

## ***PROF. A.C. PANDYA***



Professor Amarendra Chandrashankar Pandya was born on 15 January, 1921 in the Diamond City of Surat, Gujarat, India. He did Bachelor of Electrical and Mechanical Engineering in 1946 from the College of Engineering, Pune, University of Bombay, India. Later he earned his M.Sc. (Super Grade) in Agricultural Engineering in 1949 from Iowa State University, Ames, USA.

During his illustrious career, Prof. Pandya worked as Head, Agricultural Engineering Department, and Head, Rice Process Engineering Center, IIT Kharagpur; Director (TMD), National Dairy Development Board; Director, Central Institute of Agricultural Engineering, Bhopal, Gujarat Energy Development Agency (GEDA); Sardar Patel Renewable Energy Research Institute, Gujarat. He was also on international assignment as Project Manager of UN-ESCAP Regional Network for Agricultural Machinery (RNAM) at IRRI, Los Banos, The Philippines.

During his an excellent professional/Service Career of about 38 years, he was involved in teaching, research, institutional building, development, execution, administration and management. He has guided about 110 M.Tech and 22 Ph.D Students. He was a Member/Chairman of a number of Professional Committee related to Agricultural and Food Engineering and allied Sciences. At IIT, Kharagpur, he guided the destiny of the Department of Agricultural Engineering in its formative period bringing recognition and shaping its growth and development. He initiated several pioneering Research Projects like PL-480, Collaborative programmes with North Carolina State University, Louisiana State University and with several other International Organizations. He established the Rice Process Engineering Centre at IIT, Kharagpur which played a significant role in rice mill modernization in India.

At CIAE, Bhopal, he was responsible for shaping the future of Agricultural Engineering in India. He has contributed significantly in establishing a number of modern dairy plants and renewable energy facilities in India and also guided agricultural engineering academic and R&D programmes.

He is a founder, life member of ISAE (1960), fellow (1966) and was awarded the Commendation medal in 1970-71 and Gold Medal in 1974. Prof. Pandya has been Vice-President of ISAE during 1960-62 and President during 1974-78. He was given an Honorary Degree of Doctor of Science in 2008 by Sardar Krushinagar Dantiwada Agricultural University, Gujarat and an Honourary Degree of Doctor of Literature in 2010 by Anand Agricultural University, Gujarat.

He has visited a number of Countries like China, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, South Korea, Srilanka, Thailand, UK and USA. His efforts, dedication, discipline and foresight have now become the pillars of Agricultural Engineering profession and guide it in excelling its academic and R&D programmes.

In recognition of his contribution to the profession, the Society confers the Mason Vaugh Award to Prof. A. C. Pandya