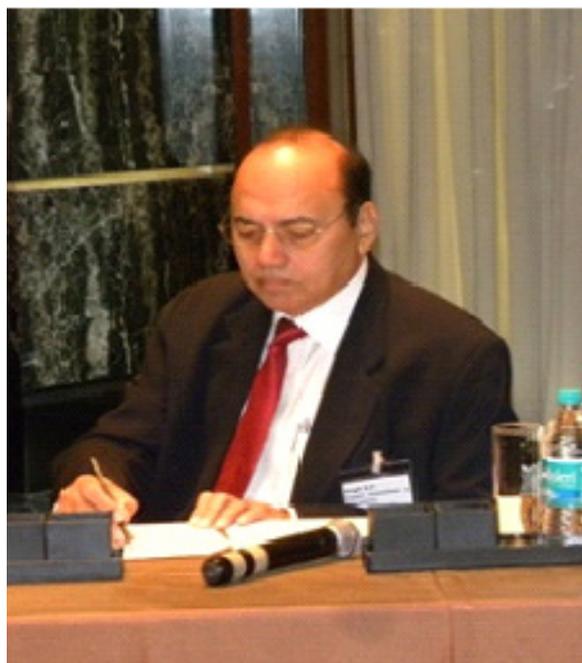


OBITUARY

Dr. S. P. SINGH, THE PIONEER FOR BIOCONTROL RESEARCH IN INDIA PASSES AWAY



Dr. S. P. Singh completed his B.Sc (Ag) and M. Sc. (Ag) from Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana and Ph.D. from Kuban Agricultural University, Krasnodar, Russia.

In 1974, he joined as Scientist S-1 at IIHR, Bangalore and was posted at CHES, Chethalli, where later on he headed that station. At Chethalli, during his stay large scale multiplication of *Cryptolaemus* was achieved and released in several places in Coorg against citrus mealybug and on coffee soft scale, besides large scale releases of *Pareuchaetes pseudoinsulata* against *Chromolaena* weed. During 1983, he was transferred to IIHR at Hesaraghatta and became Project Coordinator (AICRP on Biological Control). In 1988, AICRP unit was shifted to Hebbal, present campus, and was attached to NCIPM up to 1993. In 1993, it became independent institute, christened as Project Directorate of Biological Control. It was during his tenure, PDBC received the prestigious Best Institute Award of ICAR in 1998. Several technologies were evolved and commercialized during Dr. S. P. Singh's tenure, notably 'Endogram', an endosulfan tolerant strain of *Trichogramma chilonis*. He published over 250 research papers in various international and national peer reviewed journals. He also guided 3 Ph.D. students and received several awards, amongst them was prestigious NAAS fellowship. Dr. S. P. Singh was also member of several QRT, RAC, IMC and CAC committees of ICAR institutes and SAUs. He retired from active service in 2002 as Project Director, PDBC, Bangalore.

Dr. S. P. Singh took over as the president of Society for Biocontrol Advancement (SBA) in 1995. He was instrumental in shifting the headquarters of SBA to Bangalore from Coimbatore. During his tenure as the president of SBA, he has ably guided the society to prosperity with frequent conferences, workshop and symposia. Dr. S. P. Singh breathed his last on 1st December, 2014 at Chandigarh after a brief illness. He is survived by his wife and son. The Society has lost one of its active members. The Society deeply condoles the death of Dr. S. P. Singh