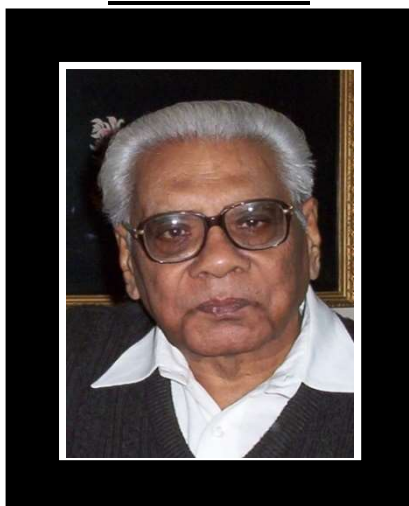


## **OBITUARY**



### **Professor Virendra Kumar Srivastava (1930 – 2018)**

Professor Virendra K. Srivastava was born on 7<sup>th</sup> September, 1930 at Bikaner (Rajasthan) to Justice Lakshmi Narayan of the Allahabad High Court. He spent most of his childhood and received early education till 1946 at Allahabad. Thereafter he moved to Banaras (now Varanasi) and obtained the Degrees of B.Sc. and M.Sc. in Geology from the Banaras Hindu University in 1948 and 1950 respectively, securing First Class and First Position. He commenced his professional career as Lecturer in Geology at University of Rajasthan, Udaipur in October, 1950, and shifted to join the newly established Department of Geology, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh in 1953 where he established himself as a friendly colleague and an excellent teacher, ever ready to help students. In view of brilliant academic record, he was awarded Smith-Mundt Fellowship and Fulbright Travel Grant for higher studies in U.S.A. in 1956. He obtained the M.S. Degree from the prestigious Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore in 1957, having completed advanced courses in Igneous and Metamorphic Petrology, Crystallography, and most importantly in Sedimentary Petrology, the latter under the guidance of Professor F. J. Pettijohn, a world-renowned authority of the subject. He was also

admitted to Maryland Chapter of Sigma XI, U.S.A.

On his return to AMU he initiated his research programme by undertaking a detailed field and laboratory study of Talchir glacial deposits of the Damodar Valley Coalfields, and worked out a paleoglacial transport model of Talcher tillites based on extensive data of embedded clast fabric and associated sedimentary structures, for which he was awarded the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Geology from AMU in 1961. Prof. Srivastava had been a great asset to sedimentology, actively engaged in various research projects on Aravalli, Vindhyan and Gondwana basins of peninsular India and Tertiary rocks of Himachal Pradesh. He supervised ten M.Phil and Ph.D. programmes, and published some 55 research papers in various national and international journals of repute. As a distinguished sedimentologist, he was invited occasionally by various universities and institutes to deliver lectures on varied aspects of sedimentary geology. He was elected as President of the Indian Association of Sedimentologists in 1984 and was nominated to the National Committee of International Union of Geological Sciences by INSA. He was

selected by INSA to visit erstwhile Soviet Union in October 1988.

Professor Srivastava retired as Chairman, Department of Geology, AMU in 1990. He passed away in the night of October 23, 2018, having recovered from repeated chest infection. His passing away was peaceful at his residence in NOIDA in the presence of his sons Rajiv and Shantanu, daughter Nalini, and daughters-in-law, Jayashree and Nishi. His wife

Hemlata Srivastava passed away 10 years back in 2008.

All of us at AMU and elsewhere, working and retired, and a large number of friends and former students, many of whom occupied top positions in various universities and national institutes like ONGC, GSI, NGRI, Coal India and private concerns, deeply mourn the loss of Prof. V. K. Srivastava, and extend heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family. May his Soul Rest in Peace.

Professor of Geology (Retd)  
Formerly: Chairman, Department of Geology &  
Dean Faculty of Science, AMU

**S M Casshyap**

Professor and Chairman, Dept. of Geology, AMU (Retd)

**M. Raza**