

## **In Memorium Professor R. P. Goyal (1934-1997)**

The untimely demise of Professor R. P. Goyal on 4th December 1997 at the age of 63 was a tragic loss to all his friends, colleagues and the academic community. Professor Goyal joined Population Research Centre (then Demographic Research Centre), in the Institute of Economic Growth, Delhi, right at its inception in 1957 after completing his master's degree in Economic Statistics from Delhi University. Later, in 1966, he completed his post-graduate course in Population Studies at the University of Chicago as a Fellow of the Population Council, New York. He continued to be on the faculty of the Institute till his superannuation in 1994. He was on the Board of Governors of the Institute of Economic Growth (IEG) and served on several important committees of the IEG and made valuable contribution in the administration of the Institute.

In population studies, his area of specialisation was the study of nuptiality. Besides he had a number of contributions in the fields of fertility, mortality and family planning. Some of his notable contributions include: *Age at Marriage in India (1986)*; *Nuptiality Trends in Rajasthan (1987)*; *Marriage Age in India (1988)*; *Mortality in India - Trends and Prospects (1994)*.

He had special interest in the activities of the Indian Association for the Study of Population (IASP). A need was felt for a professional association of the population scientists at an informal meeting of Indian scholars at the IUSSP Conference in London in 1969. Professor Goyal volunteered immediately at the meeting to contribute towards framing the Memorandum of Association and rules and regulations of the Association. Holding a degree in law, he played a leading role in getting the IASP registered in October 1971. He was one of the founder members and was the first Treasurer of the ad-hoc Executive Committee of the IASP in 1971. When the Association became fully functional, he was elected to the Executive Committee a number of times and functioned as its Treasurer for several years. He also remained as an elected member on the Board of Trustees of the Association.

He was quite popular in the Institute's Campus and would always lend a helping hand to all those who needed even in odd hours. He was a person of amiable manners and his sweet disposition is still fresh in the memory of his friends. After his superannuation, he gave free legal advice to the needy. He is survived by his wife, a

superannuation, he gave free legal advice to the needy. He is survived by his wife, a son and two daughters. All are well settled. The members of the Association will miss him at the Annual General Body meetings, where his presence was felt in raising the issues of common interest to members of the Association.

*Institute of Economic Growth  
Delhi-110007  
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R. P. Tyagi