

## Dr M.C. Prasad (1938-2024) Passes Away

**Dr Mahesh Chandra Prasad (86)** was an eminent Veterinary Pathologist, teacher, research administrator and editor. He was born at Kolly, Sitamarhi, Bihar on 17th December, 1938. He completed his BVSc&AH degree from Veterinary College, Bihar University, Patna in 1960 and MVSc in Veterinary Pathology in 1965 from Madras Veterinary College under guidance of Prof. K.P.C. Nair. Initially he served as Veterinary Assistant Surgeon and later joined as Assistant Lecturer at his *alma mater*. He did his



doctorate from Agra University in 1973 under able guidance of Dr B.S. Rajya at IVRI, Izatnagar and subsequently joined the same Institute as Junior Pathologist and served until 1974. Later he worked as Animal Scientist (Disease Control) at ICAR Research Complex for NER Region, Arunachal Pradesh from 1975-1977 and established Disease Investigation Laboratory at Bosor, besides surveying animal disease status in the region. In 1977, he joined back in IVRI as Nutritional Pathologist (ARS Scientist, S-2), later being elevated to position of ARS Scientist, S-3 which he continued till 1990. Dr Prasad then took over as Assistant Director General (Animal Health) at ICAR, New Delhi and completed tenure with distinction. He again joined back at IVRI, Izatnagar in 1995 first as Principal Scientist, then as Head, Division of Pathology Prasad (1996-97), and finally as Joint Director (Research) in 1996 until his superannuation in December, 1998.

His major contributions in the area of Nutritional Pathology included pioneering work on atherosclerosis, iodine and other deficiencies, toxicities and poisonings especially MIC (Bhopal episode) have been reflected in over 150 research papers in national and international journals and about half dozen bulletins/book chapters. He guided 3 MVSc and 5 PhD students at IVRI. During illustrious ICAR service of 38 years, he acted as Chairman/Members of various selection and other committees of ICAR/SAU's/Govt. of India. During his Editorship spanning over a decade, two issues of journal and overall improvement was brought about in the quality and standard of the Indian Journal of Veterinary Pathology, is praiseworthy. He had lot of interest in IAVP activities and sponsored IAVP-Savitri Jibacch Poster Presentation Award. His wife Mrs Shanta Sinha served as Patron IAVP. After superannuation, Dr Prasad has joined Jai Research Foundation, Valvada, Gujarat and worked as regulatory toxicopathologist. Here he also took over as Chief Editor of Indian Journal of Environment and Toxicology and also published a number of research papers on pathology of spontaneous lesions of laboratory animals especially mice and rats. In later years (2014-2018), he was associated in guiding 5 in service PhD students at Navsari Agricultural University, Navsari and 1 at Junagadh Agricultural University, Junagadh in the discipline of Veterinary Pathology. He passed away at the age of 86 years on 5th December 2024 at Thane, Maharashtra. Dr Prasad is survived by his wife Mrs Shanta Sinha, two sons and three daughters.

**The IAVP expresses deepest condolences and prays the Almighty God to give strength to the family, friends and students to bear the great loss caused by his demise. Even though the veterinary fraternity has lost one of its eminent personalities, the legacy that Dr M.C. Prasad left behind will always live in hearts of Veterinary Pathologists.**

**NB:** Prepared by Dr R. Somvanshi, Web Manager, IAVP on the basis of matter published in IJVP 23:115, 1999. Inputs provided by Dr Bhavesh J. Trangadiya, Associate Professor, Department of Veterinary Pathology, Junagadh Agricultural University, Junagadh, Gujarat is appreciated.