

Bumizana

Celebrating Indian Insect Diversity



An Appeal

Prof. C. A. Viraktamath, fondly called CAV by his colleagues and students, will be celebrating his 75th birthday on January 31, 2019. Prof. Viraktamath, an insect taxonomist of international repute and arguably the best known of Indian taxonomists, established one of the finest centres of insect taxonomy in the country at the University of Agricultural Sciences, Bengaluru, Karnataka. For over four decades not only did he publish highly acclaimed papers on insect taxonomy in front ranking taxonomy journals, he also taught advanced courses in insect taxonomy and at the Department of Entomology, UAS, GKVK, Bengaluru and trained students who went on to become some of the most accomplished contemporary taxonomists of the country. His single minded dedication to the cause of insect taxonomy has been a source of inspiration to insect taxonomists and amateur entomologists all over the country. The identification services that he extended to biologists across the country, and beyond, working on insects as their test organisms has been the bedrock on which their studies have depended. In addition to this he has been an extremely good field entomologist, providing very insightful solutions to pest problems troubling farmers – a fact that is often eclipsed by his accomplishments in taxonomy.

A Festschrift to honour his lifetime's contribution to the field of insect taxonomy is being planned and accomplished taxonomists and entomologists who have either been trained by him or those whose work have depended on the taxonomic services rendered by him are contributing to this volume. This volume will bring together up-to-date chapters on the state of taxonomy of different insect groups in India and will also feature chapters on insect biogeography, insect-plant interactions, insect flight mechanisms, evolution of social behaviour, etc. This volume will prove to be an indispensable reference guide to students and research workers in entomology pursuing studies on insects in the realms of taxonomy and other areas of the biosciences where insects are the focus of attention. The Festschrift being published by a CRC Press(Taylor & Francis), India will be released on the occasion.

We, his students, would like to celebrate this important landmark in his life by a befitting tribute. We humbly request you to be a part of this endeavour to felicitate CAV on his 75th birthday at GKVK, Bengaluru on 31 January 2019.

Since most students who have passed through the portals of the Department of Entomology at Bengaluru and Dharwad over the last four decades are his students in one way or the other, the organizers appeal for generous contributions from his students to conduct this event. We would be extremely grateful to you for your support and request you to send your contribution through a cheque/DD in favour of '**Bumizana - CAV-75 Celebration**' payable at Bengaluru to Professor & Head, Department of Entomology, University of Agricultural Sciences, GKVK, Bengaluru-560065. You can also send your contribution through internet transfer to the same account name and **A/c No 2737101019325** at Canara Bank, GKVK Branch, Bengaluru-560065 (**IFSC code: CNRB0002737**) and mail the transfer details to profcav75@gmail.com.

Thanking you.

B. S. Bhumannavar
Prof. CAV Felicitation Committee

Bumizana
Prof. CAV - 75 Felicitation
GKVK, Bengaluru - 560 065

75th BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS OF Prof. C. A. VIRAKTAMATH
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