# Awards and Fellowships 2023

**Indian Academy of Horticultural Sciences (IAHS)**
New Delhi - 110 012

# AWARDS

## IAHS-Shivashakti Life Time Achievement Award

This award was instituted in 2006 with corpus money donated by M/s Sivashakthi Biotech Planttec Ltd., Hyderabad. It is an Apex Award given by the Indian Academy of Horticultural Sciences of India every year in the form of a cash prize of Rs. 51,000, a gold (plated) medal and a citation. The awardees are selected by considering their outstanding lifetime achievements/ contributions in the field of Horticultural Research/Development, resulting in significant impact on quality of life of people of India.

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## Girdhari Lal Chadha Award in Fruit Science

Instituted in 1992 with corpus money donated by Dr K.L. Chadha, Former Deputy Director General (Horticulture), ICAR in Fruit Science Research and Development, the award is given to a scientist who has made significant contributions and displayed leadership in R&D in Fruit Science including plantation crops as evidenced by their publications, technologies developed and their adoption, patents *etc*.

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## Dr Kirti Singh Award in Vegetable Science

Instituted in 2004 as the Horticultural Society of India Gold Medal, it was renamed as Dr Kirti Singh Gold Medal in 2007 with the corpus money donated by Dr Kirti Singh, Former Vice-Chancellor and Chairman, ASRB. This award is given to a scientist, who has made significant contributions and displayed leadership in the field of Vegetable Science, including tuber crops and spices as evidenced by publications, varieties and technology development, patents *etc*.

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## Manmohan Attavar Award in Floriculture

Instituted in 2004 and renamed in 2016, this award is given to a scientist, who has made significant contributions and displayed leadership in the field of Floriculture, including medicinal and aromatic plants as evidenced by publications, varieties and technology development, patents *etc*.

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## Dr J.C. Anand Award in Post-Harvest Management of Horticultural Crops

Instituted in 1992 at the instance of Late Dr J.C. Anand, former Project Coordinator of Postharvest Technologies on Horticultural Crops at the Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi, this award is given to individual scientist who has made significant contributions and displayed leadership in the field of Postharvest Management of Horticultural Crops as evidenced by their publications, technologies developed, patents *etc*.

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# INDIAN ACADEMY OF HORTICULTURAL SCIENCES

## HONORARY FELLOWSHIP-2023

**Prof. Chittaranjan Kole**

Born on February 26, 1954 in Bankura, West Bengal, Chittaranjan Kole is an internationally renowned academician with a spectacular professional career of about 40 years. He is the Former Vice Chancellor of Bidhan Chandra Krishi Viswavidyalaya, Kalyani, and Founding President of three International organizations, including Genome India International, International Climate Resilient Crop Genomics Consortium and International Phytomedomics and Nutriomics Consortium.

Kole started his professional career at the OUAT, Bhubaneswar. He then moved to different ranks and positions: Professor and Director at the SHUTAS, Prayagraj. His overseas experience includes a Post-Doctorate fellowship of the USSR Academy of Sciences, University of Wisconsin, USA, as an Overseas Research Associate, as a Visiting Professor at the Pennsylvania State University Clemson University, USA and as Director of the Institute of Nutraceutical Research, Clemson University.

Dr Kole published over 150 research papers and over 180 books with globally reputed publishers and guided over 30 PG and PhD students.

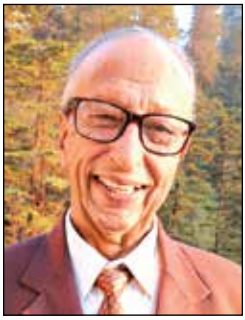
His contributions has been recognised globally by the scientific fraternity. He has been conferred with the 'Outstanding Crop Scientist Award' by the International Crop Science Society, Dr Sadgopal Memorial Award in 1985, the Crop Research Award in 2004, and the Hind Rattan (Jewel of India) Award in 2010, the ICFA Life-Time Achievement Award in 2019.

He is a fellow of the IASS, ISGPB, UPAAS and the prestigious 'Raja Ramanna Fellowship' by the Department of Atomic Energy, GoI, Honorary Fellow of The Henan Academy of Agricultural Sciences.

The Indian Academy of Horticultural Sciences deems it a great honor to confer the **IAHS Honorary Fellowship for 2023 to Prof. Chittaranjan Kole for his outstanding contributions to Plant and Horticultural Sciences.**

## INDIAN ACADEMY OF HORTICULTURAL SCIENCES

# SHIVASHAKTI LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD-2023



**Dr Sushil Sagar Negi**

Born on May 5, 1940 at Lippa, district Kinnaur, Himachal Pradesh, Dr Sushil Sagar Negi obtained B.Sc. Agriculture from Panjab University, Chandigarh, M.Sc. Horticulture from IARI, New Delhi and Ph.D. Genetics from the University of California, Davis, California, USA. Dr Negi started his career as Geneticist (Grape Breeder) at the Indian Institute of Horticultural Research, Bangalore in 1969. Later, he was selected for the Sr. Geneticist (Floriculture) post. He was selected for the post of Director Central Institute of Subtropical Horticulture, Lucknow, in 1991. Dr. Negi worked as Vice Chancellor, University of Horticulture and Forestry, Nauni, Solan, Himachal Pradesh from 2002-2005. He streamlined the R&D and extension activities of the University and established discipline in employees and students

He developed and released four varieties of grape, 14 varieties of gladiolus, 11 varieties of chrysanthemum and four varieties of China aster. He worked at Lucknow for nearly 10 years. He got the Institute Building constructed at Rehmankhera. He developed and released a mango variety named ‘Ambika’ and one variety of guava named ‘Lalit’. Ambika is red-coloured, high-yielding and regular bearing. Dr. Negi was associated with identifying the mango accession ‘Ellaichi’ as a source of resistance to malformation and the development of wilt-resistant hybrid rootstock in guava.

