

## OBITUARY



Mr. RAMKRISHNA TULSIDAS SOMAIYA  
11/01/1932 to 26/07/2023

It is with deep regret and profound sadness we announce the passing away of the legend Mr. Ramkrishna Tulsidas Somaiya fondly known as “RTS” at the age of 92 years on Wednesday, 26 July 2023 at his residence. It is very difficult to explain in few words about his life history. He was such a knowledgeable, kind-hearted and a wonderful personality. He spent a great deal of his life impacting and investing in the lives of other people. He knew he had a gift and didn't hoard it but like a grain of wheat, he sowed it in the lives of others. We are also witnesses to just how much fruit this noble investment has yielded.

After completing his education Mr. Somaiya joined his family business of Timber. He was one of earlier persons who started the exports of Panel Products from India. At the same time he was also one of the recognized importers of various varieties of timbers from different parts of the world for India.

Ex-Chairman, Plywood and Allied Products Panel of Chemicals and Allied Products Export Promotion Council (Sponsored by Ministry of Commerce, Government of India) an apex body for exporters of Sawn Timber from India.

Vice-Chairman of Capexil for Western Region

He was also President of All India Timber Importers Association.

Committee Member Timber Development Association of India

All India Wood Products Exporters Association

Member Indian Society of Foresters, Indian Academy of Wood Science and Bombay Timber Merchants Association Ltd.

He had remained an active member of steering committee of Teaknet.

Mr. Somaiya was in his 73rd year of service in the timber trade in the year 2023.

He played a vital role in consultation for Teakwood and Sandalwood plantations across the globe.

Joint owner of Regency Wood Products Pvt. Ltd & Atlas Wood Products.

He had a very long association with timber and panel trade and the fact that he was one of the first person to start the panel exports from India.

He had immensely contributed his valuable inputs for reducing the import duty on wood and panel products to government of India for Indian Importers.

Mr. Somaiya has left an indelible mark on the trade & industry with his exceptional leadership, extensive insight and in-depth knowledge coupled with unwavering dedication. His visionary approach and commitment to excellence have played a significant role in shaping the industry's growth and development over the years. His valuable service and guidance as the Panel Chairman of Plywood Panel and Vice-Chairman of Capexil shall always be cherished and appreciated from the core.

Till his last day he was regularly sending market reports to ITTO.

Finally his passion for wood industry was truly infectious, inspiring countless individuals to strive for greater heights and milestones in their careers.

Mr. Somaiya's legacy will continue to thrive through the impact he made on the trade and industry and the lives he has touched.

He would be deeply missed by his family, friends and the industry for ever....