



DR. PREM KRISHNA

Brief Curriculum Vitae

Born March 1938, Dr. Prem Krishna obtained his early degrees from the University of Roorkee - BE(Civil) in 1959, ME(Structures) in 1961. He obtained his Doctorate from Imperial College, London in 1964, and, joined the faculty of Civil Engineering at the University of Roorkee in 1965 and retired there from in 1998. He however maintained contact with the institution in adjunct positions till 2007. Dr. Prem Krishna also had teaching assignments at the University of Illinois, Urbana, USA (1968-69), and, the Imperial College of London, UK (1969-70). In addition to being a committed teacher, he has been keenly active in R&D and maintained close interaction with industry in the areas of Steel structures, Long span structures & wind engineering.

Professor Prem Krishna set after in earnest to develop the field of Wind Engineering in India in 1978. He was responsible for leading a group of faculty members at the department of Civil Engineering, University of Roorkee in pursuing research in, and, established excellent facilities for experimental studies in industrial aerodynamics. Development of other wind tunnels in the country followed. Currently a state-of-art wind tunnel being set up by the Japee group of industries in Guna is about to become functional. Thus, the country has moved towards a fair degree of self - sufficiency in tackling the wind load related problems concerning the large numbers of wind sensitive structures – towers, chimneys, buildings, bridges – required for infrastructure development. The efforts have been recognized internationally and the country is squarely on the World Map of Wind Engineering, with Prem Krishna regarded as the leading person in the Country. He served as President, International Association of Wind Engineering from 1991 to 1995.

Dr. Prem Krishna took the initiative to organize the first Asia-Pacific Symposium on Wind Engineering at the University of Roorkee in 1985 – this has since become a four-yearly conference, revolving amongst the AP economies. He along with a few other colleagues set up the Indian Society of Wind Engineering in 1993 to create a platform for interaction between engineers and scientists interested in the area of wind. He served as its first President for seven years. The ISWE organized successfully the 9th International Conference on Wind Engineering at Delhi in 1995.

Prem Krishna has made significant contributions towards wind disaster mitigation efforts of the country. He has been a member of the expert group which produced the Vulnerability Atlas of India, published in 1997 and revised in 2007. This is a single most useful document to provide the basic data for planning the natural disaster mitigation programme of the country. As Chairman of Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) Sectional Committee on Cyclone Resistant Structures, he has helped develop relevant standards. He has also been actively involved in the development of other wind - related design codes. Amongst his awards and honours, are, the Life-time achievement award 2013, by the Indian Society of Wind engineering, celebrating its 20 years of establishment, Distinguished Alumnus Award, 2012, IIT Roorkee and a Commemorative Volume released in his honour, at the National Conference on Wind Engineering, Nagpur, February 2004.