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Career Summary

- Awarded Ph. D. degree from Kurukshetra University, Haryana in 1986.
- Joined as Research Associate in Division of Entomology, I.A.R.I. Pusa in October 1985 and surveyed various parts of the country till 1988 and published scientific papers on biodiversity.
- Selected as Scientist 'SD' in Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) and joined at HQ Kolkata in November 1989.
- Since last 31 years, served at various Regional Centres of ZSI, like High Altitude Zoology Regional Centre, Solan (1989-1991), Andaman Nicobar Regional Centre, Port Blair (1991-1998), and Central Zone Regional Centre, Jabalpur (1998-2011) on various capacities from Scientist 'D' to 'F' and later on posted at HQs, Kolkata from 2011.
- For the last five years, administrative and academic head of the organization for the management of overall activities of HQs Kolkata and its sixteen Regional Centres, having 1138 staff strength, excluding hundreds of researchers and contractual staff. Superannuated on 30th April 2020.

Research Experience | 38+ Yrs

- Research experience in the field of natural history, particular reference to the survey and inventorisation of faunal biodiversity of whole India.
- Represented ZSI in XXI Indian Scientific Expedition to Antarctica to study the faunal elements of Schirmacher Oasis during 2001-2002.

Contribution towards the Study of State Fauna, Books & Scientific Papers

- Published 85 books, 5 proceedings and abstract books, 230 scientific articles in SCI journals, 297 research papers in National and International journals, 340 book chapters and 37 abstracts on different groups of animals.
- Published fauna of various Indian states (Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Punjab, Kerala and Andaman & Nicobar Islands) and the fauna of more than 8 protected areas along with seven districts of Chhattisgarh, and Jabalpur district in Madhya Pradesh.
- Comprehensive account of faunal diversity of various ecosystems like marine ecosystem (20,444 spp.), freshwater ecosystem (9,456 spp.), estuarine ecosystems (3,392 spp.), mangrove ecosystem (4822 spp.), soil fauna (22,566 species), and sea-grass ecosystem (1,059 species) were published. The detail checklist of faunal diversity of bio-geographic zones such as Indian Himalaya (30,377 spp), Trans-Himalayas (3324 spp.) Islands (11,009 spp.) and North East (18527 spp.) were also published.

Maintenance and Preservation of Natural History Collections

- ZSI had its genesis from Indian Museum, Kolkata, which was established in 1814. Seven Zoological Galleries of Indian Museum are still renovated and maintained by the ZSI.
- During last five years, new zoological galleries of Indian Museum are designed, created and refurbished.
- ZSI being the National Repository of India, the holdings of the National Zoological Collection exceeds more than 6 million registered specimens, which are maintained and preserved in the organization for the last one century.
- Established the natural history regional museums of the regional centers of ANRC at Port Blair and CZRC at Jabalpur.

Ph. D. Guided.

- 13 students have been awarded Ph. D. under guidance, and 8 are registered and pursuing their Ph.D. programmes from different Universities.

Dissemination of Biodiversity Knowledge

- Invited to deliver lectures in various universities, colleges, institutions at several occasions. Chaired the technical session at University of Agricultural Sciences, Indian Science Congress (2020); chaired the Technical Session on Biodiversity organized by the West Bengal biodiversity Board, W.B.(2014); presented papers on various group of animals during the “Indian Science Congress” organized at Punjabi University, Patiala (1996), Delhi University (1997), Acharya N.G. Ranga Agricultural University, Hyderabad (2006).
- Presented a plenary lecture during the International Conference on Entomology, Punjabi University, Patiala (2014) also chaired the scientific session on Agricultural Entomology; as well as presented a paper on ‘Birds as Insect Bio-control Agents, during the National Conference on “Role of Bio-pesticides, Bio-agents and Bio-fertilizers for sustainable Agriculture and Horticulture at Lucknow (2004).

