

OBITUARY

It is with a sense of great disbelief, shock and terrible sadness that I would like to intimate to you about the sudden passing away of Prof. Surajit Sengupta in the early morning hours of today, while he was attending an online APS meeting. Surajit was an outstanding academician and an excellent person. He was child-like in his attitude and was very warm to all his colleagues, students and friends. His role in establishing TCIS/TIFRH cannot be over emphasized. He was among the very first faculty who joined this Institute and played a major role in all the aspects of the Institutes development. He will be sorely missed.

Surajit was a senior Professor and Dean at TIFR-Hyderabad. Prior to joining TIFRH he was a faculty member at the SN Bose centre and at the IACS in Kolkata. He also worked at IGACR, Kalpakkam. Surajit was born in 1962 and did his schooling from Don Bosco School in Kolkata. After that, he completed his B Tech in Metallurgy from IIT-Kharagpur in 1984. He then joined the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) for his PhD in Physics and worked with Prof. TV Ramakrishnan and Prof. HR Krishnamurthy on "Studies in Density Functional Theory of Freezing: Colloids, Interfaces and the Flux Lattice in High Tc Superconductors". He completed his thesis in 1991 He then spent a couple of years in Prof. Kurt Binder's group in Mainz as a Humboldt Postdoctoral fellow.

Surajit's research work has been held in very high regard by his peers all over the world. He was elected to the fellowship of the National Academy of Sciences, Allahabad and to the Indian Academy of Sciences Bangalore.

Surajit is survived by his wife Sarmishta and daughter Malavi. Our deepest, heartfelt condolences to them.

Prof. V. Chandrasekhar
Centre Director, TIFR Hyderabad