OBITUARY



Dr. Jayaprakas C.A. (1961 – 2024)

It is with deep sorrow that we announce the passing of Dr. Jayaprakas C.A., a renowned Scientist (retired as Principal Scientist from ICAR - Central Tuber Crops Research Institute, Thiruvananthapuram on 31 May 2023) and a cherished member of our community. Dr. Jayaprakas passed away on 14 September 2024 at the age of 63, in his residence at Thiruvananthapuram.

Dr. Jayaprakas joined Agricultural Research Service as Scientist in Agricultural Entomology in 1989 and subsequently joined the ICAR - Central Tuber Crops Research Institute, Thiruvananthapuram. He dedicated his life to the pursuit of knowledge and discovery, making significant contributions in the field of ecofriendly pest management strategies. He was very popular among farmers for his innovations and farmer-friendly technologies, most famously cassava-based biopesticides (Nanma, Menma, Shreya), for which he received patents.

Dr. Jayaprakas was not only known for his professional achievements but also for his active involvement in various social services activities. He was involved in blood donation for more than 30 years. After retirement, he was serving as visiting

professor in Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam, Kerala. He was nominated as General Council Member of Kerala Agricultural University, Thrissur. He was recipient of several awards, including the Best Scientist Award (2015) from the Government of Kerala, Fellow of the Kerala Science Academy (2013), Karma Shreshta Award (2013), Swadeshi Innovation Award (2012), Bhodananda Research Foundation award for team work (2011), and the Eminent Scientist Award (2011). He also served as President, Indian Society for Root Crops (ISRC), Joint Secretary, Association of Advancement of Entomology (AAE), Executive Council Member of AAE, Executive Council Member, Central University of Kerala, Expert Committee Member, Programme Advisory Committee (PAC), Technology Development Programme (TDP) of DST, Government of India. He was recognised as a Ph. D guide both at the University of Kerala and Kannur University, where he supervised 12 Ph. D students. He also published several research papers, books and many other articles.

Dr. Jayaprakas, a native of Eramangalam, Ponnani, Malappuram, is survived by his wife, Dr. Bindu, T., (Family Health Centre, Pallichal, Thiruvananthapuram), and his daughter, Dr. Radhika Jayaprakas. His hard work and innovative ideas inspired many new generations of scientists, including me, and will definitely motivate many more in the future.

Dr. Harish E.R., ARS

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