

Obituary



Dr. H. N. SIDDIQUIE
(1934 – 1986)

It is with profound sorrow that we have to record the untimely death of Dr. Hassan Naseem Siddiquie, Director, National Institute of Oceanography and formerly Geologist (Senior), Geological Survey of India, on 15-11-86 in Goa Medical College, from a massive heart attack.

Dr. Siddiquie was born on 24-7-1934. He did his M.Sc. in Geology from Aligarh Muslim University and joined the Geological Survey of India and served that organisation for 17 years.

Dr. Siddiquie was trained in Marine Geology at the Institute of Oceanology, Moscow, during 1964-65. Under his able guidance and leadership, a Marine Geology Unit was formed in the Geological Survey of India. He organised a number of cruises in the Bay of Bengal/Arabian Sea. He organised work on the preparation of the bottom sediment map of the Seas bordering India. He was a pioneer in the field of marine geoscience in India. He also participated in the Cruise of DV Glomar Challenger in the Arabian Sea.

He joined the National Institute of Oceanography (N.I.O.) as Head of the Geological Oceanography Division in 1973, just before the first Indian research ship, R. V. *Ganeshani*, was acquired by N.I.O. He managed it ably and set standards for operating research ships in Indian conditions. He guided a number of research projects on various fields, many of which are of great importance. Through unstinted hard work, perseverance and devotion, and depth of knowledge in marine geoscience, he became the Director of National Institute of Oceanography in 1985. Under his leadership, N.I.O. carried out admirable work in continental shelf geology and manganese nodule exploration. He was the recipient of Bhatnagar Award in 1981 and Padmashree in 1983. He was the recipient of the National Mineral Award. He was one of the Deputy Leaders of the first Antarctic Expedition in 1982. He published a number of papers in Indian and foreign journals and was internationally known. He will always be remembered as a pioneer in marine geological studies in India.

Geological Survey of India
Calcutta

T. K. MULLICK

Dr. Siddiquie drew up a master plan to explore the Indian Ocean for polymetallic nodule deposits. The first cruise on *R. V. Gaveshani* in 1981 was successfully organized for the exploration of polymetallic nodules. This enabled India to be reckoned as a pioneer investor along with other developed nations.

Dr. Siddiquie had about 120 scientific papers and technical reports of high quality published in reputed journals to his credit. Besides, he was a guide to about half a dozen research scholars working for Ph.D. degree.

Dr. Siddiquie had travelled widely and had visited several countries in Europe, Africa, Asia and America. He had just finalized Indo-FRC programme for the study of Quaternary upwelling in the Arabian Sea related to monsoon events.

He was elected recently as the Vice-Chairman of Training, Education and Mutual Assistance (TEMA) of Inter-governmental Oceanographic Sciences, UNESCO. He was a member of many professional and academic bodies both in India and abroad.

He had earlier survived a heart attack in December, 1985. His general condition since then was not particularly good. In spite of this, he kept cheerful and went through his work courageously. To his friends, colleagues and the entire Scientific community in India, his death is an irreparable loss. He leaves behind his wife, a daughter and two sons. May his soul rest in peace.

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