

Sanjay Kumar Biswas

(1945-2013)



Sanjay Kumar Biswas, a distinguished tribologist and educator, was on the faculty of mechanical engineering at the Indian Institute of Science since 1976. He made significant contributions in many aspects of tribology including contact mechanics, surface roughness measurement, single-point abrasion tests, nano-indentation, nano-tribology, and cutting fluids. His untiring efforts led to the development of indigenously built tribological instruments. He had extensive collaborations with the industry and world leaders in his area.

In addition to being an able researcher throughout his career, he also proved to be an effective administrator. He knew how to enthuse people around him and take up new initiatives. Undergraduate programme in IISc, IIScPress, and Bioengineering Programme in IISc are few of his many initiatives. He occupied a prestigious Department of Biotechnology Chair to work at the Translational Health Sciences and Technology Institute, Gurgaon, at the time of his untimely death. It was his dream to set up a National Biodesign Alliance and bring clinicians, researchers, and industry people to work towards improving the healthcare system in India.

Sanjay Biswas was a man of many interests. He ran a journal entitled Bulletin of Sciences for many years to popularize science. He was engaged in social activities to help the poor and deprived sections of the society. He was fond of music, trekking, and good food. He wrote about South Indian Temple Architecture and enjoyed history and literature. His eternal optimism and unbridled enthusiasm for everything he did are remembered by all who interacted with him.