

## **Biography of BHU VC Dr. Panjab Singh (2005-May 2008)**

**Prof. Panjab Singh**  
Vice-Chancellor

**BANARAS HINDU UNIVERSITY**



Born in village Anantpur (Mirzapur) about 35 Km. away from Varanasi, Dr. Panjab Singh started his early education from Udai Pratap College, Varanasi and did his M.Sc in Agriculture in 1964 in **First division** with distinction of having **First position in the Agra University merit**; PhD. (Water management) in 1969 from Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Kharagpur in collaboration the University of California, Davis, U.S.A.

Dr. Singh presently the Vice-Chancellor, Banaras Hindu University, a great seat of learning started his career as Assistant Professor and rose to the position of **Secretary, Department of Agriculture Research and Education (DARE), GOI and Director General, Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)**. He has held many responsible positions such as Agronomist; Head of the Division; **Assistant Director General, ICAR**; Director, Indian Grassland and Fodder Research Institute (IGFRI), Jhansi; **Joint Director and Director/Vice-Chancellor** of the premier Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI), a deemed to be University and popularly known as PUSA Institute; **Vice-Chancellor**, Jawaharlal Nehru Agricultural University, Jabalpur. Dr. Singh also served as **Regional Plant Production and Protection Officer** in the Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO) of the **United Nations in Bangkok** (Thailand).

He is elected **Fellows of Five Scientific Societies**, viz., National Academy of Agricultural Sciences (NAAS), Indian Society of Agronomy (ISA), National Institute of Ecology (NIE), Bio-Ved Research Society of India (BRSI) and Society for Extension Education (EES); **President of Five Scientific Societies** viz., Indian Society of Agronomy (3 terms), Range Management Society of India (3 terms), Indian Society of Agricultural Statistics (Two terms), Indian Society of Agricultural Sciences (two terms), Indian Society of Plant Physiology (one term); **Vice President of Five Societies/Associations**, viz., Indian Society of Forage Research, Society of Bio-Sciences, Indian Agricultural Universities Association (IAUA), National Academy of Agricultural Sciences (NAAS) besides being Chairman/member of various National and International Scientific Bodies, Board of Governors, Board of Management, Advisory Boards both at national and international levels. A few notable once are, **Chairman**, ICAR Governing Body; **Vice-Chairman**, ICRISAT Governing Board; **Member**, Policy Advisory Board, ACIAR, Australia; Continuing Committees of International Rangeland and International Grassland

Congresses; Member, Editorial Board of Grasslands & Herbage Abstracts, CAB International, U.K.; Japanese Society of Grassland Science, Japan; Expert Member for European Union Projects; Member, Expert Panel for 1992 Roman Megasaysay Award, Philippines, Member, Search Committee for Chairman, UGC, Member, Search Committee (constituted by MHRD) for the selection of Chairman, National Council of Rural Institutes (NCRI), Hyderabad, Member, Court & Council of Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, Member, Court, JNU, New Delhi, University of Allahabad and Member, Governing Body, Indian Institute of Advanced Study, Shimla; Member, Executive Council, Manipur and Nagaland Universities; Member, General Assembly, ICCR, New Delhi; Member, Executive Council, National Academy of Agricultural Sciences (NAAS). He is also the Chairman, Working Group on Agro-climatic Zonal Planning and also Task Force on Grasslands and Deserts for the Environment & Forests Sector for Eleventh Five Year Plan (2007-2012), Planning Commission, Government of India, Chairman, Monitoring Committee of Pesticide Encyclopedia, TIFAC, DST, GOI.

Dr. Singh has **widely traveled** time and again in various capacities viz, leader of delegation, expert member, conference participant to countries like Australia, Belgium, Bhutan, Canada, China, France, Germany, Hungary, Indonesia, Italy, Nepal, Netherlands, Kenya (Nairobi), New Zealand, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Syria, Thailand, U.K., U.S.A. He also worked as **Director**, School of Agriculture in Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), one of the world's largest University in Open Distance Learning (ODL). He is also the **Advisor** (Agriculture and Rural Technology) in Office of the Principal Scientific Advisor, Government of India, New Delhi. He is the Vice-Chancellor of the Banaras Hindu University since May 2005.

Dr. Singh is also decorated with **D.Sc. (Honoris Causa) by four Universities** viz., Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore (TN), V.B.S. Poorvanchal University, Jaunpur (U.P.) and Narendra Deva University of Agriculture and Technology, Faizabad.

Dr. Singh has made significant scientific contribution in fields of water management and crop production and management systems besides providing leadership in shaping up of national and state level research institutions and Agricultural Universities. He has won **several distinguished awards** viz., National Productivity Council Award, Millennium Plaque of Honour by Indian Science Congress, World Food Day Award, K.N. Behl Memorial Gold Medal, ISA Gold Medal, Live Time Achievement Award of Indian Society of Agronomy etc. Dr. Singh has **more than 350 research papers/articles** to his credit and has **guided more than a dozen Ph.D., and M.Phil. programmes.**

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