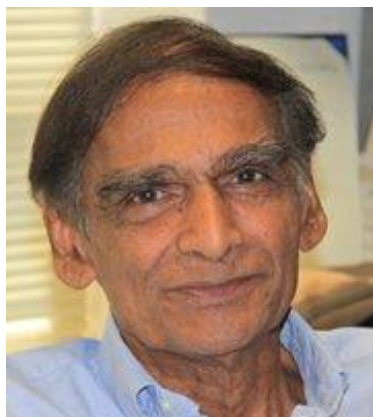


## Obituary

**Prof. Tiruvalam Natarajan Krishnamurti** (c. 1932 – February 7, 2018)



**Prof. Tiruvalam Natarajan Krishnamurti** (c. 1932 – February 7, 2018) was an world renowned meteorologist from India. He was a Professor emeritus at Florida State University, where prior to his retirement he was the Lawton Distinguished Professor of Meteorology. Dr. Krishnamurti was a B.A. in physics from Delhi University, Delhi, India, and a M.A. in meteorology from Andhra University in Visakhapatnam, India. In addition to his tenure at Florida State University, Dr. Krishnamurti previously served for five years on the faculty at the University of California – Los Angeles (UCLA). He earned his Ph.D. in Meteorology from the University of Chicago in 1959.

A pioneer in numerical weather predicting, his research interests included high-resolution forecasting of hurricane tracks, landfall, and intensities; short- and long-range monsoon prediction; and inter-seasonal and inter-annual variability of the tropical atmosphere. Among his many accomplishments, Prof. Krishnamurti led a team of Florida State University meteorologists, under the sponsorship of the university's Real-Time Hurricane Forecast Center (RTHFC). The RTHFC developed a new forecasting method called the Superensemble which has shown enormous potential in accurately predicting hurricanes, droughts, and floods.

Notably, Dr. Krishnamurti had contributed to NASA's Tropical Rainfall Measuring Mission (TRMM) and NASA's Laser Atmospheric Wind Sounder (LAWS). He was the recipient of several awards of excellence in his field including the most prestigious award in meteorology – the International Meteorological Organization Prize (in 1996) from the World Meteorological Organization – and the Carl Gustav-Rossby Research Medal of the American Meteorological Society in 1985.

The Limited area Analysis and Forecast System (LAFS) and the Global Spectral Model (GSM) were the two NWP models developed at Florida State University (FSU) under the guidance of Prof. Krishnamurti was adopted in IMD NWP division for operational run during late 20<sup>th</sup> century (1991-2000).

The Compendium on tropical meteorology for aviation purposes authored by him and published by WMO in 2003 (WMO, 930) was intended for use by aviation planners, air traffic controllers and aircrew to improve their knowledge of the basic processes governing weather in the tropics and the detailed climate and weather of the individual regions in, and adjacent to, the tropics

In 2012 the Indian Meteorological Society honoured him with Sir Gilbert Walker Gold Medal. He was also Fellow, Indian Meteorological Society.

Dr. Krishnamurti's interest in hurricanes began during his early years as a student. Professor Herbert Riehl, a pioneer on hurricane research at the University of Chicago, was his primary instructor in the late 1950's and 1960's. Dr. Krishnamurti participated in early exploratory flights into hurricanes and typhoons from West Palm Beach and Guam during those years. In 2006, he co-authored An Introduction to Global Spectral Modeling, Second Edition, Springer, 317 pp. Textbook (with H. S. Bedi, V. M. Hardiker and L. Ramaswamy)., A symposium in his honor was held in 2012 as part of the American Meteorological Society annual meeting in New Orleans.

Prof Krishnamurti died on February 7, 2018.

Indian Meteorological Society extends deepest condolences to his wife Dr. Ruby & family for this loss.



Presentation of Sir Gilbert Walker Award to Dr. T. N. Krishnamurti