

CONDOLENCE MESSAGE



Prof. A.K. De, Chairman, AERB (02.01.1984 - 19.03.1990).

Prof. Arun Kumar De, the first Chairman of the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board, passed away on 30th October, 2020. AERB deeply mourns the demise of Prof. De. A Condolence Meeting was held on November 2, 2020 in AERB to pay respects to Prof. De. Shri Nageswara Rao, Chairman, AERB paid floral tributes before his photograph. A two minute silence was observed as a mark of respect.



Shri Nageswara Rao, Chairman, AERB paying floral tributes

Prof. De took over as the First Chairman of AERB on January 02, 1984 after demitting his office as Director, IIT Bombay. Prof. De will be remembered by us in AERB for his invaluable wisdom and the strong foundation he laid for building a strong regulatory regime with multi-tier review process.

During the Silver Jubilee Celebration of Atomic Energy Regulatory Board in 2008, Prof. De visited AERB and interacted with the staff. He shared his experiences and anecdotes on the setting up and nurturing of AERB. The excerpts from his speech was included in the AERB Silver Jubilee Book titled '25 Years of Safety Regulation', a must read for all AERBites.

Prof. Arun Kumar De, was born in 1925. After graduating in mechanical engineering from Jadavpur University (1947) and a Ph.D from Moscow (1965), he served in the industries both in India and abroad. He switched over to career in teaching at the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Bombay in 1958 as faculty member. He had an illustrious career in leadership roles as the Director of Central Mechanical Engineering

Research Institute (CMERI), Durgapur (1969) and later as Director, IIT, Bombay (1974). He had served in the Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO), Ministry of Defence, New Delhi before becoming the first Chairman of Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) in 1984, the position he occupied till 1990. He was a Fellow of the Indian National Academy of Engineering (INAE) and Fellow, Institution of Engineers, IE (Ind). Prof. De was an outstanding professional engineer, a researcher, an educationist and an administrator of distinction, all rolled into one. He had to his credit the autobiographical book 'Meandering Streams' published in the year 2008.

Prof. De was a very humble human being and a man of principles. A strong leader and a silent worker. He leaves behind his strong personal influence in establishing AERB as an effective and efficient regulatory organisation.

AERB will fondly remember Prof. De and his contributions for a long time to come.
