

## OBITUARY



**Dr. Mahesh Kumar Biswal**

**05.02.1956 - 14.06.2023**

Dr. Mahesh Kumar Biswal was born in a small village Srijanga of Balasore district of Odisha near Bahanaga station which recently got noticed because of the tragic triple Coromandal train accident on 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2023. Dr. Biswal also worked there day and night for injured passengers and worked relentlessly for 48 hours in blood collection camps for which local people, administration including Collector of Balasore and politicians were overwhelmed and surprised. But unfortunately few days later, he went to heavenly abode on 14<sup>th</sup> June 2023 in the morning at 7AM before he could be felicitated. Astonishingly the man who worked his full life for blood collection and blood examination, passed away on the World blood donor day; 14<sup>th</sup> June.

He did MBBS and MD in Pathology in 2001 from VIMSAR, Burla and started his professional career from Vardhaman district of West Bengal in 1980. In next years, he worked in different places of Odisha like Koraput, Phulbani, Balasore, Mayurbhanj but maximum period of his professional life was spent in VIMSAR, Burla. He retired as Additional Director Level-I of Odisha health services. He was a good human being, always smiling and friendly and very popular not only among students but also among patients and public young and old alike. He was very hardworking, simple, honest and a man of principles. He had organised many blood donation camps throughout Odisha and created awareness of donating blood among youths. Towards later part of his life, he worked in blood bank of Balasore where he breathed his last.

Dr. Biswal was also praised and remembered for his outstanding contribution for control of Cholera by taking multiple innovative steps and continuous hard work. He was a leading person in organising any event and would always be very supportive. During his posting in Burla Medical College, he used to be a pillar of support and mentor for postgraduates in Pathology and helped them a lot. Here, he worked for the development of department and college. Each and every student, faculty and staff remembers him fondly. After winning Gandhi award for his commendable social work in periphery areas of Odisha he was popularly being referred as 'Gandhi Biswal'. After his death, many doctors, staff, politicians, organisers, local public and students went to his home for the last 'darshan' and paid tribute to his noble soul. He had attended the 19<sup>th</sup> HQCME in 2023 at Cuttack and many had seen him there for the last time. News of his death had spread grief and sorrow and created an irreparable loss among medical fraternity, staff, public and students.

He is lived by his wife, two sons (both are engineers and well established) and only daughter.

Odisha association of Pathologists mourns his death, conveys heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family and pray God for the noble soul to rest in heavenly abode.