



DR. ASHOK K. PATRA
Vice-Chancellor
Bidhan Chandra Krishi Viswavidyalaya

Education: Educated at Araldihi High School, Bankura, 1971-76; Dubrajpur Uttarayan Vidyayatan, Bankura, West Bengal, 1976-78; B.Sc. (Agriculture): Banaras Hindu University, 1978-82; M.Sc. & Ph.D.: Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi, 1983-89; Post-Doctoral/Visiting Fellow: International Crop Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics, Hyderabad, 1991-93; Institute of Grassland & Environmental Research, United Kingdom, 1996; Ecologie Microbienne (CNRS-Universite' Lyon 1), France, 2001-03; University of Notre Dame, USA 2008-09.

Positions held: Scientist, 1989-94 & Scientist (Sr. Scale), 1994-98, ICAR-Indian Grassland and Fodder Research Institute, Jhansi; Senior Scientist, 1998-99, ICAR-Central Institute of Fisheries Education, Mumbai; Senior Scientist, 1999-2006 & Principal Scientist 2006-2014, ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi; Director, ICAR-Indian Institute of Soil Science, Bhopal 2014-2022; Emeritus Scientist, ICAR-Indian Institute of Soil Science, Bhopal, 2023 – 2024. Vice-Chancellor, Bidhan Chandra Krishi Viswa Vidyalaya, Mohanpur, Nadia, West Bengal, 2024 to date.

Awards/Honours: UN FAO Glinka World Soil Prize 2022; Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Award of ICAR for Outstanding Research in Agricultural Sciences 2021; Platinum Jubilee Commemoration Award 2022 of Indian Society of Soil Science for Life Time Achievements; International Plant Nutrition Institute (IPNI)-FAI Award 2018; Prof. Sushil Kumar Mukherjee Commemoration Award of Indian Science Congress Association 2018; ICAR-IARI Hooker Award 2013; FAI Dhiru Morarji Memorial Award 2011; Bioved Agri-innovation Award 2015; British Council TCT Award 1996; DBT Overseas Associateship Award 2008; Member, Intergovernmental Technical Panel on Soils (ITPS) of GSP/FAO, Rome, 2018-21; Prof. J.N. Mukherjee ISSS Foundation Lecture Award 2023; Honorary Member, Indian Society of Soil Science, 2025; Recognized one among 13 soil scientists of the world advancing soil research and education (Food Tank, USA), 2017; AAAS-Life Time Achievement Award 2024; Dr. MV Rao Memorial Lecture 2019; Dr. N.S. Randhawa Memorial Lecture Award of ISSS 2018. Dr. G.S. Sekhon Memorial Lecture Award of ISSS 2012. During the tenure as Director (2014-2022), ICAR-IISS received UN FAO King Bhumibol World Soil Day Award 2020; Sardar Patel Outstanding ICAR Institution Award 2018; *Krishi Sansthan Samman* Award (National Award Winner) (2016) by Mahindra *Samridhi* (Mahindra & Mahindra); Associate Editor, European Journal of Soil Science since 2014; Vice President, Indian Society of Soil Science 2016-17; President, Indian Science Congress Association (Agri and Forestry Sciences Section) 2016-17; President, Indian Society of Soil Science 2019-21.

Fellow: National Academy of Sciences (India); West Bengal Academy of Science & Technology; Indian Society of Soil Science; Range Management Society of India

Research Areas: Nitrogen cycling, soil health, sustainable soil management, soil biodiversity, climate change, carbon sequestration, nano-fertilizers. Published more than 450 scientific articles including books, technical bulletins, etc. with more than 12,000 citations (*h*-index 54, *i10*-index 215), and guided/mentored numerous MSc and PhD students. His global engagement includes service as a Member of the Intergovernmental Technical Panel on Soils (ITPS), FAO, Rome, and participation in several scientific national/international policy bodies.

External Links:

1. Dr Ashok Kumar Patra wins the UN FAO Glinka World Soil Prize 2022:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ApH558kmDAQ>
2. <https://www.fao.org/global-soil-partnership/resources/highlights/detail/en/c/1621992/>
3. ICAR-IISS Wins UN FAO King Bhumibol World Soil Day Award 2020:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2AhCmzIV1PU>
4. Dr Ashok Patra receives Prestigious Dr Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Award
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KHxo9ThFIxs>
5. RSTV Eureka - Dr. Ashok Kumar Patra
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_oYLDxr3-8Y
6. Dr. Ashok K. Patra: 13 Soil Scientists to Watch
<https://foodtank.com/news/2017/12/sustainable-soil-scientists/>
7. Dr. Ashok K. Patra: LinkedIn
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/ashok-k-patra-phd-01ba4945/>
8. World Soil Day 2024 - Interview with Dr Ashok K. Patra
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qtPmoqbAQnA&t=73s>
9. A Film on Indian Institute of Soil Science (ICAR-IISS), Bhopal
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bu7hIBN1pl8>
10. Ashok K Patra: Research articles citations – Google Scholar
<https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=H323OB4AAAAJ&hl=en&oi=sra>
11. Ashok K Patra: Research Gate
https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Ashok-Patra-2?ev=hdr_xprf
12. Ashok Patra: 10 Researchers in Soil Science <https://rogitex.com/blogs/soil-for-humanity/10-researchers-in-soil-science?srsltid=AfmB0oo78yOIV14qowongA0-HEqDdN7fASwB99Bm4wCTStQIzybudK8c> (seen on 31/10/2025).
13. <https://naas.org.in/detail.php?id=344>
14. <https://www.fao.org/global-soil-partnership/intergovernmental-technical-panel-soils/itps-experts-july-2018/en/>