Dr. Negi has 167 publications to his credit. He is the recipient of the Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Memorial Award of ICAR, and Gold Medal by the Grape Growers’ Federation of India. He is a Fellow of the Indian Academy of Horticultural Sciences and the Indian Society of Genetics and Plant Breeding.

Indian Academy of Horticulture Society deems it a great honour to confer the **Shivshakti Lifetime Achievement Award for 2023 to Dr Sushil Sagar Negi for his outstanding contributions to Horticulture.**

## INDIAN ACADEMY OF HORTICULTURAL SCIENCES

# GIRDHARI LAL CHADHA AWARD IN FRUIT SCIENCE-2023

**Dr Thukkaram Damodaran**

Born on October 2, 1973 in Chennai. After his M.Sc. and Ph.D. in Horticulture from TNAU, Coimbatore, he joined ARS as a Scientist in 1998. He holds the prestigious position of Director at ICAR-CISH, Lucknow.

He played a crucial role in combatting the devastating banana Fusarium wilt disease caused by Tropical Race-4 in UP and Bihar. His contributions include the development of the bio fungicide ICAR FUSICONT, an *in-vitro* bio-immunization product, and a tissue culture protocol, which effectively controlled the spread of the disease. His research led to the development of salt-tolerant mango rootstock 'Sagarika', wilt-tolerant banana hybrid 'CO-2', and bio formulations CSR GROWSURE and CSRBIO for soil restoration in horticulture. His impressive research has also delved into the role of secondary metabolites in imparting tolerance to biotic and abiotic stress in horticultural crops.

Dr Damodaran has received many national awards for his contribution to horticulture, including the ICAR Jawaharlal Nehru Award, the DBT Biotech Product Award, and the ISCA Young Scientist Award. His pioneering work earned him IAHS fellowship.

Dr Damodaran has a robust publication record, with over 50 research papers published in high-impact journals. Furthermore, his work has led to the development of four patents with successful commercialization, further cementing his impact in horticulture.

The Indian Academy of Horticultural Sciences deems it a great honour to confer the **IAHS-Girdhari Lal Chadha Award in Fruit Science for 2023 to Dr Thukkaram Damodaran for his outstanding contributions to Fruit Science.**

## INDIAN ACADEMY OF HORTICULTURAL SCIENCES

# DR KIRTI SINGH AWARD IN VEGETABLE SCIENCE-2023

**Dr K. Madhavi Reddy**

Born on 14th August 1962 in Chittoor, District Chittoor, Andhra Pradesh. Educated at Andhra Pradesh Agricultural University, B.Sc. 1983, M.Sc. 1985 and Ph.D. 1990. Scientist, ICAR-National Academy of Agril. Research Management, Hyderabad, 1990-91; Scientist, ICAR-Indian Institute of Horticultural Research Bangalore, Karnataka, 1991-95; Scientist (Senior Scale), ICAR-Indian Institute of Horticultural Research Bangalore, Karnataka, 1995-99; Senior Scientist, ICAR-Indian Institute of Horticultural Research Bangalore, Karnataka, 1999-2007; Principal Scientist, ICAR-Indian Institute of Horticultural Research, Bangalore, Karnataka, 2007 to date.

Served as PI for GTZ-AVRDC, ADB, DBT, DST, ICAR funded projects. Registered six elite chilli lines with NBPGR and four elite chilli inbred lines with PPV&FRA, New Delhi. As Nodal Officer developed DUS guidelines for Chilli, Sweet pepper and Paprika. She was involved in guiding twenty-one M.Sc. and two Ph.D. students. She has published about 60 research papers in reputed Research Journals.

She is the recipient of several awards, including ICAR Award for 'Outstanding Interdisciplinary Team Research in Horticultural Sciences' as Team Leader during 2020 & as Team member in 2016; the ATPBR award as 'Women Achiever in Seed Sector' 2021; ICAR-IIHR 'Foundation Day Award of Excellence as Best Teacher' 2021; 'ICAR-Punjabrao Deshmukh Best Woman Agricultural Scientist Award 2022' conferred by ICAR and 'Dr. (Ms) Prem Dureja Endowment Award 2023' conferred by NAAS. She is a Fellow of NAAS, IAHS & ISVS.

The Indian Academy of Horticultural Sciences deems it a great honour in conferring the **Dr Kirti Singh Medal in Vegetable Science for 2023 to Dr K. Madhavi Reddy for her outstanding contributions to Vegetable Science.**

## INDIAN ACADEMY OF HORTICULTURAL SCIENCES

# MANMOHAN ATTAVAR AWARD IN FLORICULTURE-2023

**Dr Namita**

Born on November 1, 1981 at Hamirpur, Himachal Pradesh, Dr. Namita obtained her B.Sc. Horticulture degree from Dr. Y.S. Parmar UHF, Solan, Himachal Pradesh, M.Sc. F&LS from PAU, Ludhiana, Punjab and Ph.D. Horticulture from ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi. She was a recipient of PAU merit certificate for M.Sc. and IARI gold medal for Ph.D. degree. Presently, she is a Senior Scientist in the Division of Floriculture and Landscaping, ICAR-IARI, New Delhi.

Dr Namita has made significant contributions in the field of Floriculture and Landscaping by developing four varieties each of rose and marigold. She has worked on DNA barcoding of rose species and submitted 101 nucleotide sequences to GenBank NCBI, USA, for the first time in India and also characterized rose phytoplasmas & submitted 60 nucleotide sequences to GenBank. She has done genome-wide association mapping for floral traits in rose and molecular characterization of marigold and chrysanthemums. Besides, she worked on association mapping for floral traits in rose, *in vitro* protocol development for faster multiplication of roses, turf grass management, pigment profiling&drying techniques of flowers and drought tolerance screening in chrysanthemum. She has guided 4 students, each of M.Sc. and Ph.D. degrees. She acted as an expert in Floriculture and Landscaping in various national institutes and for national assignments.

