

DR. S. AYYAPPAN, PADMA SHRI AWARDEE, A LEADER IN INDIAN AGRICULTURE

BASANTA KUMAR DAS*

Dr. Subbanna Ayyappan, Padma Shri Awardee, was born at Alakere, Karnataka on 10th December, 1955, in a middle-class family. Dr. Ayyappan made history in the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) by becoming the first non-crop scientist to head the institution. He completed his B.F.Sc. in 1975 and

Master's degree in 1977 in Fish Production and Management from the College of Fisheries, Mangalore and obtained Ph.D. from Bangalore University in 1988. His specific areas of research are Fisheries, Freshwater Aquaculture and Aquatic Microbiology.

Dr. Ayyappan joined the ICAR as Scientist at Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute, Barrackpore in 1978. In 1996, he became Director, CIFA, Bhubaneswar, where he served for almost five years prior to holding the office of the Director, CIFE, Mumbai (Deemed University). His trademark leadership led the CIFA to receive the 'Best ICAR Institution Award', 1996. He joined the ICAR headquarter in 2002 as the Deputy Director General (Fisheries) and served for almost eight years in that capacity before joining the position of the Secretary, DARE & Director General, ICAR on 1 January, 2010. He has the unique distinction of being the Founder and Chief Executive of the National Fisheries Development Board, DAHD&I, Hyderabad (2006-2008). Dr. Ayyappan has served in different capacities on important Committees at the national level and has over 125 research publications.



* e-mail: basantakumard@gmail.com

Awards and Recognitions

For his contributions to fisheries and aquaculture as also research management of the Natinal Agricultural Research System, he has been conferred several awards, Zahoor Quasim Gold Medal, 1996-97; Special ICAR Award, 1997; ICAR Award for Team Research, 1997-98; ZSI Gold Medal, 1998; V. G. Jhingran Gold Medal, 2002; H.P.C. Shetty Award for Excellence in Fisheries Research & Development, AFS, IB, 2002; S.R. Bhargava Medal, 2003; S. L. Hora Gold Medal, 2003; Gold Medal of ASET, 2009; GOLD Medal ZSI, 2009; Life Time Achievement Award, Indian Soc of Biochemists, 2010; SOFTI Award, CIFT, Kochi, 2009; Dr P. Sheel Memorial Award, NAS, Allahabad, 2010; Prof. N. Balakrishnan Nair (Padma Shri) Environmental Excellence Award, 2010; Karuna Award, 2011; Fellowship & Life Time Achievement Award, Society of Extension Education, 2011; Dr B. P. Pal Memorial Award, ISCA, 2012; Platinum Jubilee Award in Agriculture & Forestry, ISCA,

2013; Karnataka Rajyotsava Award, 2013; AMI Life Time Award, 2013; Dr Y. Nayudamma Award, 2014; Dr J. C. Bose Memorial Award, 2014; Dr Amrik Singh Cheema Award, 2014; G.M. Modi Award for Innovative Science & Technology, 2014; O. P. Bhasin Award, 2015; Dr. V. Kurien Memorial Award, 2016; Sir M. Visveswaraya Memorial Award, KSCST, 2017, to name a few. Govt. of India conferred the coveted Padma Shri award, on Dr. Subbanna Ayyappan for his distinguished service in the field of science and engineering: as a Respected Aquaculture Scientist - playing a key role in powering India's Blue Revolution'.

Dr. Ayyappan has served on several national committees as also Boards of CGIAR Institutes. Having been a NABARD Chair Professor, he is currently the Chancellor, Central Agricultural University, Imphal; and Chairman, Karnataka Science & Technology Academy, Bengaluru. □