085

*E-mail: krisviji@gmail.com

Received: 6 May 2023 / Accepted: 7 May 2023

© 2023 Geological Society of India, Bengaluru, India

Prof. Vaidyanadhan, formerly Editor of the *JGSI* (1992-1995) and Vice-President (1998-2004; 2013-2016) of the Society had come, accompanied by his son Shri Ravi Vaidyanadhan, on a private visit to Bengaluru. He had expressed his desire to visit the '*Radhakrishna Bhavan*', the new premises of the Society and hence several office bearers and staff had come to welcome him at the office premises on Saturday, 29th April 2023. Dr. Lingaraju, Director, River Rejuvenation and Shri Udaykumar, Art of Living (AOL), Bengaluru had also joined the meeting. Prof. R. Vaidyanadhan recalled the early 1960s after the founding of the Society in 1958, how Shri Madhav Mallaya of the BBD Power Press, Bengaluru, would wait for the approved papers of the monthly issue of the journal to be typeset so as to get it printed and posted so that the Fellows and others would get the monthly issue promptly by the first few days of the month, a remarkable feat started by BPR and continuing to this day without fail. Such is the discipline and team-work, Prof. Vaidyanadhan recalled with great humility. He also shared his formative years as Editor, under the guidance of BPR both in selection of the reviewers, when some authors do request the Editor as 'not to send' to certain reviewers. He shared some interesting accounts of such delicate situations, as also in moderating the number of colour or black and white diagrams in the Journal when some authors include larger numbers as there were cost-constraints in block-making. He had also recalled as how the initial quarterly Bulletin of the Society was produced and the contents shown to Prof. L. Rama Rao, the founder Editor.

Prof. Vaidyanadhan recalled how the book on the '*Geology of India*' was taken up as advised by BPR, since the two previous books by D. N. Wadia (1919) and M.S. Krishnan, (1956) with several editions had not incorporated the developments in Indian Geology since the 1960s. Initially started by himself, mainly since Paleozoic and how later M. Ramakrishnan, formerly Sr. Dy. DG, Geological Survey of

India and Editor (*JGSI*, 1998-2001) a robust exponent of the Precambrian of India, joined to do full justice to the Archean and Proterozoic terrains of India. BPR had suggested to make it a single volume as it would be used and '*read*' and a two volume would be '*referred*'. Nevertheless, he agreed to the two-part book, considering the enormity of the data that had accrued after the expansion of the Geological Survey of India (GSI) initiated in 1951 by Dr. W.D. West, the first Director of GSI after Independence in 1947. The Foreword to the volumes by T. M. Mahadevan aptly covers the herculean task of the authors undertook and its usefulness to students and researches in Earth Science. Thus the two-volume edition with M. Ramakrishnan and R. Vaidyanadhan (Vol.1) and R. Vaidyanadhan and M. Ramakrishnan (Vol. 2) was released during the Society's Golden Jubilee Year on May 2, 2008. It is just 15 years old since its first printing and the two volumes were reprinted with minor revision because of the demand both in India and abroad.

He also recalled how the '*Atlas on Topographic Maps*' evolved from simple use of topo-sheets merely for location purposes to infer on geomorphic features and landforms. Dr. Lingaraju explained to him the AOL's plans with Sri Sri Poojya Ravishankar's approval to enlarge the River Rejuvenation Programme on an all India basis treating the '*River basin*' as a basic unit and sought his blessings and also the Society's active participation in this endeavor, considering the Society's strength in contributing to the basic geological and hydrological aspects through its numerous publications.

Prof. Vaidyanadhan was extremely pleased at the design, layout and quality of the office premises with a good amount of space for the staff, office bearers, and the guest room. He was extremely happy and thanked all those who took the effort to come on a holiday to meet him. Every one thanked him for sharing his long association and experiences at the Society.



Prof. R. Vaidyanadhan visiting the '*Radhakrishna Bhavan*' along with others from the Society and is seen interacting with Fellows of the Society.