Dr. Namita has published more than 70 research papers (> 6.00 NAAS rating), authored one textbook, 11 edited books/souvenirs, 13 technical bulletins and many book chapters & technical/popular articles. She has been awarded with Best Research Paper Awards, IAHS associate-2021 by IAHS, New Delhi, HTHS Gold Medal, SHRD Outstanding Women Scientist Award, ISOH-Best Reviewer Award, Young Women Scientist Award and Fellow of Confederation of Horticultural Associations of India.

The Indian Academy of Horticultural Sciences (IAHS) deems it a great honour to confer the **Manmohan Attavar Award in Floriculture for the year 2023 to Dr Namita for her outstanding contributions to Floriculture.**

## INDIAN ACADEMY OF HORTICULTURAL SCIENCES

# DR J.C. ANAND AWARD IN POST-HARVEST MANAGEMENT OF HORTICULTURAL CROPS-2023

**Dr Bidyut C. Deka**

Born on September 1, 1964, an alumnus of IARI, New Delhi, is the Vice-chancellor of Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat. In his long service career, Dr Deka contributed immensely to the cause of overall agricultural sciences, notable among which were the development of 4 packaging systems for distant transportation of pineapple, Khasi mandarin, banana and ginger; the development of AAU low-cost storage structure; development of 4 numbers of Integrated Farming System models for small and marginal farmers; development of a number of protocols for value addition and post harvest management of horticultural crops including mixtures methodology for blended fruit juice beverages.

Dr Deka is the recipient of several Awards, including Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed Award- 2016, Dr D.N. Borthakur Award 2014, Sardar Patel Outstanding ICAR Institution Award-2012, J.S. Pruthi Memorial Award- 2006, K.U. Patel Memorial Award- 2002, Best Research Paper Award from CFTRI, Mysore in 2008.

He is a Fellow of the prestigious Indian Academy of Horticultural Sciences. Dr Deka is also a member of various high-level committees in academic and R&D Institutions like ICAR, New Delhi, G.B. Pant Society of Himalayan Environment and Development, DBT, New Delhi; Chairman, RAC of NRC on Litchi and Chairman, RAC of Central Muga Eri Research and Training Institute.

The Indian Academy of Horticulture Sciences deems it a great honour to confer the **Dr J.C. Anand Award in Post Harvest Management of Horticultural Crops-2023 to Dr Bidyut C. Deka for his outstanding contributions in Post Harvest Management of Horticultural Crops.**

# INDIAN ACADEMY OF HORTICULTURAL SCIENCES

## D.P. GHOSH YOUNG SCIENTIST AWARD-2023

**Dr Shyam Sundar Dey**

Born on November 28, 1981 at Purulia, West Bengal Dr Shyam Sundar Dey obtained his M.Sc. and Ph.D. degree at ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi. He is working as Senior Scientist (Horticulture-Vegetable Science) at the Division of Vegetable Science, ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi.

He has made significant contributions to the development of a large number of doubled haploid (DH) lines in cabbage and cauliflower, the development of CMS lines in cauliflowers and interspecific hybridization for the introgression of desirable traits in *Brassica oleracea.* He is involved with the development of 14 hybrids in varieties of different vegetable crops. He has registered 05 germplasm with NBPGR, New Delhi. Presently, he is working on the development of molecular markers for economically important traits, allele mining, marker-assisted back-cross breeding, and development of genomic resources using the indigenous cucumber germplasm. He has developed a web-based genomic database, namely, *CsExSLDband LncR-CsExSLDb* in cucumber approved for copyright registration. He has received several awards, including an Associate of the National Academy of Agricultural Sciences (NAAS), Early Career Science and Technology Visiting Scholar by the Indian National Science Academy (INSA), selected for a post-doctoral research fellowship at the University of Western Australia (UWA), Perth besides several other national level awards by professional societies and agencies.

The Indian Academy of Horticulture Sciences deems it a great honour to confer the **D.P. Ghosh Young Scientist Award-2023 to Dr Shyam Sundar Dey for his outstanding contributions to Horticulture.**

## INDIAN ACADEMY OF HORTICULTURAL SCIENCES

# DR B.R. BARWALE YOUNG RESEARCHER AWARD IN HORTICULTURAL BIOTECHNOLOGY-2023 (DOCTORAL THESIS RESEARCH)

**Dr Neha Verma**

Born on January 7, 1994, in Shimla, Himachal Pradesh, Dr Neha Verma obtained her B.Sc. (Hons) Horticulture and M.Sc. (Horticulture) Vegetable Science degrees from Dr YSPUHF, Nauni, Solan, HP in 2015 and 2017, respectively, and her Ph.D. (Horticulture) in Vegetable Science from PAU, Ludhiana, Punjab. Dr Verma received the University Gold Medal for outstanding performance in the M.Sc. degree programme. Her doctoral research was focused on studying the inheritance and molecular mapping of genes governing *Begomovirus (SLCCNV and TOLCNDV)* resistance in pumpkin (*Cucurbita moschata*). A significant achievement in her research study is identifying the first novel resistance source with digenic recessive gene inheritance and closely linking KASP marker to resistant loci, which holds immense potential in future marker-assisted pumpkin breeding. These research findings represent pioneering achievements globally.

Dr Verma has published 12 research articles,15 abstracts and 1 book chapter. She has attended five training programmes and fourteen national and international seminars/symposiums/workshops. Her dedication and academic excellence have been recognized through prestigious awards and fellowships. Dr Verma is the recipient of DST-Inspire fellowship for pursuing Ph.D. and Merit fellowship for her BSc and M.Sc. degrees. Her research excellence was acknowledged with the Best M.Sc. Thesis Award, Young Horticulturist Award, Best Poster (3) and Oral (2) presentation awards by various prestigious professional societies of Agricultural Sciences in India.

