



## Obituary



**Dr. K.R. Sonar**

(September 7, 1939 to February 10, 2021)

Dr. Kashinath R. Sonar, Former Head, Department of Soil Science and Agricultural Chemistry, Mahatma Phule Agricultural University (MPAU), Rahuri, Maharashtra, India passed away on 10<sup>th</sup> February 2021. Dr. Sonar completed his B.Sc. (Agri.) in 1961 from Pune University, M.Sc. (Agri.) in 1966 from Nagpur University and Ph.D. (Soil Science) in 1979 from MPAU, Rahuri and INSFFER course in 1984 from International Rice Research Institute (IRRI), Philippines. He started his carrier as Assistant Professor in 1966. He was selected as Associate Professor in 1971 and promoted as Professor in 1990 and then as Head of the Department of Soil Science and Agricultural Chemistry, MPAU, Rahuri in 1996. He retired as Head of the Department Soil Science and Agricultural Chemistry on 30<sup>th</sup> September 1997.

Dr. Sonar had an experience of more than 35 years in soil testing and soil chemistry. He published 125 scientific research papers in various national and international journals of repute, 40 technical papers, 50 popular papers, 125 papers presented at conferences, seminars, workshops, symposia, farmers rallies, *etc.* and also written four books related to Soil Science.

Dr. Sonar was a recipient of various awards such as Award for Research in Agriculture (1988) by All India Suvarnkar Community, Jalgaon; Award for Best Presentation of Paper (1994) by Sugarcane Technologists Association of India, New Delhi; Fellowship by Indian Society of Soil Science (ISSS), New Delhi (1998) for outstanding research in soil testing for efficient use of fertilizers; Award for Best Senior Citizen Worker (2001) by the Federation of Senior Citizens of Maharashtra, Mumbai and Life Time Achievement Award 2014 by Parbhani Chapter of Indian Society of Soil Science (Vasantrao Naik Marathwada Krishi Vidyapeeth, Parbhani) in 2015 at state level seminar held at Dr. Panjabrao Deshmukh Krishi Vidyapeeth, Akola, Maharashtra.

Dr. Sonar was engaged in scientific writings till his departure to heavenly abode. Indian Society of Soil Science (ISSS) and Rahuri Chapter of ISSS in particular, pays their homage to Dr. Sonar. He will be truly missed by the entire fraternity of the ISSS family. All the members of ISSS pray to the Almighty to grant peace to the departed soul and give enough strength to the bereaved family to bear this irreparable loss.