

G. Sethumadhava Rao



(1923-2008)

The news of passing away of G. Sethumadhava Rao in the early hours of 5-12-2008 in Pune came as a shock. He was an eminent engineering geologist whose contribution to water and power resources development is commendable. He was a life member of the Geological Society of India.

Sri G. Sethumadhava Rao was born on 15-12-1923 at Bangalore. The eldest son of Sri G. Jairam Rao, a gazetted Railway officer; Sri Sethumadhava Rao completed M.Sc. majoring in engineering Geology from Central College, Bangalore in 1945. After a brief stint as a lecturer in Geology at Central College, he joined Geological Survey of India (GSI) on 11-12-1948. During his service in GSI, he made valuable contribution to the engineering geology. He was

initially associated with the foundation treatment of Hirakud Dam foundation. Later he was involved in a number of major dam projects all over India like Hirakud, Koyna, Bhakra-Nangal, Teesta etc. During his tenure, he was posted to various offices at different locations of the country. He retired as Director, Engineering Geology Division, Eastern Region, Calcutta on 31-12-1981. After 33 years of service in GSI, his contribution to the various irrigation and hydro-power projects was recognized by the World Bank and included Sri Rao in their panel for Review of World Bank Aid Projects in Orissa.

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