Contribution towards International Treaties and Conferences

- Represented MoEFCC, Govt. of India to the IUCN World Conservation Congress held at Hawaii (2016), and represented as authority on Indian Fauna to CITES meeting at Geneva, Switzerland (2019).
- Hosted the session on ‘Climate Change Adaptations in Coastal Areas and presented the paper on ‘Coastal Biodiversity and Impact of Climate Change’ during the Side Event- Indian Pavilion, 22nd Session of Conference of Parties (22nd COP), Marrakech, Morocco (2016); Participated in the side event of CoP-13 to the CBD in Cancun, Mexico (2016); on ‘Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals-COP 13’ held at Gandhinagar, Gujarat (2020).
- Participated in the 6th International Symposium on “Biodiversity and Natural Heritage of the Himalayas” at Erfurt/Thuringia, Germany (2017) and presented a paper on “Knowing the unknown in Indian Himalayan Landscape: An Initiative by ZSI.
- Invited to present papers during the ‘First, Fifth & Sixth South East Asian Lepidoptera Conservation Symposium at Hong Kong-2006, 2018 and India-2019.
- Represented ZSI in ‘7th & 8th International Barcode of Life Conference’, in Kruger National Park, South Africa-2017 and Trondheim, Norway-2019 and presented the DNA Barcoding Studies Initiatives in ZSI.
- Invited as Chief Guest (Vidyasagar University-2017, WB; Chitkara University-2019, H.P.; Annamalai University-2019,T.N.; Aligarh University-2019; CSJM University, Kanpur-2019; D.A.V. (PG) College, Dehra Dun-2018);Guest of Honour (Kurukshetra University-2016,2019,Loyola College, Chennai); Lead paper presentation (Gurukul Kangri University, Haridwar-2004; Dr Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University, Aurangabad-2007; Aligarh

University-2013; Ranchi University-2016; Govt. M.S. Golwalkar College, Rewa, M.P.-2010); Invited Lecture (Berhampur University-2016; Ravensha University-2019)

- Several national and international conferences (2), training programmes (5), symposia (2), seminars (3) and workshops (12) for disseminating knowledge to governmental and non-governmental agencies in the field of taxonomy, wildlife forensics, DNA bar-coding, and taxidermy were also organized.
- Attended several training programme RTI, EIA (1999), administrative training and Government e-Marketplace (GeM)-2017.

External and in-house Projects handled

- Completed 20 in-house research programmes, 10 externally funded projects and 3 large grant projects are funded by National Mission of Himalayan Studies, MOEFCC; Biodiversity Assessment through Long-term Monitoring plots in Indian Himalayan Landscape, Lepidoptera (Insecta) as potential indicator taxa for climate change in the Indian Himalayan Landscape, and Conservation of Threatened Vertebrate Fauna in Indian Himalayan Region through Long-Term Monitoring and Capacity Building.

Contribution towards Digital Sequence Information

- More than 1000 DNA barcodes of beetles, moths, bees, flies, thrips and grasshoppers published and uploaded in NCBI/BOLD database.

Contribution towards National Committees

- Invited as an expert to attend the various meetings of Govt. of India on Aichi Biodiversity Targets-National Biodiversity Targets, Sustainable Developmental Goals, IUCN, CITES, CMS, WLPA, PA network, ESZ, Ramsar Sites, Wetlands, AICOPTAX, NBA-ABS Provisions, PBR, Patents; Ecosystem Services, Sustainable Fisheries, Green Skill Development Program (GoI), NMHS, NBM, NMCG, EIA, Pollution Control, Disaster Risk Reduction, Pesticides and Insecticides.

Major Awards & Recognition

Janaki Ammal Taxonomy National Award of Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change-2018;
Honorary Fellow- Zoological Society, Kolkata
Honorary Fellow- Asiatic Society, Kolkata
M. S. Pradhan Memorial Lecture citation 2020

Patents

Larval herbicide for the *Aedes*
Ciliates for the control of harmful bacteria