

India Council Life-time Sub-Section Chair Award - 2020

(Given on December 11, 2020)

Prof VK Damodaran



V K Damodaran (LSM), graduated in Electrical Engineering from Kerala University (1962); mastered Electrical Machine Design from Madras University (1964); taught at College of Engineering, Guindy (1962- '65) under CSIR-USAID fellowship, and at Regional Engineering College, Calicut (1965- '84); and pursued part time research on Planning and Management of Energy Production and Delivery Systems (1980- '84) while at REC Calicut; spent study fellowships on Use of Solar Photovoltaic Systems for Energy Applications under COSTED in Thailand, Malaysia, and Singapore (1985); on Resource Conservation and Environmental Protection under Asian Productivity Organization in Japan (1990); and on Environmentally friendly Energy technologies under APO-UNIDO in China and Germany (1992- '93). He also coordinated a multidisciplinary, multi-institutional feasibility survey on the Potential of Micro and Mini Hydro Power in Kerala for the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Govt. of India (1983- '84). His research interests include development of systems related to energy management, resource conservation, environmental protection and renewable energy.

He served Kerala Government as Founder Director of Energy Management Centre and Secretary to Govt. Ex-officio (1996-'01); as Founder Controller of Rajiv Gandhi Centre for Biotechnology (1995- '96); Founder Director and Additional Secretary to Govt. of S&T and Environment Department (1984- '95); Electrical Inspector to Government (Southern Region) (1974- '79), and as Assistant Director and Head (Tech. Sciences) at State Institute of Languages (1973- '74). He served internationally as Managing Director of the UNIDO & UNDP sponsored International Network on Small Hydro Power, Hangzhou, China (2001- '05); and nationally as a Member of Inter- Ministerial Advisory Committee on Technology Transfer, under Prime Minister of India (1990- '92) – constituted by Ministry of S&T, in addition to serving on several expert committees and policy advisory fora, as also member, convener or Chairman of Energy Planning committee of State Planning Board, Member Secretary of State Committee on S&T and Environment, and Member of Boards of Studies or Faculty Committees of Kerala, Calicut, and MG Universities and CUSAT. As a proven institution builder, technology strategist, and mentor, he is currently the R & D Director of Team Sustain Ltd., Kochi, a multi-national clean energy company & Chairman of Centre for Environment and Development, Fellow of IE (India), Hon. Fellow of SEEM, and Laurie Baker Centre.

Prof. Damodaran during his 40 years of IEEE membership has risen to Life Senior, and as a Volunteer started as Newsletter Editor, rose to Section Chair (1991), Executive Chair of India Council (2001), India Council Newsletter Editor for 10 years, Adviser GOLD/YP (2011- '15), General Chair Smart Grid Asia (2011), Government Liaison Chair (2017-'18), Consultants Network Chair (2020), General Chair PES APPEEC 2021, member in many committees and Mentor. Under R10 as Chair Life Member Committee (2016), 50-year Celebrations Org Com member; and of MGA Life Member Committee member (2017 & 2018) & EAB CGAA and EPICS sub committees (2013- '16).

Recipient of Management Leadership Award & Gold Medal (TMA 1999), IEEE 3rd Millennium Medal (2000), 2012 R10 Historical Achievement Award for Innovations in hybrid RE systems for rural energization in Africa and Asia, 2014 EAB Meritorious Achievement Award for evolving technical teacher training modules, and PES Outstanding Engineer Award (2018). A prolific science writer, editor, author, 50 years of AIR broadcasts, 30 years on TV, UN Consultant, 78 international missions in 40 years, highlighting the tagline of IEEE viz., 'Advancing Technology for Humanity' describes the work of Prof. V K Damodaran.

(Prof Sri Niwas Singh)
IEEE India Council Chair 2020