

PROFILE



Name Dr. M. K. Kaul

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Qualification M.Sc., Ph.D.

Area(s) of Specialization: Biodiversity and Sustainable development of Plant resources and study of environmental issues including climate change and plant adaptation.

Occupation/Designation Ex- Sr. Scientist & Head,
Biodiversity & Applied Botany Division
Indian Institute of Integrative Medicine, Jammu (CSIR).
Presently a Consultant in Biodiversity and stationed at Gurgaon (Haryana).

Major Activities Formerly a Senior Scientist and Head, Division of Biodiversity and Applied Botany, Indian Institute of Integrative Medicine (erstwhile Regional Research Laboratory) Jammu, a constituent of Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), India. An Honours Graduate earned Ph.D. (Botany) from University of Bombay in 1975. As a group leader coordinated R&D activities related to sustainable development and management of plant biodiversity with focus on Himalayan Ethnobotany, conservation biology, production technology and plant biotechnology. In view of the challenges taken up by IIIM, Jammu for focus on botanicals, contributed significantly towards formulating and implementing several R&D networking mega projects with other CSIR laboratories and industry. During last 7-8 years (2000 to 2008) as a team leader his focus has been genetic diversity studies, gene pool characterization and development of new varieties and quality production of medicinal/aromatic plants. Contributed actively in All India Coordinated Research Project on Ethnobiology.

His team has been successful in converting R&D leads into technologies. Complete technology packages of citral and geraniol rich varieties of the genus *Cymbopogon* (CKP-25) and also l-carvone rich *Mentha longifolia* (RRL (J) ML-4), adopting GAP (Good Agricultural Practices) have been successfully released to industry showing considerable impact on societal

upliftment. Global positioning of Ashwagandha (*Withania somnifera*). Under RESCUE MISSION INITIATIVE, was involved as PI of National Gene Bank Facility for North-West Himalayan Medicinal Plants sponsored by DBT, Govt. of India and consulting member of National Biodiversity Action Plan.

Published 100 research papers in national/international journals of repute and authored/edited books on medicinal/aromatic plants which are used as reference books and highly referred by students, scientific community and herbal consultants. The books are prescribed reference books for pharmacy students.

Delivered a number of invited professional lectures/keynote addresses at several national/international conferences and research institutes. Visited Europe, China and Africa in Scientific exchange programmes and was member of scientific delegation from DST. Associated with several important national/international scientific advisory committees and Task forces like Research Council of CIMAP (2000-2003); DST – Programme Advisory Committee on Plant Sciences (2003-2006); MOEF – PAC on Integrated Eco-restoration Programme; Research Board of High Altitude Plant Physiology Research Centre, Srinagar (Uttaranchal), Botanical Garden Conservation International (BGCI) and Task force on High Altitude Medicinal Plants. These advisory groups are working as think tanks to provide intellectual inputs for growth of Science & Technology in the country. Working on a vision to start Centre of Biodiversity and Indigenous Knowledge (CBIK) and linking it to GLOBE (Global Learning of Benefits to Environment).

Awards/Recognitions

Nominated as a fellow of National Society of Ethnopharmacology.