

Dr. M. Prithviraj, obtained his bachelor degree from Bangalore University and Masters from Mysore University in Margine Geology.

He taught at the **Department of Marine Geology at Mangalore University** before joining the **Centre for Earth Science Studies (CESS), Trivandrum** in 1984, where he completed his Doctorate on Near Inner-shelf sediments. While at CESS his main areas of research was on near shore sediment dynamics of South-Central Kerala and the Lakshadweep Islands.

He joined the **Department of Space** as a Scientist at Regional Remote Sensing Service Centre at Kharagpur where he developed and executed several in-house research projects related to satellite RS applications for geomorphologic and coastal zone mapping and monitoring, as well as participated in the National Missions of ISRO viz. the Integrated Mission for Sustainable Development (IMSD) and Natural Resource Information System (NRIS) programmes.

At the **Department of Science and Technology**, he was initially associated with the Natural Resources Database Management System (**NRDMS) Program**, where he evolved sub-programs on Coastal Zone Management and Conservation, Ground water modeling and Promotion of SAR Interferometry. He actively participated in the implementation of a **UNDP project** on “GIS technologies in local level development planning” and exclusively contributed towards implementation of training modules in the areas on Remote Sensing Applications and Ground Water Management.

Later he got involved in the coordination of the **Earth System Sciences Program**, where he nurtured- application of remote sensing in resource evaluation, Water Resources Management, Quaternary paleo-climate reconstruction, Geo-Archeology etc. He also took keen interest to establish major national research facilities as well as development of scientific manpower, in earth sciences and designed the research program on **‘Dynamics of Glaciers in the Himalaya’** and executed the same through a network of institutions to generate data/information on Glaciers across the Himalayan chain.

When **Tsunami** hit the coast of India – he quickly supported a network of institutions to carry out the scientific studies to support the administration and to understand the effects/ recovery of the eco-system.

He was involved in the preparation of the mission document on **‘National Mission on Sustaining Himalayan Ecosystem’** – one of the eight national missions identified by the Government of India in the context of Climate Change mitigation initiatives.



He is currently on deputation from DST – Govt. of India, to the **Karnataka State Council for Science and Technology (KSCST)** since May 2010 as its Executive Secretary. Here, he is directing the execution of scientific programs related to Water harvesting, Watershed management, Information Management, Science Promotional activities, Biofuels etc. He is actively engaged in the programme on – **Virtual Laboratory / Class** aimed at higher primary school children in rural schools to access learning materials for assisted self study. Implementing a technology demonstration project '**Laser Scanning of Historical Monuments of Hampi, Karnataka**' – under the Indian Digital Heritage Programme of India - for creation of 3D models of the monuments. He is setting up a **Multi-media Studio** at the Council to beam lectures of eminent scientists for access by students all over the country and beyond.

He is Co-ordinating an Industrial R&D Programme between Karnataka and Israel for development of commercially viable products and evolving a Region to Region knowledge co-operation programme between institutions and Industries of Karnataka with Bordeaux Region in France.

Dr. M. Prithviraj has to his credit several national and international publications. He has led technical delegations to Europe and has participated in several symposia both in India and abroad and presented papers. He is serving as member on several committees at the national level.

Has undergone advanced training in the area of – Ocean Mining at Malta and W. Germany, and on SAR Interferometry at Cape Town University, Cape Town. Has participated in research cruises in the Central Indian Ocean Basin and off Kerala and Lakshadweep.