OBITUARY

A.V.R. Sastry
(1933-2014)

Amaravadi Venkatarama Sastry, popularly known as A.V.R. Sastry, former Professor and Head of the Department of Geology, Andhra University, Visakhapatnam passed away on 24 December 2014 after a brief illness at the age of 82 years. He was born on 12-1-1933 to late Purnanandam and late Bala Tripurasundari at Vijayawada and had his school education at Piduguralla and Butchireddy Palem. He passed Intermediate from SRR & CVR college, Vijayawada in first class. Prof. Sastry studied B.Sc (Hons) (1950-53) and M.Sc by research (1953-54), under the guidance of Prof. C. Mahadevan, at Andhra university. He started his career in a Project on Radioactive Soils. On the advice of Prof. Mahadevan he went to the then East Germany (Liepzig) on DAAD scholarship to do Ph.D. After obtaining Dr. Rer. nat, he joined the Geology Dept. at Andhra University and became Reader in 1972, Professor in 1983 and retired from University service in 1993.

Dr. Sastry is noted for his discipline, punctuality and impeccable integrity. He was very meticulous in his approach. Dr. Sastry specialized in mineralogy and petrology and published number of articles in the National and International Journals, all through his career. He went on cruises with Dr. Eu Ge. La Fond in early 60’s and acquired skills in marine geology.

With his studies at Leipzig (Germany) he became proficient in the German Language. He used to teach German language in the evenings and trained several hundreds of students, which earned him a nick name German Sastry.

Dr. Sastry was highly spiritual in his life. He strove for values throughout his life. He was a staunch follower of Sri. Aurobindo and maintained ‘Sri Aurobindo Study Circle’ in his home, at Visakapatnam for many years.

Prof. Sastry had a happy family life and is survived by wife Prabhavathi Devi, and two daughters and a son. His son Chandrasekhar is a Professor in U.S.A. and the eldest daughter stays in U.A.E and the youngest daughter in New Zealand.

KANDARP VIJAYNATH and P.S.N. MURTHY