



**Name: Dr. Lakshmi Kant (FNAAS, FISGPB, FSAWBR)**

**Designation: Director**

**Area of Specialization:** Wheat and barley breeding, Winter x spring wheat hybridization, rust resistance, Molecular breeding (MAS)

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## Education

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- PhD in Genetics from Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi, India (1997).
- MSc in Plant Breeding from G.B. Pant University of Agriculture & Technology. Pantnagar, Uttarakhand, India (1991).
- BSc (Ag) & AH from G.B. Pant University of Agriculture & Technology. Pantnagar, Uttarakhand, India (1986).

## Post-doctorate Experiences and Training

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- Plant Breeding Institute, Cobbitty, University of Sydney, Australia (2010).
- International Center for wheat and Maize Improvement (CIMMYT), Mexico (2010).
- International Centre for Agricultural Research in Dry Areas (ICARDA), Aleppo, Syria (2009).
- Moscow, Russia from 23-28th June 1999 as a visiting Scientist to attend “Seed Breeding and Selection in Grain Crops” under Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and Russian Academy of Agricultural Sciences (RAAS) work plan (1998-99).
- Intellectual Property Valuation and Technology Management, NAARM, Hyderabad, India (2014).
- Program on Science Governance and Management, ASCI, Hyderabad, India (2016).
- Management Development Programme, NAARM, Hyderabad, India (2014).
- Resistance Breeding in Crop Plants Centre of Advanced Studies (ICAR), Deptt. of Plant Breed., PAU., Ludhiana (1997).
- Recent Techniques in Plant Molecular Biology and Biotechnology NRC Plant Biotechnology, IARI, New Delhi. (1998).
- Summer Institute on Plant Genetic Resources: Principles Procedures and Approaches in Collection, Evaluation and Conservation NBPGR, New Delhi. (1998).
- Advance Course on Pathology, Genetics and Breeding for Resistance Directorate of Wheat Research, RS, Flowerdale, Shimla. (1998).
- Plant Breeding Methodology- Today and Tomorrow Centre of Advanced Studies (ICAR), Department of Plant Breeding, Genetics & Biotechnology, P.A.U., Ludhiana. (2004).
- Short course on Improving efficiency of Scientist and Officers of VPKAS, Almora VPKAS, Almora by NAARM, Hyderabad Faculty. (2005).
- Foundation Course on Agricultural Research Project Management, NAARM, Hyderabad (1995).

## Professional History

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- Director (A), ICAR-*Vivekananda Parvatiya Krishi Anusandhan Sansthan* (VPKAS) (Vivekananda Institute of Hill Agriculture), Almora, Uttarakhand (2020 onwards).
- Head, Crop Improvement Division, ICAR-VPKAS, Almora, Uttarakhand (2016-2021).
- I/C Head, Crop Improvement Division & Principal Scientist of ICAR-VPKAS, Almora (2014 to 2016)
- Principal Scientist, ICAR-VPKAS, Almora, Uttarakhand (2010-16).
- Zonal Coordinator, Northern Hills Zone of AICWBIP (2010 onwards)
- Australian Leadership Award Fellow, Plant Breeding Institute, Cobbitty, University of Sydney, Australia (2010)

- Senior Scientist, ICAR-VPKAS (2004-10), Scientist (Sr. Scale), ICAR-VPKAS (1999-2004); Scientist, ICAR-VPKAS (1995-99).
- Visiting scientist Moscow, under ICAR-RAAS program (1999) and ICARDA, Syria, (2009).
- Visiting Scientists and trainee at CIMMYT, Mexico (2010)
- Participated in 11 international symposia/conferences.

## International Experience

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- Australian Leadership Award Fellow, Plant Breeding Institute, Cobbitty, University of Sydney, Australia (2010).
- Visiting Trainee, International Center for wheat and Maize Improvement (CIMMYT), Mexico (2010).
- Visiting Scientist, International Centre for Agricultural Research In Dry Areas (ICARDA), Aleppo, Syria (2009).
- Visiting Scientist, Moscow, Russia from 23-28th June 1999 as a visiting Scientist to attend “Seed Breeding and Selection in Grain Crops” under Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and Russian Academy of Agricultural Sciences (RAAS) work plan 1998-99.
- Participated in 3<sup>rd</sup> International Crop Science Congress at Hamburg Germany (2000).

