

Professor Himadri Sekhar Maiti



Professor Himadri Sekhar Maiti was born on 28th October, 1947 and finished his schooling in a village school in the state of West Bengal. He obtained Bachelor of Engineering degree in Metallurgical Engineering from the then Bengal Engineering College, Shibpur in 1969. Later he obtained his M. Tech and Ph. D degrees from IIT, Kanpur in the years 1971 and 1975 respectively with specialization in “Ceramics”.

He joined as a Member of Faculty in the Materials Science Center of IIT- Kharagpur in 1974. He visited Atomic Energy Research Establishment, Harwell, England for one year as a Post Doctoral Fellow during 1977-78. In 1987, he joined CSIR-Central glass and Ceramic Research center (CSIR-CGCRI), Kolkata as a full-time researcher and the Head of its Electro-ceramics division. In 1999 he took charge of the Institute as its Acting Director and became the regular Director in the year 2000. He continued in the same position till his retirement in the year 2009.

After retirement, he moved to CSIR Head Quarters, New Delhi and was appointed as Sr. Adviser to DG, CSIR during 2010-11. He then moved to NIT-Rourkela as a full-time visiting Professor in the Department of Ceramic Engineering. Later he was offered a position of “Distinguished Professor/ Technologist” by Indian National Academy of Engineering, New Delhi tenable at the same Institute. After some time, he moved to Govt. College of Engineering and Ceramic Technology, Beliaghata, Kolkata in the same capacity. Currently, he is working as a “Project Adviser” of this college.

During his entire research career, he has worked in many different areas like electro-ceramic materials, high Tc superconductors, ceramic gas sensors, smart materials, fuel cell and lithium battery materials, non-oxide ceramics, advanced refractories, traditional ceramics, ceramic membranes, specialty glasses etc. In the process he has supervised more than 20 Ph.D theses,

published around 250 research/ review papers/ chapters of books, and filed around 50 patents in India and abroad.

As director of CSIR-CGCRI he gave a new lease of life to this Institute introducing several new areas of research and provided courageous leadership to bring back the sense of strict discipline to the entire research and administrative activities of the Institute.

In recognition to his research contribution and administrative leadership, he has been conferred with Fellowships of 1) Indian National Academy of Engineering ; 2) National Academy of Sciences, India ; 3) Indian Institute of Ceramics ; 4) West Bengal Academy of Science and Technology ; and 5) Institute of Smart Structure and System. He has also been honored with Life Membership of 1) Indian Ceramic Society ; 2) Materials Research Society of India ; 3) Thermal Analysis Society of India ; and 4) Indian Science Congress. He has also received different awards and recognitions such as: (1) “D. N. Agrawal Memorial Award”, a lifetime achievement award by the Indian Ceramic Society in the year 2011 ; “MRSI Medal” and “ICSC-MRSI Superconductivity-Materials Science Annual Prize” by Materials Research Society of India and “Scroll of Merit” by the Indian Cryogenic Council. He has been felicitated as one of the distinguished researchers in smart materials and structures by the Institute of Smart Structures and Systems, Bangalore.

He has delivered around 150 invited lectures at different forums such as “Platinum Jubilee” lecture at Indian Science Congress Association, EC Subbarao Lecture at IIT- Kanpur, “Varshneya Memorial Lecture” and “M.G. Bhagat Memorial Lecture” at the annual meetings of the Indian Ceramic Society.

He has served as Presidents of Indian Ceramic Society for the term 2003-04 as well as West Bengal Academy of Science and Technology in recognition to his contribution to these fraternities.

He has served as Chairman / Member of several National level Committees in the departments of Science and Technology, TIFAC, MNRE, Department of electronics and Communication etc. He has also represented CSIR-CGCRI at different international forums and thereby visited UK, USA, Japan, Germany, Italy, China, Australia, Norway, Singapore etc.
