



## UTTARAKHAND STATE COUNCIL FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

### उत्तराखण्ड राज्य विज्ञान एवं प्रौद्योगिकी परिषद

Department of Information and Science Technology, Government of Uttarakhand | सूचना एवं विज्ञान प्रौद्योगिकी विभाग, उत्तराखण्ड शासन

www.ucost.in

#### Dr Rajendra Dobhal

FNASc

Director General

Secretary

National Academy of  
Sciences India, UK Chapter

Former CMD

National Research  
Development Corporation  
Gol, New Delhi

Vigyan Sadan Block  
Dehradun-248 007  
Uttarakhand, INDIA

(t) + 91-9412051556

(e) dg@ucost.in  
drdobhal@gmail.com

#### डॉ० राजेन्द्र डोभाल

एफ.एन.ए.एससी

महानिदेशक

सचिव

राष्ट्रीय विज्ञान अकादमी भारत  
उत्तराखण्ड अध्याय

### OBITUARY

#### Dr S.K. Joshi

(6<sup>th</sup> June 1935- 15<sup>th</sup> May 2020)

India has lost a great scientist, science policy expert, awesome teacher and an extraordinary human being when an acclaimed physicist of the country Padm Bhushan Dr S.K. Joshi left us on 15 May 2020 at the age of 86 at his residence in Gurugram, Haryana. As a fellow Uttarakhandi, I personally feel immense loss to our state. Dr Joshi was born on 6th June 1935 in village of Anarpa, Uttarakhand.

I have been in his close contact for his valuable mentorship and guidance since I took over Directorship of newly established Uttarakhand State Council for Science & Technology (UCOST) in 2005 at Dehradun. With his meticulous observations, critical analyses and planning on any scientific and science policy issue, I have been among other who impressed with it.

The Council have been fortunate to have his gracious presence on various occasions. However, his visits for Review Meeting of *Uttarakhand Science Education and Research Centre* (USERC) in 2006 and second time as recipient of Uttarakhand S&T Excellence Award-2009 are worth mentioning. This award is bestowed to the scientists and academicians of Uttarakhand origin for their exceptional contribution in science and technology. Besides, I am fortunate to have interactions with him many a times at various places during meetings and conferences. His concerns for Uttarakhand were deeply rooted and I took privilege to discuss issues to establish science as catalyst of development in fragile ecosystem of this Himalayan state and to develop scientific aptitude among fellow citizens.

His great academic, scientific achievements and contribution on policy matters are not hidden. After schooling from his native place, Dr Joshi obtained his degree of BSc, MSc and later PhD in physics from Allahabad University in 1962. He was Professor of physics at the University of Roorkee (Now IIT Roorkee) from 1967 till 1986 and later he joined National Physical Laboratory as director from 1986-1991. With outstanding capacity and capability of administration for science policy and R&D, he was deputed the prestigious position of Director General of Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR) from 1991 till 1995.

In recognition of his immense contribution to the physical science, he had been elected as the Fellow of various academies such as, Indian National Science Academy (INSA) New Delhi; Indian Academy of Sciences (IASc) Bangalore; National Academy of Sciences India (NASI) Allahabad; and The World Academy of Sciences (TWAS), Italy. He has also been foreign member of the Russian Academy of Sciences. Dr Joshi had also been deputed as the President of various science academies/ associations in India such as, Indian Physics Association during 1989-90; INSA, New Delhi from 1993 till 1995; the Indian Science Congress Association for the year 1996-97; Material Research Society of India during 1995-97; and NASI, Allahabad during 2001-02.

For his outstanding and distinguished contribution, Dr Joshi was awarded Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Award (1972); CSIR Silver Jubilee Award (1973); Meghnad Saha Award (1974); FICCI Award (1990); C.V. Raman Medal by INSA in 1999, and many more.

For his exceptional contribution in the field of S&T, Government of India awarded him Padmshri in 1991 and Padbhushan in 2003. He was also awarded D.Sc. (Honoris causa) by Kumaun University in 1994; Kanpur University in 1995; Banaras Hindu University in 1996; University of Burdwan in 2005, and Bhimrao Ambedkar University (former Agra University) in 2008.

Council had also a distinct privilege to honour such a great man of Uttarakhand soil with Uttarakhand S&T Excellence Award-2009 during our 4th Uttarakhand State S&T Congress, organized at GB Pant University of Agriculture & Technology.

The Council and NASI Uttarakhand Chapter express deepest condolence on sad demise of Dr Joshi. His legacy of academics and research in physics will be cherished forever by his students and researchers.

**Dr Rajendra Dobhal**