The Indian Academy of Horticulture Sciences deems it a great honour to confer the **Dr B.R. Barwale Young Researcher Award in Horticultural Biotechnology (Doctoral Thesis Research)-2023** to Dr Neha Verma for her significant contribution in Horticultural Biotechnology.

# INDIAN ACADEMY OF HORTICULTURAL SCIENCES

## BEST RESEARCH PAPER AWARD-2022

**The Best Research Paper Award of the Indian Academy of Horticultural Sciences for the year 2022 is conferred to:**

**The team of scientists, namely, Drs Tamilselvi, N.A. and T. Arumugam from the Department of Vegetable Science, Horticultural College and Research Institute, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu for their research paper entitled, "Graft compatibility and anatomical studies in watermelon with interspecific Cucurbita hybrid rootstocks" published in *Indian Journal of Horticulture*, Vol. 79(3), 2022.**

### ABSTRACT

An experiment was conducted to examine the performance of *Cucurbita* interspecific hybrid rootstocks for graft compatibility with watermelon scions at morphological, physiological and cellular levels. Hole insertion grafting and splice/side/ one cotyledon grafting methods were attempted in this study. The highest graft success of 89.78, 85.35 and 82.13 % was noticed in watermelon scion (Dragon king) grafted onto CM 44 × CMa 52 rootstock, followed by that onto CM 28 × CMa 52 rootstock with 80.45, 77.39 and 73.35 % at 7, 15 and 21 days after grafting, respectively. Among the two grafting methods, cotyledon/splice/side grafting was more suitable for watermelon grafting than hole insertion grafting (HIG). The results on antioxidant enzyme estimation revealed that compatible watermelon graft combinations exhibit a stronger resistance to oxidative damage resulting from grafting. The results of the histological study revealed that the necrotic layer existed earlier in compatible graft combinations. Hence, the variation in the morphological, physiological and cellular levels may provide valuable information to understand the graft compatibility and incompatibility of watermelon-grafted seedlings at an early stage.

## INDIAN ACADEMY OF HORTICULTURAL SCIENCES

## IAHS FELLOWSHIP IN FRUIT SCIENCE-2023

**Dr Anirudh Thakur**

Born on 10 July, 1976 at Village Malog, District Shimla, Himachal Pradesh. He earned his B.Sc., M.Sc. and Ph.D. from Dr Y.S. Parmar University of Horticulture and Forestry, Solan, and Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana. He spent a year as a Curtin University Post-Doctoral Visiting Academic and also received one month of advanced training at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem in Rehovot.

Dr Thakur, a Professor in Fruit Science at PAU, Ludhiana, has recommended six varieties/rootstocks and 11 production technologies. He's a key figure in the four-star-rated Citrus plant nursery production by NHB, Gurgaon, and has overseen 10 externally funded projects. His contributions include 2 book edits, 67 research papers, 3 manuals, 22 book chapters, 54 extension articles, and 54 abstracts. He's guided 5 M.Sc. and 1 Ph.D. student as a major advisor, delivered 5 TV talks, 16 Radio talks, and 95 extension lectures.

Dr Thakur received numerous academic honors, including two University Gold Medals. He ranked first in his Ph.D. program, earned a Mashav Scholarship from Israel's Ministry of Foreign Affairs for advanced training, and received ICAR-SRF during his Ph.D. He was also honored with Merit Scholarships for B.Sc. and M.Sc., along with eight best poster paper presentation awards at international and national seminars.

The Indian Academy of Horticultural Sciences deems it a great honor to confer the **IAHS Fellowship in Fruit Science for 2023 to Dr Anirudh Thakur for his outstanding contributions to Fruit Sciences.**

# INDIAN ACADEMY OF HORTICULTURAL SCIENCES

## IAHS FELLOWSHIP IN FRUIT SCIENCE-2023

**Dr Devarajan Ramajayam**

Born on February 1, 1975, in Nedumanur, Tamil Nadu, has an impressive academic and professional journey. He holds a B.Sc. in Horticulture from TNAU, an M.Sc. from UAS, Bengaluru, and a Ph.D. from IARI. In addition, he completed Marker Assisted Selection training in the USA and an Executive Programme on Leadership and Change Management at IIM-T.

Dr. Ramajayam is the Head of ICAR-IISWC Research Centre in Koraput, Odisha. His career began at ICAR-NRCB in 2000 as an SRF and RA, and he has risen to the position of an ARS Scientist, serving in four different ICAR Institutes.

His expertise spans various horticultural research areas, including anther culture, tissue culture, banana and oil palm breeding, germplasm characterization, and salinity. He's also involved in watershed management, Jhum stabilization, fruit processing, and editorial board membership in two NAAS-rated journals.

Dr. Ramajayam's notable accomplishments include the identification of genetic stocks for oil palm traits, CAPS marker for the SHELL trait in oil palm, a genic SSR for red banana, and 10 novel miRNA in pomegranate. He's created androgenic Ney Poovan tetraploids, developed unique ornamental banana hybrids, and designed mobile apps for banana. His efforts have benefited farmers across multiple states.

The Indian Academy of Horticultural Sciences deems it a great honor to confer the **IAHS Fellowship in Fruit Science for 2023 to Dr. Ramajayam Devarajan for his outstanding contributions to Fruit Science.**

## INDIAN ACADEMY OF HORTICULTURAL SCIENCES

## IAHS FELLOWSHIP IN FRUIT SCIENCE-2023

**Dr Pitchai Murugesan**

Born May 13, 1970 in Perunali village, Tamil Nadu, on holds B.Sc. (Hort), M.Sc., and Ph.D. degrees from Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, along with an MBA from Tamil Nadu Open University. He received specialized training in Papua New Guinea on oil palm hybrid seed production.

