

OBITUARY



N. Venkoba Rao Magar
(1932 -2008)

Born on 6 May 1932, N. Venkoba Rao Magar breath his last on 8 April 2008 at his residence in Mysore. He leaves behind his wife, son and daughter. He was one of the earliest persons to be the Life Member of the Geological Society of India.

Born in a lower middle class family, Sri N. Venkoba Rao had to put through a lot of hardship to pursue his early education. He however focused to have an entry into B.Sc (Hons.) course and in spite of his adverse family conditions, he pursued his education and obtained his B.Sc. (Hons.) Degree in the year 1957 from Mysore University. He subsequently gained entry into the Karnataka State Department of Mines and Geology on 19 February 1958 as an Assistant geologist and retired as a Deputy Director on 30 May 1990. In his tenure of service he had worked in various fields in various capacity. Though groundwater was the field of his interest, much part of his service were in the field of mineral invsigation and administration.

In not much being a disciplinarian, he had a special knack of man-management, mainly achieved by a jovial approach. Persons who worked with him in the Department remembered him for long for his extreme casual but a human and sympathetic approach. This was ofcourse not at the cost of the Departmental work. He was one of the strong performers as far execution of work was concerned. This

was possible by sheer devotion and deligence he could excercise through his man to man approach and personal rapport with his subordinates. He had a great sense of humour. Quite often the jokes were made at own self, like openly expressing with people not to mistake him for a vegetarian and used to specifically clarify that his name 'N.V. Rao stands for Non Vegetarian Rao\

There are many interesting observations and discoveries in the field of geology of Kamataka which should actually go to the credit of N. Venkoba Rao. He was denied of such credits except for the ammosite variety of asbestos reported for the first time from Bababudan Iron Formations.

As a human being he was unassuming, extremely friendly and sympathetic. In his later age, the untimely death of his elder daughter Usha Magar brought him all the sorrows in his life. He suffered from debilitating ailments. Inspite of his ailment he carried the spirit of Venkoba Rao.

He had a sudden, but peaceful demise. A noble soul has departed from us. May God bestow peace and strength to the bereaved family.

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