

BRIEF CV**Dr. Ashok K. Patra***FNASc, FNAAS, FAScT, FISSS, FRMSI***Vice-Chancellor****Bidhan Chandra Krishi Viswavidyalaya
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Educational Background

- ✚ Ph. D (Soil Science & Agril Chem), ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI), New Delhi (1989)
- ✚ M. Sc (Soil Science & Agril Chem), ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI), New Delhi (1985)
- ✚ B. Sc (Agri), Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, India (1983).

Employment/Research Experience:(1989 onwards): 35 Years +

- ✚ **Vice-Chancellor**, Bidhan Chandra Krishi Viswavidyalaya, Nadia, West Bengal (2024-till date)
- ✚ **Emeritus Scientist**, ICAR-Indian Institute of Soil Science, Bhopal (January 2023 – 2024)
- ✚ **Director**, ICAR-Indian Institute of Soil Science, Bhopal (May 2014–September 2022) (**8 years 5 months**).
- ✚ **Principal Scientist (Eq. Professor)** (2006-2014), ICAR-IARI, New Delhi (**8 Years 1 Month**).
- ✚ Senior Scientist, ICAR-Indian Institute of Soil Science (IARI), New Delhi (1999-2006).
- ✚ Senior Scientist, ICAR-Central Institute of Fisheries Education (CIFE), Mumbai (1998-1999).
- ✚ Scientist, ICAR-Indian Grassland & Fodder Research Institute (IGFRI), Jhansi, India (1990-1998).

Teaching & Guiding post-graduate students (1998-2014) >16 Years

- ✚ Taught and supervised MSc & PhD students at ICAR-CIFE, Mumbai & ICAR-IARI, New Delhi. Supervised 6 MSc and 5 PhD students (as Major/Co-guide). Acted as Member in the Advisory Committees of more than 20 students in Soil Science and allied Disciplines at IARI, New Delhi.
- ✚ Course curricula developed and taught Soil Science courses ('Soil Biology & Biochemistry'; 'Soil Resource Management'; 'Integrated Nutrient Management & Sustainable Agriculture'; 'Soil Fertility & Plant Nutrition; Radio Tracers Techniques in soils & Fertilizers') courses for MSc and PhD students at IARI
- ✚ Students are recipients of Fulbright Fellowship, IPNI Scholar Award, Jawaharlal Nehru Award, IARI Gold Medals, Best Papers/Posters, etc. at IARI, New Delhi (1999-2014).

International Experience

- ✚ Visiting Fellow (2008-2009), University of Notre Dame, Indiana, USA
- ✚ Postdoctoral Fellow (2001-03) Ecologie Microbienne, UMR-CNRS, Université Claude Bernard, France.
- ✚ Visiting Scientist (1996), Institute of Grassland & Environmental Research, North Wyke, Exeter, UK
- ✚ Postdoctoral Scientist (1991-1993), ICRISAT (a CGIAR Institute), Hyderabad, India.
- ✚ Member, Intergovernmental Technical Panel on Soils (ITPS), GSP, UN FAO, Rome (2018-2021).
(<https://www.fao.org/global-soil-partnership/intergovernmental-technical-panel-soils/itps-experts-july-2018/en/>)
- ✚ Member, Editorial Board for "World's Soils Resources Report 2025", GSP, FAO, Rome (2021-2022).
- ✚ Member, Scientific Committee, Global Symp. on Salt-Affected Soils (GSAS21), 20-21 Oct. 2021, FAO.
- ✚ Member, Working Group, South-East Asia Laboratory Network (SEALNET), FAO, Rome (2017-2020).
- ✚ Member, Technical Committee, Global Soil Laboratory Network (GLOSOLAN), FAO, Rome (2021-22).
- ✚ Professional visits: UK (1996, 2003, 2017), Germany (1996, 2018), Italy [2018, 2019 (2), 2022], Indonesia (2017), USA (2008, 2016), Australia (2011), (Spain 2017), Tokyo (1997, 2016) The Netherlands (2002), Kuwait (2010), ICRAF, Nairobi (2014).

