OBITUARY

B. V. GOVINDARAJULU
(1925–1980)

It is with a deep sense of sorrow and profound regret I have to record the sudden demise of Professor B. V. Govindarajulu, Professor of Geology, University of Mysore, due to heart attack on the 26th February 1980 at Mysore at the age of 55.

Prof. Govindarajulu was born on 29th July 1925, at Ramanagara, Bangalore district and had his early education at Channapatna and Bangalore. He passed the B.Sc (Hons.) from the Central College, Bangalore, obtaining first class and first rank securing ‘Hanumappa Gold Medal’ in 1947. He was appointed as a Lecturer in the Department of Geology, Central College, Bangalore in 1947. He completed the M.Sc. course as staff student with Petrology as a special subject securing first-class, first rank in 1950 from the Central College, Bangalore. He was deputed by the Government of Mysore for higher studies at the University College, London in May 1957 and he secured the Ph.D. degree from the London University in October 1959 working under the supervision of Dr. M. K. Wells on the Granophyre of Ennerdale, Lake District. After his return from U.K., he continued to serve on the staff of the Central College, Bangalore, for a couple of years.

He was appointed as Reader in Geology in January 1961 in the newly started Department of post graduate studies and research in Geology at Manasa Gangotri, University of Mysore. He was appointed as Professor of Geology in 1974.

Prof. Govindarajulu has published more than 40 research papers on Charnockites and Kaladgis and guided research students in the fields of Petrology and Geochemistry.

He was a good writer in Kannada. He has written a number of scientific articles of popular interest and contributed quite a few articles on geological topics to the Kannada Encyclopaedia. He has published books on Geology in Kannada such as Agnishilegalu, Shilāroopaka Khani jagalu, Bhāratada Khani jagalu. A couple of books are in press. Some of the books have received awards from the University of Mysore.

Prof. Govindarajulu was connected with many academic bodies of the University of Mysore and other Universities in India. He was a great lover of music and had a deep admiration for Karnataka music. He was the treasurer of the Mineralogical Society of India for several years.

Prof. Govindarajulu was a soft spoken, social gentleman with spartan outlook and meticulous habits. He was a popular teacher in geology for over three decades held in high esteem by his students and colleagues. His straightforwardness, generosity, sincerity and modesty marked him out as a man of noble and outstanding character.

He leaves behind his wife, three sons of whom his eldest son Sri B. Vijaykumar is doing his Post-graduate studies in Sweden, and a host of relatives, friends, admirers to bemoan his loss.

M. S. SADASHIVAIAH