

Prof MS Swaminathan, a humanitarian, compassionate, loving individual of extraordinary intellect, memory and vision: "MS" as the way world knows him (28 Sep 2023; 14:00 HR)



Where to start? Not getting words to express my sadness. Sitting inside a conference hall here at IIT Roorkee in Northern part of our country, I got the message of a great Universal loss, "Prof has left us!" My colleague and a good friend Dr. Rengalakshmi of MSSRF sent the WA message to me perhaps within 5 mins or so this great soul leaving all of us. I could not resist myself and informed the organizer of the conference at IIT Roorkee and the world of engineering, medical, agriculture, space all love and respect this great man in equal

terms. And, we prayed for his holy soul here in the conference hall. It was so sudden that when I informed others in the conference hall, all were shocked and speechless and one word came from one and all "this void can not be filled in".

His love for agriculture, rural development and rural people is something to feel and if one is lucky enough like me is to learn by staying nearby to him. His love for people from all strata of life is something beyond any imagination. A man, a demi God in the field of agriculture, used to treat a student of a school, college with equal respect as he used to do it with his own colleagues. A mail, a letter from a student/an officer/a researcher/a minister/ a director or anyone will be replied with equal speed. Did he have the word "No" in his dictionary? I doubt.

At 90s he is like a young chap, full of energy and curiosity. The void which is created with his departure can not be fathomed at this moment but surely in few months or years' time. I just pray, India gets another Swaminathan very soon. Many say, its not possible. I think Prof will be the happiest person and will be blessing all of us if you get another Swaminathan amongst us. Time will say if that is possible or not. As of now, many of us will stay with the beautiful memories about him and pray to God that his holy soul rests in peace and continues blessing humanity.