

PREFACE

This book embodies the proceedings of the **National Conference on "Sustainable Utilization of Biological Resources"**, organised by the University Department of Botany on March 16-18, 2001. It was jointly sponsored by the U.G.C. and Dr. Hari Singh Gour Vishwavidyalaya, Sagar (M.P.).

The focal theme of the symposium was to discuss the various aspects of Biodiversity, its basic concept, causes of loss of Biodiversity, strategies for conservation and sustainable uses of Biological Resources.

The conference was inaugurated by Shri Shiv Kumar Shrivastava, Vice-Chancellor and presided over by Prof. K.M. Vyas, Head Dept. of Botany of the University. More than 50 subject experts from different parts of the country participated in the academic deliberations. They reviewed various problems and prospects of Biodiversity and holistic Management in relation to the protection of gradually degrading environment. They also expounded that the success of this programme required a holistic approach and participation of ecologists, conservationists, environmentalists, sociologists, technocrats, environment organisers, NGO's and local people.

The proceedings includes both review and research articles on the various facets of the focal theme. Some articles are related to higher plant diversity, others on medicinal plant diversity, agricultural diversity as well as microbial diversity. During the deliberations, renowned subject experts, such as Dr. R.K. Tondon (Hans Raj College of Delhi University), Dr. B.P. Choudhury (Bhuvaneshwar University), Dr. G.R. Hegde (Karnatak University), Dr. J.P. Tiwari (J.N.K.V.V., Jabalpur), Dr. R.C. Shrivastava (Botanical Survey of India), Dr. A.K. Pandey (Bhagalpur University) participated actively.

Based on the proceedings of the conference, this volume is expected to be of immense value to the scientists and researchers

– working in the allied field also, to the teachers and Post-Graduate students of Environment Biology, Taxonomy, Microbiology, Applied Botany, Medicinal Plants, Ethnobotany etc.

The convenor of the Conference expresses his deep gratitude to his Highness Sri K.R. Narayanan, President of India, Dr. (Mrs.) Vidyavati, Vice-Chancellor, Kakatiya University; Warangal, Prof. R.R. Das, Ex-Vice-Chancellor, Jiwaji University, Gwalior, Dr. N.P. Singh, Director, Botanical Survey of India, Kolkata, Dr. K.S. Manilal, Professor Emeritus and former Head of the Department of Botany, Dean, Faculty of Science of IAAT, Shri Shiv Kumar Shrivastava, Vice-Chancellor of the University for their good wishes for the success of the symposium. The convenor is also thankful to the colleagues of the department for their ungrudging help and to the U.G.C., New Delhi for providing financial support for holding the symposium.

The convenor feels pleasure to record special thanks to all the contributors of this volume for their generously accepting invitation and contributing the articles. It is the quality of their contribution that made this volume of profound academic interest.

The convenor is grateful to the Chairman and Recorders of the various technical sessions and to all who delivered informative and relevant key note addresses on this occasion. Plenary lectures presented papers including the papers. Convenor is sincerely grateful to the Head, Dept. of Botany who, provided all the facilities and encouragement for organizing the conference. Convenor is also deeply indebted to the members of organising committee of the conference for their keen interest and kind cooperation and specially to Prof. A.K. Kandya for his valuable help in editing this volume and in getting this volume printed. The cooperation of research students as well as PG students also duly acknowledged and I am personally thankful to all of them. Convenor is also thankful to the Scientific Publishers (India), Jodhpur for undertaking the task of bringing out this volume.

SAGAR (M.P.)

T.R. Sahu

Convenor
National Conference