Dr Murugesan's career began as an ARS Scientist IIOPR in Andhra Pradesh, rising to Senior Scientist and Head of IIOPR Regional Station, Palode. Since 2017, he's been a Principal Scientist at ICAR-Central Tuber Crops Research Institute in Kerala. His diverse horticultural experiments cover oil palm, cocoa, areca nut, onion, ash gourd, and tuber crops. At IIOPR, he established oil palm seed gardens and advanced seed processing labs, expanding hybrid seed production.

He spearheaded the "International Collaborative Research project on oil palm germplasm exchange with Malaysia" and introduced 20 drought-tolerant germplasm accessions. His contributions include developing the "Godavari Swarna" oil palm hybrid and registering 13 genetic stocks with ICAR-NBPGR for unique traits.

Dr Murugesan has received several awards, including "Distinguished Horticulture Scientist 2018" from the Society for Horticultural Research and Development and fellow awards from various societies. His international exposure includes visits to Malaysia, Singapore, Australia, Sri Lanka, and Papua New Guinea for scientific meets and advanced training.

The Indian Academy of Horticultural Sciences deems it a great honor to confer the **IAHS Fellowship in Fruit Science for 2023 to Dr Pitchai Murugesan for his outstanding contributions to Fruit Science.**

# INDIAN ACADEMY OF HORTICULTURAL SCIENCES

## IAHS FELLOWSHIP IN FRUIT SCIENCE-2023

**Dr Ashutosh Aniruddha Murkute**

Born on November 1, 1977 at Nagpur, Maharashtra. He obtained B.Sc., Agriculture and M.Sc., Agriculture with specialization in Horticulture – Fruit Science from the College of Agriculture, Nagpur affiliated to Dr. Panjabrao Deshmukh Krishi Vidyapeeth, Akola, Maharashtra in 1999 and 2001, respectively. Further, he pursued a doctoral degree at I.I.T., Delhi and completed it in 2006.

Dr Murkute assumed charge of Director, Mahatma Gandhi Institute for Rural Industrialization (MGIRI), Wardha, a National Autonomous Institute under C/o MSME, Govt. of India on February 1, 2023. He joined as Scientist 'C' at DIHAR, DRDO, Leh-Ladakh in 2008 and shifted to ICAR in 2011 at ICAR-DOGR, Pune as Senior Scientist. Further, he rose to the position of Principal Scientist in 2017 at ICAR-CCRI, Nagpur. Dr Murkute released/ recommended four citrus varieties and developed tissue culture protocols for citrus, pomegranate and garlic. He published many high-rated, peer-reviewed research papers on post-harvest management of onion and production technology of citrus and pomegranate, apart from books, book-chapters and popular articles on citrus, pomegranate, onion and garlic. Appointments such as Adjunct Professor at I.I.T. Delhi; Member, Board of Management of RVS Agricultural University, Gwalior; Member, Academic Council, RTM Nagpur University; Member, Management Committees of ICAR institutes; Member, Board of Studies, Central Agriculture University, Imphal are some of the prestigious recognitions for his illustrious career.

The Indian Academy of Horticultural Sciences deems it a great honor to confer the **IAHS Fellowship in Fruit Science for the year 2023 to Dr Ashutosh Aniruddha Murkute for his outstanding contributions to Fruit Science.**

# INDIAN ACADEMY OF HORTICULTURAL SCIENCES

## IAHS FELLOWSHIP IN FRUIT SCIENCE-2023

**Prof. Tridip Kumar Hazarika**

Born on July 1, 1977, in Nagaon, Assam, Prof. Tridip Kumar Hazarika holds a B.Sc. (Ag) and M.Sc. (Ag) from Assam Agricultural University, with a Ph.D. from Mizoram University. He earned a Post Doctorate at Michigan State University.

Presently, he is a Professor at Mizoram University's Department of Horticulture, Aromatic, and Medicinal Plants. He started as an Assistant Professor in 2007, progressing to Associate Professor in 2016, and ultimately Professor in 2019. He served two terms as Head of the Department.

Prof. Hazarika conducted a comprehensive study documenting wild edible fruits in Mizoram, Meghalaya, Nagaland, Manipur, and Arunachal Pradesh. His team also helped standardize Mizoram-specific Integrated Nutrient Management (INM) packages for bananas, mandarin oranges, Assam lemons, grapes, and strawberries. They also developed standardized papaya and strawberry bio-regulators, optimized strawberry planting densities, and effective packaging to extend strawberry, papaya, and grape shelf life.

He has been recognized with the DBT Overseas Associateship and serves on the Technical Expert Committee for Biotechnology Support in the North Eastern Region. Prof. Hazarika is a prolific author, contributing 72 research articles, 20 book chapters, 2 seminar proceedings, and 3 technical bulletins. Under his guidance, 4 students achieved PhDs, while 46 received M.Sc. Horticulture degrees. Under his supervision, 4 students were awarded PhD, and 46 were awarded M.Sc. Horticulture degrees.

The Indian Academy of Horticultural Sciences deems it a great honor to confer the **IAHS Fellowship in Fruit Science for 2023 to Prof. Tridip Kumar Hazarika for his outstanding contributions to Fruit Science.**

# INDIAN ACADEMY OF HORTICULTURAL SCIENCES

## IAHS FELLOWSHIP IN VEGETABLE SCIENCE-2023

**Dr Harshawardhan Choudhary**

Born on February 3, 1975, in Samastipur, Bihar, Dr Harshawardhan Choudhary obtained his B.Sc. (Ag.) from the University of Allahabad and M.Sc. and Ph.D. from GBPUAT, Pantnagar, excelling academically and undergoing MAS training at the U.S. Vegetable Laboratory, USDA.

Dr Choudhary is a Principal Scientist at ICAR-IARI, New Delhi. His career began as a lecturer in 2002 at UBKV, West Bengal, and later as an ARS Scientist at ICAR-CITH, Srinagar. In 2010, he became a senior scientist at ICAR-IARI and has been a Principal Scientist since 2016.