## Varietal development & Publications

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- Developed 14 wheat and 5 barley varieties suitable for Northern hills of India.
- h-index 15, i10-index 21 with more than 785 citations.
- Published more than 73 research papers, 10 review papers, 44 popular articles, 4 books and 21 book chapters.

## Awards and Recognitions

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### • Fellowship of Academies/Societies

1. National Academy of Agricultural Sciences (NAAS), India (2020).
2. Indian Society of Genetics and Plant Breeding (ISGPB), New Delhi (2015).
3. Society for Advancement of Wheat and Barley Research (SAWBR), Karnal (2014).

### • International Awards and Recognitions

1. Australian Leadership Award Fellowship (2010).
2. Delivered a special Seminar on “Breeding wheat for Northern Hills of India” at CIMMYT, Mexico on 13.04.2010.

### • National Awards and Recognitions

1. Dr M V Rao Memorial Award conferred by SAWBR, Karnal (2021)
2. Certificate of excellence for best performing center of ICAR Seed Project (As nodal officer) (2021)
3. Pt Deendayal Upadhyay Rashtriya Krishi Vigyan Protshahan Puruskar-2018 (Nodal officer KVK) (2019)
4. Certificate for Outstanding Coordinated work from Project Director Wheat, DWR, Karnal. (2012).
5. *Krishi Sansthan Samman* under the Mahindra Samridhi India Agri award 2012 in which dual purpose wheat was one of the two technologies submitted for award. (2012).
6. The ICAR award for outstanding interdisciplinary team research in agriculture and allied sciences for the biennium 2005-06 in Crop Improvement for developing rice and wheat varieties for cultivation in hilly regions (2008).

## Member of Academic and Policy-framing Bodies

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- Member, Governing Body meeting of Uttarakhand Council for Biotechnology, Haldi, Pantnagar (2021 onwards)
- External Expert, Center for Excellence in Himalayan Medicinal plants and nano technology, Kumaun University, Naini tal, Uttarakhand (2021 onwards).
- RDC member of Himalayiya University, Dehradun (2020 onwards).
- Special Invited member of Board of Director of Uttarakhand State seed and Tarai Development Corporation (2012 to 2014)
- Chairman for the session on Work Planning Meeting- Crop Improvement (NHZ) in AICRP Wheat and Barley Research Workers (2011-12 to 2015-16)
- Co Chairman of Crop Improvement Session of ACRSMIP (2014)
- Member on spot verification committee for Plant Genome savior community award (2017)
- Member, Research Advisory committee, Uttarakhand Forest Research Advisory Committee (2020 onwards).
- Member Integrated Model Agriculture Village-IMA village, Uttarakhand (2020 onwards)
- Member State level Project Screening committee (SLPSC) of RKVY-RAFTAR, Uttarakhand (2020 onwards)
- Member State level sanctioning committee-SLSC of Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojna (PMSKY) (2020 onwards)
- Member SFSM-Executive Committee of NFSM of Uttarakhand (2020 onwards)
- Member, Uttarakhand State Seed Sub Committee for Agricultural crops (2020-2022).
- Member, *Mukhyamantri Rajya Krishi Vikas Yojna* (2020 onwards)
- Chairman, ITMU, ICAR VPKAS, Almora (2016 onwards)
- Chairman, ITMC, ICAR VPKAS, Almora (2020 onwards)
- Session Coordinator, NASI-UK chapter, Brain storming session on “Hill Agriculture: Tryst with challenges and beyond) (14/11/2011)

## Member of Professional Societies

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- National Academy of Agricultural Sciences, New Delhi
- Indian Society of Genetics and Plant Breeding, New Delhi
- Society for Advancement of Wheat and Barley Research, Karnal