

# Memorials

## Dr. Sohanlal Nagda

Dr. Sohanlal Nagda was born on September 25, 1936 at Khachraud in Madhya Pradesh, India. He studied at Holkar College in Indore and obtained Master's and Doctorate Degrees from Vikram University in the years 1960 and 1981 respectively. He started his career as Assistant Professor in Economics at Hamidia Arts and Commerce College, Bhopal. He had undergone several short-term courses in demography and mathematical economics and later joined as Assistant Director in April 1973 and became the Director in 1974 in the Department of Population Studies, Sri Venkateswara University, Tirupati.

He was the founder head of the Department and developed the Department with the financial assistance of Family Planning Association of India and subsequently from University Grants Commission. During his stewardship he vigorously promoted the cause of imparting Population Education at the Department, in the affiliated colleges and at the National and International levels through different agencies. He was a scholar committed to the promotion of population education and did his best for the cause of the subject. He took initiative to start population studies at degree and post-graduate levels in S. V. University.

During the last one decade he had participated in several national and international conferences and workshops on population studies. He also brought out several publications on population education besides organising periodically many workshops, seminars etc., for the benefit of school and college teachers and other people in different walks of life.

In recognition of his hard work and contribution in the field of population education, he was given the responsibility to promote population education component of the Second India Population Project funded by the World Bank. He was also member of several Academic Bodies and Committees such as U.G.C., I.A.S.P., I.U.S.S.P., etc.

During the peak of his career, his life has ended abruptly which is an irreparable loss not only to his family but also to the profession and to the Department. A few days before his sudden demise (9-2-1984), he was appointed as

Dean, Faculty of Arts of S. V. University, Tirupati. He leaves behind him a son, daughter and wife.

### **Mr. V. C. Chidambaram**

Mr. V. C. Chidambaram, a leading Demographer from India expired suddenly due to a massive heart attack in London on 3 July 1984.

Born in an orthodox, middle class family in the State of Kerala, Mr. Chidambaram did his basic education in Kerala and took his master's degree in Statistics from the University of Kerala, Trivandrum, in 1956. He joined the Bureau of Economics and Statistics of the State Government, Kerala, and worked there for a few years before he joined the Certificate Course in Demography at the International Institute for Population Sciences (then called the Demographic Training and Research Centre) in August 1961. After completing the Certificate Course he joined the Diploma Course (which is a post-Certificate Course) for the academic year 1962-63 and served as a Junior Faculty Member of the Institute, from 1963-67. During the period of his study and work at IIPS, Bombay, 'Chid' (as he was popularly known) endeared himself to one and all by his abilities as a teacher, researcher and a colleague. He went to England in 1967 to teach at the University of Southampton. He also worked for some time at the Population Unit of the Economic Commission for Europe in Geneva.

He joined the World Fertility Survey in 1973 and until his death he was associated with the WFS in all its activities and contributed immensely to the professional development and geographic coverage of WFS. He was not only a good professional demographer but also a competent administrator, who helped the growth of the WFS as an important International research organization. The first Director of the WFS, late Sir Maurice Kendall held Chid in great regard and warm affection. Sir Maurice and Chid worked together in perfect unison in steering the rough waters of professional cynicism and bureaucratic entanglement which the WFS had to face in its early years. Over the years their sustained efforts paid off, and the large number of high quality scientific publications numbering over a thousand brought out during the past ten years bear an ample testimony and rich tribute to the vigour, enthusiasm and professionalism that 'Chid' brought to WFS.

Chid was a great friend, well-wisher and supporter of demographic training and research programmes of the developing countries, and though he spent a number of years of his professional life in England, his heart was always in India and he used to spend a few months every year in his home town in Kerala. Whenever he used to pass through Bombay, he made it a point to visit his alma-mater to see his friends and had fruitful discussions with them. He helped to