

## Dr. C.S. Viswanatha



### One should be a student for ever .....

Dr. C. S. Viswanatha was nominated as Chairman of Task Force on Quality Assurance in Constructions by Government of Karnataka in 2008 and was awarded the Status of Minister of State. This was in recognition of his contributions in the field of Consultancy and Advisory services to Public and Private sectors in the domain of Civil Engineering in the last four decades.

As Chairman of the Task Force, he has been relentlessly trying to update the knowledge base of young engineers through training programmes, publications, organization of exhibitions, visits to technical sites of importance, upgrading of schedules and specifications in government documents and interactive sessions.

Dr. Viswanatha holds a degree in civil engineering with distinction from Mysore University (1960) and thereafter received his Master's and Doctorate Degree from Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore. He commenced his professional career as a faculty at Indian Institute of Science in 1963 and continued thereon till 1980. He was actively involved in teaching and research in the broad areas of concrete technology and concrete structures. He published several technical papers in National and International journals.

His research work in the field of true strength of concrete and concrete structures under sustained loads was highly appreciated in academic circles.

It was in 1980 he started the Civil Engineering Services Centre in the ambit of Torsteel Research Foundation, which was later renamed as Civil-Aid Technoclinic Pvt. Ltd. Under his Chairmanship, this company (A Bureau Veritas Group Company) has become one of the leading consultancy centres in civil engineering with about 250 technical and supporting staff spread over Bangalore, Hyderabad and Chennai.

The Torsteel Technical Bulletins which he edited during 1982 to 1992 were very popular for their technical contents. Further, the Torsteel Design Hand Book Co-authored by him in 1988 served as a good reference for design engineers.

During this period, his main contribution was in setting up a state of art laboratory for testing a wide spectrum of construction materials. The laboratory has been accredited by National Accreditation Board for Testing (NABL) and has been serving the construction fraternity around the country. Today, it is a well recognised

A colleague of Dr. CSV says .....

Dr. CSV is one of those rare persons who has the right combination of both theory and practice. He is always passionate and enthusiastic about providing solutions for critical problems faced by civil engineering industry, either in construction or designs. In the last 3 decades, he has been responsible for restoration / rehabilitation of hundreds of important and monumental structures. Further, he has contributed significantly in bringing quality consciousness in constructions. In about 25 years of my association with him, I could learn from him several positive aspects of civil engineering to help provide professional consultancy services.

Dr. K.S. Jayasimha, Senior Director,  
Civil Aid Technoclinic Pvt. Ltd., Bangalore

laboratory with tests being conducted on almost all civil engineering materials based on National and International standards.

The other activities under his guidance in Civil-Aid are peer-review of designs, design advisory services, condition survey of structures, quality auditing of constructions and restoration/rehabilitation of structures.

He is the recipient of several national awards such as - National Design award - 2005 by Institution of Engineers (India), for significant contribution in the field of engineering designs and ICI-L&T Life Time Achievement award (2006) by Indian Concrete Institute for contributions in the field of concrete technology and concrete structures.

He had the honour of delivering the Golden Jubilee Lecture (PG studies) at Annamalai University in 2004, Prof. Bimalendu Sen Memorial Lecture at Kolkata in 2002, Prof. G. S. Ramaswamy Memorial Lecture at SERC, Chennai in 2005 and Sir. MV Endowment Lecture at Visvesvaraya Technical University in Karnataka in 2006.



He served the Association of Consulting Civil Engineers (India) as President during 1988-1990 and served Indian Concrete Institute as President during 1999-2001. During this tenure at Indian Concrete Institute, he had the privilege of declaring open the Asian Concrete Federation at Sapporo in Japan.

He recalls with pride the projects he undertook with respect to - Renovation of century old Rajabhavan at Bangalore, Relocation of Budha Statue in Hussain Sagar, Hyderabad; Design of monumental structures at Kudala Sangama pilgrimage centre, Condition assessment of aircraft industry workshops and hangars around the country belonging to Hindustan Aeronautics; large scale testing of Virendel girders for Note Mudran Press (RBI) Mysore, Restoration of Don Aqueduct in Krishna valley and many others.

He was in several 'Failure Investigation' Commissions as an Expert Member, such as, Expert Committee for Collapse Investigation of Industrial Structure at Tolloja in 1987, Fact Finding Committee for Collapse of Heavy Fabrication Shop at Kolar Gold Fields in 1991, Investigation Committee for failure of Reactor Building at Kaiga Project in 1994, Expert Committee for Collapse Investigation of Shantiniketan complex in Bangalore during 2009 and many others.

In a nutshell, his is a multifaceted personality. At the age of 75 and with artificial heart valves, today he is as fresh as a healthy engineer of 25, mentoring a large number of young engineers for a bright future.