



## Condolence Message

We, the family members of the Physical Research Laboratory (PRL), Ahmedabad, express our deepest condolences at the sad demise of Prof. Sudhir Pradyumna Pandya, former Director, PRL, on 30 June, 2019, at the age of 90 years.

Prof. S.P. Pandya obtained his B.Sc. (1948) from Bombay University, M.Sc. (1950) from Delhi University, and Ph.D. (1957) from University of Rochester, New York under the guidance of Prof. J. B. French. Prof. Pandya joined PRL, Ahmedabad, as a Reader (1957) and was the Director of PRL during 1983-87. Prof. Pandya superannuated in July, 1988. He was a Visiting Research Fellow at UCLA and a Visiting Research Associate at Argonne National Laboratory (1963-64).

The Government of Gujarat conferred on him the Vikram Sarabhai Award for his sustained contributions to science. He was Founder Fellow and twice President of the Gujarat Science Academy. He was elected as the President of the Indian Physics Association and the Indian Association of Physics Teachers. He was an elected Fellow of the Indian Academy of Sciences, Bangalore and the Indian National Science Academy, New Delhi. Prof. Pandya published about 60 research papers, guided five Ph.D. students and many postdoctoral fellows. One of his several important research contributions in nuclear physics was a theorem (1956), connecting the energy levels in jj coupling of a nucleon-nucleon and nucleon-hole system is well-known in the world as the "Pandya Theorem".

Prof. Pandya was the first theoretical physicist to join PRL where he established a large group of nuclear physicists, atomic physicists, plasma physicists as well as scientists interested in astrophysics, general relativity and atmospheric dynamics. He later became active in programs of science education and science popularization in Gujarat.

We will miss him immensely for his gentle personality, inherent humane quality and critical though ever encouraging presence. The PRL family has lost a brilliant theoretical physicist, a mentor, a scientific leader, a well-wisher and a friend.

We express our deepest and heartfelt condolences to his bereaved family and we are with them in this moment of deep sorrow. May the Almighty help them find the strength to bear this enormous loss. Our hearts go out to them in this hour of grief.

In his passing, PRL and the global scientific fraternity has lost an inspiring researcher and a great motivator. May his soul rest in peace.

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अनिल भारद्वाज  
Anil Bhardwaj  
निदेशक / Director