



Sorrowful demise of Dr. K N Shankara, Former Director, SAC, Ahmedabad

Dr. Koodli Nanjunda Ghanapathi Shankara passed away on July 17, 2017 leaving behind a void that can't be filled. An Outstanding Scientist in the field of Satellite Technology, he spearheaded two prominent ISRO Centres during his tenure as the Director of Space Applications Centre, Ahmedabad and later ISRO Satellite Centre, Bangalore. He headed the Satellite Communications Programme and was the Programme Director, INSAT at ISRO Headquarters, Bangalore.

Born on May 7, 1945, he pursued his graduation in Science and showed keen interest in the field of Space Science. He joined Space Applications Centre, Ahmedabad in 1971 and a year later completed his Doctorate in Electrical Communication Engineering from Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore in 1972. He worked extensively on the design, development and realization of Communication payloads for INSAT series of satellites and he contributed significantly towards successful operationalisation of INSAT-2A/2B/2C satellites. His work led to new developments in the area of Microwave Technology and Spacecraft Electronics.

Having served as Hon. Professor at the Gujarat University, a large number of publications in National and International Journals are credited to his name. He was the recipient of various awards in the field of Electronics & Space Technology like Om Prakash Bhasin Award, Ramlal Wadwa Gold Medal Award & VASVIK Award. For his exemplary contribution in the field of Space Science and Technology, he was awarded 'Padma Shri' in 2004.

His efforts and contribution towards the development of Space Science and Technology shall always be remembered by the ISRO fraternity.