

Dr.M. S. Swaminathan Chair for Agriculture Science Institute of Agricultural Science, Bundelkhand University, Jhansi

About

Professor M S Swaminathan as the Honorary Chair for Agriculture Science, Bundelkhand University is established to guide the development and promotion of Agriculture Science particularly in Bundelkhand region and across the nation in general. Dr Swaminathan has been acclaimed as one of the twenty most influential Asians of the 20th century and one of the only three from India, the other two being Mahatma Gandhi and Rabindranath Tagore. He has been described by the United Nations Environment Programme as "*the Father of Economic Ecology*" and by Javier Perez de Cuellar, Secretary General of the United Nations, as "a living legend who will go into the annals of history as a world scientist of rare distinction".



He was Chairman of the UN Science Advisory Committee set up in 1980 to take follow-up action on the Vienna Plan of Action. He has also served as Independent President of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources and President of the Pugwash Conferences on Science and World Affairs Chairman of the FAO Council. He is a Fellow of all the leading Science Academies of India and of the Royal Society of London, the US Natural Science Academy and the Russian and Chinese Science Academies. He holds the UNESCO Chair in Ecotechnology at the M S Swaminathan Research Foundation in Chennai (Madras), India and is a Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha).

➤ The Themes of Chair are:

- Integrated farming.
- Conservation agriculture.
- Organic farming.
- Biodynamic farming.
- Agroforestry
- Permaculture
- Horticulture
- Zero Budget Farming
- And allied subjects

Brief About Monkombu Sambasivan Swaminathan

Dr. M.S. Swaminathan, born on 7 August 1925, is popularly known as the Father of Green Revolution in India. He is the Founder Chairman, Emeritus Chairman and Chief Mentor of the M. S. Swaminathan Research Foundation (MSSRF) at Chennai, which he founded in 1988. Dr. Swaminathan obtained a B.Sc. degree in Zoology from the Maharajas College in Thiruvananthapuram, and also in Agricultural Sciences from the Coimbatore Agricultural College. Subsequently, he received M.Sc. degree in Agricultural Sciences (specializing in genetics and plant breeding) from the Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI) in 1949 and Ph.D. degree from Cambridge University, UK in 1952. Dr. Swaminathan joined the faculty of IARI, New Delhi, in 1954. He became the Director of IARI (1961-72), Director General of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and Secretary to the Government of India, Department of Agricultural Research and Education (1972-79), Principal Secretary in the Ministry of Agriculture (1979-80), Acting Deputy Chairman and later Member (Science and Agriculture), Planning Commission (1980-82), and Director General, International Rice Research Institute, the Philippines (1982-88). A plant geneticist by training, Dr. Swaminathan has made a stellar contribution to the agricultural renaissance of India, and is widely regarded as the scientific leader of India's green revolution movement. His advocacy of sustainable agriculture leading to an evergreen revolution makes him an acknowledged world leader in the field of sustainable food security. The International Association of Women and Development conferred on him the first international award for significant contributions to promoting the knowledge, skill, and technological empowerment of women in agriculture, and for his pioneering role in mainstreaming gender considerations in agriculture and rural development. Dr. Swaminathan has received numerous awards and honours, including the S.S. Bhatnagar Award for his contribution to biological sciences (1961), Ramon Magsaysay Award for Community Leadership in 1971, the Albert Einstein World Science Award in 1986, the first World Food Prize in 1987, the Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament and Development, the Franklin D. Roosevelt Four Freedoms Medal and the Mahatma Gandhi Prize of UNESCO in 2000, and the Lal Bahadur Shastri National Award in 2007. Dr. Swaminathan is a proud recipient of some of India's highest honours including Padma Shri (1967), Padma Bhushan (1972) and Padma Vibhushan (1989). He is a Fellow of many of the leading scientific academies of India and the world, including the Royal Society of London and the US National Academy of Sciences. He has received 81 honorary doctorate degrees from universities around the world. He was a Member of the Parliament of India (Rajya Sabha) for the period 2007-13. He also chairs the Task Force set up by the Ministry of External Affairs to oversee the projects undertaken in Afghanistan and Myanmar in the field of agriculture and was elected the "Living Legend of International Union of Nutrition Sciences" at the 20th International Congress of Nutrition held at Granada, Spain.

Objectives of the Chair

The objective of the chair is to perform following academic functions:

- To organize theme lectures on the pertinent subjects.
- To collaborate for promoting the main objective of this chair, which is research into all issues related to efficient agricultural methods that contributes to the development of sustainable and competitive agriculture.
- Promote studies on aspects related to efficient fertilization that respects the environment to contribute to the development of sustainable agriculture.
- Carry out research activities in relation to new fertilizers and new agricultural and fertilization techniques.
- Pass on knowledge and technologies regarding the best practices
- Cooperate in programmes to train professionals and facilitate agronomy, food and biosystems education, Horticulture, Soil sciences etc
- The University aims to accelerate use of modern science and technology for agricultural and rural development to improve lives and livelihoods of communities.
- To increase the accuracy and efficiency of agricultural input applications.
- To conduct lab and field experiments and researches on the economic and environmental negative impacts of agricultural chemical misapplications.
- To conduct researches on the economic and environmental feasibility of the precision farming technology that would promote this technology to be accepted and adopted by farmers and environmentalists.
- To localize this technology through collaborative research efforts.
- To deliver this technology to a wide segment of local researchers, environmentalists, farmers and agro-economists.
- To coordinate and to provide a think tank in the agricultural thrust areas assigned to the Chair by drawing expertise and inputs from academics and experts from agricultural sub-sectors including livestock, agro-forestry and fishing and aquaculture
- To design and execute capacity building programmes for teachers and scholars in higher education focused towards the agricultural and allied thrust areas of the Chair.
- To strengthen the role of universities/ academics in public policy making.
- To conduct short-term courses in the concerned agriculture and allied disciplines.

- To engage studies in research works leading to Higher education.
- To set up library for teachers and researchers working in the relevant field.

The Bundelkhand University, Jhansi (UP) will review the progress of the Chair annually and submit a final report on the activities and outcome of the Chair.