He's credited with developing 11 varieties/hybrids, including muskmelon, specialty melon, tomato, peas, red okra, Dolichus bean. He's also advanced germplasm for resistance in muskmelon and watermelon. His work demonstrates the successful application of MAS in vegetable crops.

Dr Choudhary boasts 80 research papers in international/national journals, 9 books, 10 technical bulletins/manuals, and 150 book chapters/articles. He has guided 3 Ph.D. and 5 M.Sc. students and taught 8 P.G. courses. He actively engages in extension activities and has appeared in over 100 TV and radio shows.

His accolades include the CHAI-Dr. R.S. Paroda Award 2020 and recognition as a Fellow of the Indian Society of Vegetable Science, CHAI, SHRD, and ISNS. He served as an Assistant Editor for the Indian Journal of Horticulture and is currently the Managing Editor of the International Journal of Innovative Horticulture.

The Indian Academy of Horticultural Sciences deems it a great honor to confer the **IAHS Fellowship in Vegetable Science for 2023 to Dr Harshawardhan. Choudhary for his outstanding contributions to Vegetable Science.**

# INDIAN ACADEMY OF HORTICULTURAL SCIENCES

## IAHS FELLOWSHIP IN VEGETABLE SCIENCE-2023

**Dr E. Sreenivasa Rao**

Born on July 23, 1973, in Hyderabad, Telangana, Dr E. Sreenivasa Rao holds a B.Sc. (Hort) from APAU, Hyderabad, an M.Sc. (Hort) and a Ph.D. in Vegetable Science from IARI, New Delhi, and completed a Post Doc in Molecular Breeding at the World Vegetable Center, Taiwan.

With over 24 years of experience, he's significantly contributed to resistance breeding in cucurbits, heterosis breeding in onion and okra, and salinity tolerance in tomato. Dr Rao developed 13 successful varieties and hybrids across different crops, generating Rs. 60 lakhs in seed sales. His work includes pioneering synthetic onion varieties, disease-resistant rootstocks for watermelon grafting, and identifying novel alleles in various crops.

He played a role in developing DUS test guidelines for specific crops and published 60 research papers and 11 book chapters. As Advisor to the Government of Telangana, he's involved in oil palm plantations and initiated a carbon finance program for agroforestry plantations in the state.

He is the recipient of the Jawaharlal Nehru Award (ICAR), Dwarika Nath Memorial Award (ISVS), BOYSCAST Fellowship (DST), Associateship of National Academy of Agricultural Sciences, Certificate of Recognition by PPVFRA and Certificate of Appreciation by Asia and Pacific Seed Alliance (APSA). Dr Sreenivasa Rao has visited Taiwan, Spain, France, Thailand, Israel and Sri Lanka.

The Indian Academy of Horticultural Sciences deems it a great honor to confer the **IAHS Fellowship in Vegetable Science for 2023 to Dr E. Sreenivasa Rao for his outstanding contributions to Vegetable Science.**

# INDIAN ACADEMY OF HORTICULTURAL SCIENCES

## IAHS FELLOWSHIP IN VEGETABLE SCIENCE-2023

**Dr Parveen Kumar**

Born on March 19, 1970 at Hisar, Haryana, Dr Parveen Kumar obtained his B.Sc. (Hons.) Ag. and M.Sc. degree from CCS HAU, Hisar and Ph.D. (Agronomy) from ICAR-IARI, New Delhi.

Dr Kumar is presently the Director of ICAR-Central Coastal Agricultural Research Institute, Goa. He joined ARS in 1995 and worked as Scientist and Sr. Scientist with ICAR-CPRI Research Stations (Jalandhar and Modipuram); as Principal Scientist in ICAR-CSSRI, Karnal (2010-2020) and as Principal Scientist in NRM Division, ICAR (Nov. 2020 to April 2021)

Dr Kumar developed a package of agro-techniques of potato processing varieties, a co-developer of the 4 potato processing varieties (Kufri Chipsona-3, Kufri Chipsona-4, Kufri Himsona and Kufri Frysona), also associated in the development of 11 varieties of horticultural crops-cashew, kokum, nutmeg, cinnamon, mango, areca nut for the state of Goa.

Dr Kumar has published 125 research papers in NAAS-rated national and international journals.

His work has been recognized with NAAS Fellowship (2023); ICAR Hari Om Ashram Trust Award (2014-15) in Horticultural and Crop Sciences, Associateship of NAAS (2008); Indian Potato Association (IPA)- Kaushalya Sikka Memorial Award twice (2000-2004 and 2005-2009) for Outstanding Contribution to Potato, ICAR-CPRI Dr S Ramanujam Award (2004-2007); Fellowships of Indian Society of Agronomy (2013) and Indian Potato Association (2012). Dr Kumar is the President of the Association for Coastal Agricultural Research, Goa.

The Indian Academy of Horticultural Sciences deems it a great honor to confer the **IAHS Fellowship in Vegetable Science for 2023 to Dr Parveen Kumar for his outstanding contributions to Vegetable Science.**

## INDIAN ACADEMY OF HORTICULTURAL SCIENCES

## IAHS FELLOWSHIP IN FLORICULTURE-2023

**Dr Birendra Kumar**

Born on November 7, 1967 in Tarasaon, Jaunpur, Uttar Pradesh, Dr Birendra Kumar holds a B.Sc. and M.Sc. from Allahabad University and a Ph.D. from Lucknow University and CSIR-CIMAP, Lucknow.

Dr Kumar is currently the Chief Scientist and Nodal at the Seed Quality Lab on MAPs in the Genetics & Plant Breeding Division at CSIR-CIMAP, Lucknow, and a Professor at AcSIR Academy. With over 28 years of experience, he focuses on genetic improvement, seed quality parameters, and testing SOPs for medicinal and aromatic plants (MAPs).

