

CONDOLENCE



Late Prof. Pandurang
Vasudeo Sukhatme

The members of the Indian Society of Agricultural Statistics deeply mourn the sad and sudden demise of Prof. Pandurang Vasudeo Sukhatme on 28 January, 1997 at Pune.

Prof. Pandurang Vasudeo Sukhatme was born on 27 July, 1911 in the village Budh, district Satara, 100 miles south of Pune. After completing his school education in Pune he graduated in 1932 from College with Mathematics as the principal subject and Physics as a subsidiary subject. During 1933-36, he studied at the University College, London and was awarded a Ph.D. Degree in 1936 and a D.Sc. Degree in 1939 for his work on bipartitional function. This work was published in the "Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society of London, Series A", June 1938.

Whilst in London, Prof. Sukhatme came under the influence of such eminent authorities in Statistics as R.A. Fisher, Jerzy Neyman and Egon S. Pearson and did valuable research in Statistical Theory of Sampling, his two most significant contributions being, one to bipartitional functions under the guidance of R.A. Fisher and the other to sampling theory entitled "Contributions to the theory of the representative method" under the guidance of J. Neyman and E.S. Pearson. The latter paper laid solid foundations for his subsequent pioneering research in the sampling theory of surveys and improvement of agricultural statistics which ushered in what may be appropriately termed as the Sukhatme era in the development of agricultural statistics in India and the world.

During 1939-40, he was a professor at the All India Institute of Hygiene and Public Health, Calcutta. In 1940 he joined ICAR as a Statistician, and was later on appointed as the Statistical Advisor to the Council to head its Statistical Unit. On account of his dynamic leadership, following the path and tradition set by him, the statistical branch of ICAR eventually grew to become a full-fledged Institute (Indian Agricultural Statistics Research Institute) exclusively devoted to research in agricultural statistics. In the context of the green revolution the importance of statistical techniques in agricultural research hardly needs any emphasis.

Prof. Sukhatme, as a founder of the Indian Society of Agricultural Statistics, devoted a good deal of his time and energy to the popularisation of statistical methods among the practitioners of agricultural, veterinary and related sciences. He served as the First Honorary Secretary of the Indian Society of Agricultural Statistics for a number of years. The Society owes him a lot for his continued guidance as well as for shouldering the responsibility as its President during 1991 and Executive President since 1970 till date. From its inception to 1963 he worked closely with Dr. Rajendra Prasad (Founder President of the Society), the then Minister for Food & Agriculture and later as President of India.

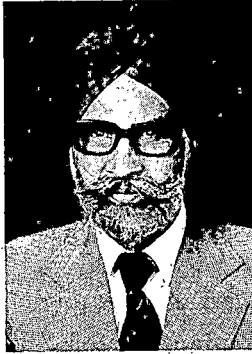
In 1951, he was a Visiting Professor at Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa, where he completed his textbook on sampling. During 1952-70 he headed the Statistics Division of the Food & Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in Rome. After retiring from the UN in 1971 he served as Regents Professor, University of California at Berkeley and since then, he had settled in Pune, carrying out valuable work on nutrition at the Maharashtra Association for the Cultivation of Science. In addition to the above mentioned book, he authored several other books on the various topics of interest in science.

Prof. Sukhatme was well known in this field for the Sukhatme-Margen hypothesis which in plain language implies the following. At low levels of calorie intake, energy is used with greater metabolic efficiency and efficiency decreases as the intake increases over the homeostatic range.

He was awarded the Guy Medal by the Royal Statistical Society for his paper on nutrition which he presented to the Society in 1963, the B.C. Guha Memorial Lectureship of the Indian Science Congress Association in 1965 and the B.D. Tilak Lectureship of the Indian National Science Academy in 1982. Among the numerous other honours he had received, mention must be made of the Fellowship of the American Statistical Association, National Academy of Sciences, Allahabad, Indian Academy of Sciences, Bangalore and Indian National Science Academy, New Delhi. He was elected member of the International Statistical Institute, Netherlands and its Vice President in 1969-70. For his outstanding contributions to Science and Human Welfare, he was conferred the Padma Bhushan by the President of India in 1973. He was awarded the Hari Om Ashram Trust Award by the University Grants Commission in 1983. For the distinguished service to the cause of Statistics and its application to agriculture and allied fields, he was conferred with the honour of Sankhyiki Bhushan in 1989 by the Indian Society of Agricultural Statistics, New Delhi. He also received P.C. Mahalanobis Award at the Jaipur Session of the Indian Science Congress Association.

With the demise of Prof. Sukhatme, the science community in general and the Indian Society of Agricultural Statistics in particular have lost a great statistician, true advisor, dynamic leader, well wisher of humanity and renowned personality of international fame. The members of the Indian Society of Agricultural Statistics convey their heartfelt sympathies and condolence to the members of the bereaved family and pray to the Almighty to give eternal peace to the departed soul and courage to the bereaved family to bear this irreparable loss.

CONDOLENCE



Late Dr. N.S. Randhawa

The members of the Indian Society of Agricultural Statistics deeply mourn the sad and sudden demise of Dr. N.S. Randhawa on 25 November, 1996 at Chandigarh.

Dr. Randhawa was the President of the Society from 1988 to 1990 and he contributed significantly to the cause of the Society. He delivered the prestigious Dr. Rajendra Prasad Memorial Lecture in 1989 during the 43rd Annual Conference of the Society at Hisar and the topic of his lecture was Problems and Prospects of Irrigated Agriculture.

With the demise of Dr. Randhawa, the scientific community in general and the Indian Society of Agricultural Statistics in particular have lost a renowned figure. The members of the Society convey their heartfelt sympathies and condolence to the members of the bereaved family and pray to the Almighty to give eternal peace to the departed soul and enough strength to bereaved family to bear this irreparable loss.

CONDOLENCE

The members of the Indian Society of Agricultural Statistics deeply mourn the sad and sudden demise of Shri M.S. Batra, a life member of the Society on 22 August, 1996 at Chandigarh.

Shri Batra had retired as Senior Scientist from the Indian Agricultural Statistics Research Institute, New Delhi. He was an active member of the Society and took keen interest in its activities.

In the death of Shri Batra, the Society has lost a dedicated worker as well as a well wisher.

The members of the Indian Society of Agricultural Statistics convey their heartfelt sympathies and condolence to the members of the bereaved family and pray to the Almighty to give eternal peace to the departed soul and enough strength to bereaved family to bear this irreparable loss.

CONDOLENCE

The members of the Indian Society of Agricultural Statistics deeply mourn the sad and sudden demise of Shri Sharad Waman Govitrikar, a life member of the Society on 24 November, 1996 at Pune.

Shri Govitrikar was an active member of the Society and took keen interest in its activities.

In the death of Shri Govitrikar, the Society has lost a dedicated and disciplined worker as well as a well wisher.

The members of the Indian Society of Agricultural Statistics convey their heartfelt sympathies and condolence to the members of the bereaved family and pray to the Almighty to give eternal peace to the departed soul and enough strength to bereaved family to bear this irreparable loss.