

BIODATA

PROFESSOR GOVINDA RAO, N.S., Civil and Hydraulic Engineer, Born Mysore 6th February 1907. Son of Sri Srinivasa Rao and Smt. Radha Bai.

B.E. (1928), recipient of two gold medals and prizes of the Mysore University. Has done research work in cavitation, high velocity flow characteristics and other topics in hydraulics, initiated research in soil dynamics for the first time in the country, worked in the investigation, design and construction of major irrigation projects and hydraulics research (1930-1950), He was a leader in the area of hydraulics research in our country and was the Principal Adviser to national river valley projects. Professor and Head of the Department of Civil and Hydraulic Engineering, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore (1950-1967) during which he built the first cavitation tunnel in India, He established vibrant research programs in the streams of water resources, structural and geotechnical engineering in this period. He distinguished himself as a teacher, researcher and consultant. Advisor, Central Board of Irrigation and Power (Ministry of Irrigation and Power, Govt of India – 1967-1971). Delivered on invitation specialist lectures in India, Australia and Germany.

Past President and Hon. Life Fellow of the Institution of Engineers (India), Past President, Indian Geotechnical Society, Past President, Indian National Committee of World Power Conference, Ex-Member Executive Council of the International Association for Hydraulic Research, Delft, Holland. Fellow, Indian National Science Academy, Indian Academy of Science, American Society of Civil Engineers, Member Boards and Council of the Central Board of Irrigation and power, Indian Standards Institution, Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, Selection Committees of the Indian Institute of Technology (Madras, Kharagpur, Bombay, Kanpur and Delhi), many Universities and Colleges, Member, Major Irrigation Projects Board and Hydro Electric Construction Board, Government of Karnataka, Member, Advisory Committee on Irrigation, Flood, Control and Power of Planning Commission, Central Board of Railway Research, Indian Parliamentary and Scientific Committee, Ex-consultant Mangalore Port Project, Inventions Promotion Board, Krishna Godavari Commission etc.

Author of seven books, many technically reports and research papers. His book on Siphons received international acclaim. Awarded Certificate of Merit and President's Gold Medal of the Central Board of Irrigation and Power (1964 and 1965). K.F. Antia Prize (1973), Jawaharlal Nehru Gold Medal from Institution of Engineer (India), Member Panel of Editors of "Hydraulic Research" (Published from Delft Holland) and also edited Journal of the Civil Engineering Division and Journal of Inter-disciplinary Panels of the Institution of Engineers (India). Recipient of Indian Institute of Science Alumni Award (1987).

The Department of Civil Engineering remembers with gratitude the yeomen services of the founding father of the Department.