



Prof. T. Viswanathan (1945 - 2012)

The early 1990s was the period when library automation, networking and machine as well as machine aided translation were beginning to grow roots in India. CSIR-INSDOC, despite its pre-eminence in the documentation, library and translation field, was yet to fully harness the potential of information technology in library, information, documentation and translation activities. It was at this time, in 1989, that Prof. T. Viswanathan, Professor at the Supercomputer Education and Research Centre, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore joined CSIR-INSDOC as its Director.

He not only ushered in ICT applications in CSIR-INSDOC but also advocated its applications for library, information and translation activities in the country at large. Through his writings and lectures, he gave a vision for future libraries in India. Even before the advent of Internet, through the establishment of the Scientific and Industrial Research Network (SIRNET), CSIR-INSDOC under Prof. Viswanathan's stewardship interconnected many institutions, set up email systems and enabled access to indigenous online databases. A number of office automation, library automation and networking projects were undertaken during his tenure.

Prof. T. Viswanathan passed away on 31 May 2012.

Expressing condolences, Prof. Samir K Brahmachari, DG CSIR noted, "He was an erudite man whose scholarship earned him recognition wherever he went. His phenomenal grasp of digital technologies, database management techniques particularly in the context of libraries and database related technologies, made him greatly sought after, especially so because the field was still opening in India."

"His treatise on telecommunication switching system and network is still greatly appreciated."

"CSIR will treasure his memory because his work greatly helped in the development of the field in India."

The CSIR-NISCAIR family deeply mourns the sudden demise of its Ex-Director, Prof. T. Viswanathan.

Director & CSIR-NISCAIR Family