Honors/Awards/Recognitions

- ✚ **UN FAO Glinka World Soil Prize 2022** (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ApH558kmDAQ>; <https://www.fao.org/global-soil-partnership/resources/highlights/detail/en/c/1621992/>). The award was in the form of a USD 15,000 Cheque (≈ Rs. 12 Lakh) and a Glinka Gold-Plated Medal & a Visit to FAO, Rome.
- ✚ Recognised one among 13 soil scientists of the world (Food Tank, USA) on World Soil Day 2017. (<https://foodtank.com/news/2017/12/sustainable-soil-scientists/>), and one among 2% of the Scientists globally in the field of agriculture, fisheries and forestry (Stanford Uni., USA & Elsevier 2024).
- ✚ **Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Award of ICAR for Outstanding Research in Agricultural Sciences 2021.**
- ✚ Platinum Jubilee Commemoration Award of the Indian Society of Soil Science (2022).
- ✚ ICAR - IARI Hooker Award (2013).
- ✚ International Plant Nutrition Institute (IPNI)-FAI Award 2018
- ✚ Dr. Sushil Kumar Mukherjee Commemoration Award (ISCA, Kolkata), 2017-18.
- ✚ Bioved Agri-innovation Award -2015; FAI-Dhiru Morarji Memorial Award 2011
- ✚ Prof. J.N. Mukherjee ISSS Foundation Lecture Award 2023;
- ✚ AAAS-Life Time Achievement Award 2024
- ✚ Dr. G.S. Sekhon Memorial Lecture Award 2012; Dr. N.S. Randhawa Memorial Lecture Award 2018; Dr. MV Rao Memorial Lecture Award 2019.
- ✚ DBT Biotechnology Overseas Associateship Award (2008)
- ✚ Other Honours/Awards/Recognitions: **Many (Best posters/papers/prizes, etc. of various professional societies)**

Fellowship of Academies

- ✚ Fellow of the National Academy of Agricultural Sciences (NAAS), India (2010)
- ✚ Fellow of the National Academy of Sciences, India (NASI) (2020)
- ✚ Fellow of the West Bengal Academy of Science & Technology (2017)
- ✚ Fellow of the Indian Society of Soil Science (ISSS), (2013)
- ✚ Fellow of the Range Management Society of India (RMSI) (2007)

Institutional Awards (National & International) received during my leadership as Director (2014-2022)

- **UN FAO King Bhumibol World Soil Day Award 2020 to ICAR-IISS, Bhopal.** The award had a Medal, US \$15,000 Cheque (≈ Rs. 12 Lakh) & a Visit to Bangkok, Thailand. <https://www.fao.org/global-soil-partnership/resources/highlights/detail/en/c/1379844/>
- **Sardar Patel Outstanding ICAR Institution Award 2018.** The award had a cash prize of Rs.10.00 lakh (≈ US\$ 12000) and a Citation.
- **Krishi Sansthan Samman Award** (National Award Winner) (2016) by *Mahindra Samridhi* (Mahindra & Mahindra). The award had a cash prize of Rs. 2.11 lakh (≈ US\$ 2600) for the Institute and a Citation.
- **“Cashless (Digital) ICAR Institute Award 2017”** for cashless transaction- The award had a cash prize of Rs. 5.00 lakh (≈ US\$ 6200) and a Citation.
- **ICAR-IISS Ranked 12th among 93 ICAR Institutes participated.**

Scientific Leadership

- ✚ President, Indian Society of Soil Science (ISSS), New Delhi (2019 to 2021).
- ✚ President, Indian Science Congress Association (Agriculture & Forestry Sciences), (2016 & 2017).
- ✚ Vice-President, Indian Society of Soil Science, New Delhi (2016 & 2017)
- ✚ President, Delhi Chapter of the Indian Society of Soil Sci., New Delhi (2012 to 2014)
- ✚ Joint Secretary, Indian Society of Soil Science, New Delhi (2013 & 2014).
- ✚ Councillor of ISSS (2005 & 2006).
- ✚ Member of Academic and Policy-framing Bodies (e.g., Chairman/Advisor/IMC Member, etc.): **Many.**

Life Member of Professional Societies

1. National Academy of Sciences, Allahabad, India

2. National Academy of Agricultural Sciences, India
3. West Bengal Academy of Science & Technology, Kolkata
4. Indian Society of Soil Science, New Delhi
5. Range Management Society of India, Jhansi
6. Indian Science Congress Association, Kolkata
7. Academy for Advancement of Agricultural Sciences.
8. Soil Conservation Society of India, New Delhi
9. Clay Minerals Society of India, New Delhi
10. Journal of Potassium Research, Gurgaon

Area of research and selected achievements

My scientific career spans over 35 years, encompassing research, education, and extension activities, with over 400 publications and active participation in numerous national and international events. I have contributed to 48 research projects (nationally and internationally funded/consultancy) across diverse domains, including nutrient cycling efficiency, soil fertility mapping, fertilizer management, climate change mitigation, carbon sequestration, conservation agriculture, rapid organic waste recycling, soil biodiversity, pollution remediation, and soil spectroscopy. My work has consistently addressed emerging challenges in soil resources, with a primary focus on sustainable soil management to support agriculture and environmental resilience.

Scholarly accomplishments

Publications:

Summary of publications (seminars/symposia/conferences not included)	
Refereed Journals with Clarivate Analytics (<i>NAAS Rating >6</i>)	172
Refereed Journals without Clarivate Analytics IF (<i>NAAS Rating <6</i>)	75
Books Authored/Edited	20
Manuals, Bulletins, Book chapters, Popular articles, etc.	195
Total No. of Publications	462
Total Citations: (Google Scholar). https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=H323OB4AAAAJ&hl=en&oi=ao (List of Publication may be seen at Google Scholar)	9860 <i>h-index 47, i-10 index 192</i>

As on 31/12/2024