He began his career as Scientist-B in 1995 at CSIR-CIMAP, Lucknow, advancing to Chief Scientist and Professor at AcSIR Academy in CSIR-CIMAP. His work encompasses various medicinal and aromatic plants, including mints, cannabis, opium poppy, and more. Dr Kumar has developed 33 varieties, including CIM-Patra, CIM-Mohak, and CIM-Suras, making India the top-ranked country in menthol mint production and export. Several of his varieties are licensed to industries for commercial cultivation.

He also played a crucial role in establishing India's first seed quality lab for MAPs, contributing to seed quality standards. Dr Kumar has published numerous research papers, book chapters, and participated in national and international symposia. He has completed industry-sponsored and government projects, generating substantial funding. His contributions have earned him several awards and honours, including six US patents and mentoring six Ph.D. students.

The Indian Academy of Horticultural Sciences deems it a great honor to confer the **IAHS Fellowship in Floriculture Award for 2023 to Dr Birendra Kumar in recognition of his outstanding contributions to Medicinal and Aromatic Plants.**

## INDIAN ACADEMY OF HORTICULTURAL SCIENCES

## IAHS FELLOWSHIP IN FLORICULTURE SCIENCE-2023

**Dr Parmeshwar Lal Saran**

Born on December 12, 1979 in Sardarshahar, Rajasthan, Dr Parmeshwar Lal Saran obtained his B.Sc. (Agri.) and M.Sc. (Hort.) degrees from Rajasthan Agricultural University, Bikaner and Ph.D. in Horticulture from CCS HAU, Hisar in 2005.

He joined as Assistant Professor (Hort.) at G.B. Pant University of Agriculture & Technology, Pantnagar (2006 to 2012), Senior Scientist (Hort.) at Indian Agricultural Research Institute Regional Station, Pusa, Bihar (2012 to 2015) and later joined ICAR-Directorate of Medicinal & Aromatic Plants Research, Anand (Gujarat). Presently, he is working as the Principal Scientist (Horticulture) at ICAR-Directorate of Medicinal & Aromatic Plants Research, Anand (Gujarat).

He has guided and led the way for the cultivation of different horticultural crops through front-line demonstrations/training (212) for the farmers of different regions of Gujarat (70 ha), Bihar (1012 ha), Uttarakhand (211 ha), Rajasthan (45 ha), etc., and published 07 success stories of progressive farmers on the cultivation of the different medicinal and aromatic crops. He has received various awards from professional societies and is a Fellow of the Indian Society for Arid Horticulture. Recently, he was bestowed with the “Manmohan Attavar Award in Floriculture-2022” for outstanding contributions in the field of Horticulture-Medicinal and Aromatic Plants by the IAHS.

The Indian Academy of Horticultural Sciences deems it a great honor to confer the **IAHS Fellowship in Floriculture Award for 2023 to Dr Parmeshwar Lal Saran in recognition of his outstanding contributions to Medicinal and Aromatic Plants.**

## INDIAN ACADEMY OF HORTICULTURAL SCIENCES

# IAHS FELLOWSHIP IN POST HARVEST MANAGEMENT OF HORTICULTURAL CROPS-2023

**Dr Ajay Kumar Sharma**

Born on November 15, 1971 in the village Lakhanpura in the Aligarh district of Uttar Pradesh. Dr Ajay Kumar Sharma completed his B.Sc. (Agriculture) from Narain College, Shikohabad (affiliated to Agra University, Agra), M.Sc. (Horticulture) from Janta College, Bakewar, Etawah (affiliated to Kanpur University, Kanpur) and Ph.D. (Horticulture) from GBPUAT, Pantnagar. He underwent special training in Wine Technology in Germany. Dr Sharma has been Principal Scientist at ICAR-NRC for Grapes, Pune, for the last 10 years. He started his career as an Assistant Professor in SKUAT-K, Shalimar Srinagar in July 1999 and joined ICAR as a Senior Scientist in April 2007.

Dr Sharma has wide research experience in different fruit crops like apple, peach, walnut, grape, etc., grown in temperate to tropical conditions. He was involved in the identification of 3 grape and 2 walnut varieties. Besides working on improving wines, raisins, and juice, he developed zero waste processing technologies for Manjari Medika grape variety based on the waste-to-wealth concept. He has one patent in credit and about 80 research papers published in national and international journals. ISHRD awarded the fellowship to Dr Sharma.

The Indian Academy of Horticultural Sciences deems it a great honor to confer the **IAHS Fellowship in Post Harvest Management of Horticultural Crops for 2023 to Dr Ajay Kumar Sharma in recognition of his outstanding contributions to Post Harvest Management of Horticultural Crops.**

# INDIAN ACADEMY OF HORTICULTURAL SCIENCES

## IAHS ASSOCIATESHIP-2023

**Dr Shameena Beegum, P.P.**

Born on June 25, 1988 in Kadmat Island, Lakshadweep. Dr Shameena Beegum, P.P., holds a B.Sc. in Agriculture (2009) and an M.Sc. in Horticulture with a specialization in Processing Technology (2011) from Kerala Agricultural University. She completed her Ph.D. in Post Harvest Technology of Horticultural Crops at the Indian Agricultural Research Institute. She joined ICAR-Central Plantation Crops Research Institute (CPCRI) in 2015.

Dr Beegum's current role at CPCRI centers around Postharvest management and processing of coconut and cocoa. Her publications demonstrate her Post Harvest Technology contributions. As a team leader, she developed coconut-based non-dairy ice cream "Frozen coconut delicacy" launched during 90th ICAR foundation day in 2018. She developed cocoa and coconut-based bean-to-bite chocolate processing.

