BioSpect
the business of Bi
24 years of leveraging the business of Bio
www.biospectrumindia.co

Renowned biologist Siddiqi passes away

29 July 2013 | News | By BioSpectrum Bureau

Renowned biologist Siddiqi passes away



Obaid Siddiqi, National Research Professor at the National Centre for Biological Sciences, Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR) died in a road accident recently on July 21 in Bangalore, which caused him severe brain injuries. Siddiqi is survived by his wife Asiya, sons Imran and Kaleem, and daughters Yumna and Diba.

Siddiqi, born in 1932 in Uttar Pradesh, received his early education at Aligarh Muslim University. He received his Phd from the University of Glasgow, working on microbial genetics with Guido Pontecorvo. He pursued his post-doctoral research with Alan Garen at Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory and University of Pennsylvania. In 1962, at the invitation of Homi Bhabha, he set up the Molecular Biology Unit at TIFR in Mumbai. The formation of this unit is widely respected as a transformational event in the genre of modern biology research in India.

He has been honored with Padma Vibhushan, Padma Bhushan, Bhatnagar Prize, INSA Golden Jubilee Medal, Birla Samarak Kosh National Award, Goyal Foundation Prize, Aryabhatta Medal by INSA, Bhasin Foundation Prize, Science Congress Plaque of Honours, BC Roy Award for Biomedical Research and Firodia Award for Basic Sciences. He was also the recipient of Biospectrum Lifetime achievement award in 2011.

Prime minister Manmohan Singh and Vice President M Hamid Ansari condoled the demise of eminent biologist. The Prime Minister said Siddiqi was among that crop of scientists who helped lay the foundation of our country's scientific research effort.