

## References

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OBITUARY

S. SURYAPRAKASA RAO

(1946—1979)

It is with deep regret I have to record the sudden and premature death of Sri S. Suryaprakasa Rao, Assistant Geologist, Groundwater Survey and Development Agency, Buldana, Maharashtra, on the 20th May 1979 at the young age of 33. Sri Rao was travelling in a truck belonging to a Drilling Company. The truck got involved in a road accident and Sri Suryaprakasa Rao died on the spot.

Sri Suryaprakasa Rao took his M.Sc. degree from the Bangalore University in 1967 topping the list of successful candidates in Geology. He worked as a CSIR Research Fellow for about three years at the Department of Geology, Central College, Bangalore studying the high grade metamorphic rocks of the Bandihalli region in Kunigal district, Karnataka. He had almost completed his work for the Ph.D. dissertation when he left the Department.

Sri Rao joined the Directorate of Groundwater Surveys and Development, Government of Maharashtra as Geological Assistant. By his hardwork he impressed his superiors and he was promoted to the gazetted rank after a short span of only eight months. This was a rare achievement for a youngster. At the time of his sad demise, Rao was engaged in the project investigation of experimental verification of groundwater movement and recharge.

Sri Rao was a man of few words but was very social in the company of his close friends. He was gentle and soft spoken but was firm when it came to expression of views on controversial matters. He would never yield easily in arguments. All his friends without exception had the highest regard for his intellectual capacity. Sri Rao became a Fellow of the Geological Society of India in 1972. He was also a Fellow of the Mineralogical Society of India. Unmarried, Rao leaves behind his aged parents and a large circle of friends to mourn his loss.

V. N. VASUDEV