Her work extends to various coconut-based products and technologies, including foam mat-dried coconut milk powder, virgin coconut oil, coconut chips, trimmed tender nuts, and more. Dr Beegum's active involvement in over 12 projects since 2015 has resulted in 28 research articles, 46 popular articles, 6 technical bulletins, 8 book chapters, 14 training manuals, and 1 extension folder.

In recognition of her outstanding contributions, Dr Shameena Beegum was honored with the Best Scientific Team award from ICAR-CPCRI, Kasaragod, in 2020. She has also received appreciation certificates and two best presentation awards.

The Indian Academy of Horticultural Sciences deems it a great honor to confer the **IAHS Associateship for the to Dr Shameena Beegum, P.P., for her outstanding contributions to Horticulture.**

# INDIAN ACADEMY OF HORTICULTURAL SCIENCES

## IAHS ASSOCIATESHIP-2023

**Dr Mahesh Kumar Dhakar**

Born in Garoth, Madhya Pradesh, Dr Mahesh Kumar Dhakar earned his B.Sc. from Dr BSKKV, Dapoli, Maharashtra, M.Sc. from MPUAT, Udaipur, Rajasthan with a Gold Medal, and Ph.D. from ICAR-IARI, New Delhi. Dr. Dhakar has been a Scientist in Fruit Science at ICAR-RCER, Farming System Research Centre for Hill and Plateau Region, Ranchi, Jharkhand for over nine years.

Dr Dhakar developed a fruit-based multi-tier system and released and identified suitable fruit genotypes for Eastern Plateau and Hill Region cultivation. He helped promote farmers' varieties. He developed litchi grafting protocol, biomass mulching of *Tephrosia candida* in fruit orchards, assured flowering and fruiting in litchi through girdling of the primary branch, extended litchi harvest period, bagging of litchi bunches for quality fruits, and evaluation of PGR and chemicals for early flowering. He has helped promote fruit cultivation in Jharkhand by providing technological support to farmers and various agencies involved in horticulture development, such as the Department of Agriculture, Department of Rural Development, NABARD, NHB, NHM, and NGOs like PRADAN. He helped Jharkhand tribal farmers with technology through ICAR-AICRP's Tribal Sub Plan on Fruits. He developed and released two litchi and a *bael* varieties. Additionally, they have provided over 25 research recommendations tailored explicitly for Eastern Plateau and Hill Region farmers.

His accomplishments have earned him various fellowships and awards, including ICAR-JRF, ICAR-SRF, DST INSPIRE Fellowship, and the Young Scientist award by ICAR RCER.

The Indian Academy of Horticultural Sciences deems it a great honor to confer the **IAHS Associateship for 2023 to Dr Mahesh Kumar Dhakar, for his outstanding contributions to Horticulture.**

# NOTES

## D.P. Ghosh Young Scientist Award

This award has been instituted in 2016 from the donation made by Dr S.P. Ghosh, former Deputy Director General (Horticulture), Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi in the memory of his father Late Sh. D.P. Ghosh. This award is given annually to a young scientist (upto 45 years of age), who has made significant contributions in any frontier area of horticultural sciences as evidenced from publications, technology development, patents, etc. The award consists of a cash prize of Rs. 25,000/-, a medal and a citation.

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## Dr B.R. Barwale Young Researcher Award in Horticultural Biotechnology (Doctoral Thesis Research)

This award has been instituted in 2016 in the name of Dr B.R. Barwale, Founder & Chairman, Maharashtra Hybrid Seed Company Ltd. from the donation made by Maharashtra Hybrid Seeds Company (Mahyco) Ltd. This award is given annually to a scientist from any Indian University/ Deemed to be university/Institute for the best doctoral thesis related to application of Biotechnological techniques in Horticultural Crops. The award consists of a cash prize of Rs. 25,000/-, a medal and a citation.

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## IAHS-Best Research Paper Award

This award has been instituted in 2004 and is given for the Best Research Paper published in the Indian Journal of Horticulture every year considering four issues of the journal.

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# FELLOWSHIPS

## Corporate Fellow of the Indian Academy of Horticultural Sciences (CFIAHS)

This Fellowship is given to any Corporate house/Company for their exemplary contributions in Research and Development in Horticulture and Allied Sector in the country. The Fellowships in this category is nominated by the Executive Council of the Indian Academy of Horticultural Sciences.

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## Honorary Fellowship of the Indian Academy of Horticultural Sciences (HFIAHS)

This fellowship is given to individuals who have devoted their efforts and life for promotion of Horticulture in India through research, development, extension and social services, creation of horticulture based industry and export promotion for improving the quality of life of farming communities, entrepreneurs *etc.*

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## Foreign Fellow of the Indian Academy of Horticultural Sciences (FFIAHS)

This Fellowship is given to individual of the Indian origin working as a scientist in any foreign country for making outstanding contributions in the field of Horticulture and Allied Sciences as evidenced by their publications, technology development, patents and recognitions. The Fellowship is nominated by Executive Council of the Indian Academy of Horticultural Sciences.

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## Fellowship of the Indian Academy of Horticultural Sciences (FIAHS)

The Fellowship is given to life members of the Academy, who have made significant contributions and displayed leadership in the field of Horticultural Sciences as evidenced by their publications, technology development, patents and other recognitions. Fellows will be nominated / selected from among those who have been Life Members of the Indian Academy of Horticultural Sciences at least for 5 years.

## Associateship of the Indian Academy of Horticultural Scientist (AIAHS)

The associateship is given to the young members upto of the Academy. Associates will be nominated / selected from among those who have been Life Members of the Academy at least for 3 years based on their contribution in the field of Horticulture (Fruit Science, Vegetable Science, Floriculture, Plantation, Spices, Medicinal and Aromatic Crops, and Post-harvest Management of Horticultural Crops) holding the position of Senior Scientist or with minimum experience of seven years as Scientist/ equivalent upto age of 40 years.

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INDIAN ACADEMY OF HORTICULTURAL SCIENCES (IAHS)
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