



Dr Rama Iyer
Former Chairman, Thirumalai Chemicals Ltd.

Obituary

Dr Rama Iyer, formerly Chairman of TCL, passed away on the 12th Jan 2021, at his home in Coimbatore. He was 82.

He was closely associated with our Company from 1973 when TCL started work on its first Petrochemical Project.

Dr Rama Iyer was an Independent Director of our company, for nearly 20 years till 2016. He was also Non-Executive Chairman of the TCL Board for 4 years from 2012.

Dr Rama Iyer grew up in a small village in Kerala. He graduated in Chemical Engineering and thereafter completed his PhD at IIT, Bombay; he was an alumnus of the London Business School.

He started as a Project Engineer at Power Gas Ltd in 1965, and then worked as Project Manager handling prestigious projects; he quickly rose to the position of Marketing Director of Davy Power Gas Ltd. In 1990, he became Chairman and Managing Director of Davy Power Gas / Aker Kvaerner India and led the company through dramatic growth until he retired as Executive Chairman in 2007. During this period, he led his company in executing hundreds of projects, many world-scale, in India and Overseas.

Dr Rama Iyer was on the Board of a number of prominent companies. He was honoured by various Industry associations for his contributions to the Engineering, EPC and Process industries.

Following the global 2008-10 recession, when our company went through a major crisis, he took over as Non-Executive Chairman, and led the restructuring of TCL's management, and played an active role in bringing the company through to a stable and robust position from which it could grow.

On a personal note, I'm grateful for his active support and guidance during this period. He was ever a charming and cultured human being; a persuasive leader who carried the entire management along, but was decisive and firm when needed.

All of us who worked with him: the Staff, Managers, and Directors greatly profited from and enjoyed the expertise, wisdom and humour that he brought to our discussions.

He fought his illness in the last 2 years with determination, and with the constant support of his wife and his daughters, with whom he was very close. He is survived by his wife Kalpana and his daughters Sunitha & Rekha and grandchildren; and by the many hundreds of his colleagues and friends who received so much from him and admired him deeply.

We will miss him.

R.Parthasarathy,
Chairman
Thirumalai Chemicals Ltd.

Date : 18th Jan 2021