



OBITUARY

Dr. Dnyaneshwar Ruprao Kene (1939 - 2021)

Dr. Dnyaneshwar Kene was the founder and president of the Association of Soils and Crops Research Scientists from 1991-2020. He was the Chief-in- Editor of “Journal of Soils and Crops” from 1991 to 2008. He retired as a Professor of Soil Science and Agriculture Chemistry, Dr. Panjabrao Deshmukh Krishi Vidyapeeth Akola, India in 1997. At 82 years of well lived life, he passed away at Mumbai on 7 June 2021.

Dr. Kene was a man of great learning and wisdom; strong character and a generous heart. For his family, friends, colleagues and students, he was always there to selflessly guide and help and had set an example to strive hard, be fearless and do one's best. He was the guiding light and the “go to” person for all difficulties and all subjects. He shaped several lives and was the wind beneath many wings!!

Dr. Kene worked in various Agriculture Colleges, with hundreds of students in his career of over 35 years. He was a dedicated teacher and guide to many students, particularly M.Sc.(Ag.) and Ph.D. students. Even after retirement, he guided students Ph.D. aspirants and consulted with several companies in setting up their research laboratory and formulating fertilizers including a project on utilization of fly ash from thermal power station in Agriculture.

Dr. Kene was born in a small village in Amaravati, Maharashtra in a family with no educational background and steadily declining wealth. With no family support, Dr. Kene struggled a lot physically, mentally and financially but persevered being a bright, and hardworking student. He completed his graduate (B.Sc., Ag.) and post graduate (M.Sc., Ag.) studies as a topper. Later he earned Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.). While he achieved a lot, he was capable of lot more. Unfortunately, he had to pass up many excellent opportunities due to financial hardships.

Dr. Kene believed in sharing his knowledge. He wrote textbooks on Agricultural Chemistry, published many research papers and founded magazine to collaborate with fellow scientists. He supported many social causes and positively influenced many lives. He was an inspiration to many due to his dedication to work, sincerity and positive outlook irrespective of hardships and challenges. We will miss his guidance and gentle presence. May he inspire many scientists and students to achieve their best and contribute to the field!!

We all pray to almighty that his soul rest in eternal peace and give strength and solace to members of his family to bear this bereavement

All Founder and Patron Members
Association of Soils and Crops
Research Scientists, Nagpur (MS), India