

SUMAN SAHAI

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Ph. D – Genetics. Indian Agricultural research Institute, New Delhi,

Professorship (Habilitation) in Genetics (University of Heidelberg, Germany)

Over 25 years of research and teaching experience in the universities of Alberta (Canada) Chicago and Heidelberg (Germany).

Returned to India from Germany to get involved in development work in India, specially related to biological resources, food & nutritional security, rural livelihoods, IPR and Farmers' Rights, indigenous knowledge and related issues. A group of like minded people with diverse backgrounds started the **NGO 'