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## **Tributes to a Pioneer**



**Arun Dev Chowdhury**

**(A.D. Chowdhury)**

**12-10-1937 - 11-12-2016**

We regret with deep sense of sadness that Mr. A.D. Chowdhury's passing away on 11th December 2016 at Chennai.

Mr. Chowdhury is a well known and eminent personality in the “Quality Professional Circle” and was a Rotarian for many decades. He has contributed and served Bengal Association for over 40 years.

Mr. Chowdhury after his graduation in United Kingdom joined Lucas-UK and started his career as a young engineer in Quality Department. When Lucas U.K collaborates with TVS in India to manufacture auto electrical parts – Starter, Dynamos, Wipers, Headlamps, Horns. Mr. Chowdhury was selected to work under Lucas experts, in establishing and building Quality Systems at the Chennai plant located in PADI.

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Mr. Chowdhury was known for his meticulous attention to details, thoroughness and disciplined approach. He soon established himself at Lucas-TVS and took over the reigns from the British Expatriates and contributed significantly in creating new facilities, labs and systems which even today stand the test of time. He established as early as 1968 a state of art “Metrology Lab”, which was benchmarked by other manufacturing plants and Government institutions. The principles of fearlessness, decision based on facts established by thorough investigation and adhering to established systems have become guidelines for continuous improvement.

He also devoted significant time in developing new vendors all over India, as a part of indigenisation of then imported components. He served in various capacities, member, advisor in various National Quality Standard Committees, appointed by Government of India.

He was closely associated with various professional and academic institution like College of Engineering, Guindy, Indian Institute Technology. India Statistical Institute. He was one of the early Quality Professional to introduce SPC in shop floor as early as 1970.

Mr. Chowdhury believed in sharing knowledge with Quality Professionals and that resulted in promoting an Institution called Institution for Engineering Inspection, along with eminent professionals like Mr. T.V.N. Kidao, Mr. T.S. Chandran, Mr. M.P. Govind, Mr. M.M. Krishnan and others senior Professionals of India Piston, H.M. Thiruvallur etc.

That institution has grown up over the years by the contribution of various Quality Professionals and which is known as NIQR.

His demise is a great loss for Quality fraternity. NIQR will remember his contribution to Quality profession and pay homage to the pioneer in the Quality Management field.

- Dr. N. Ravichandran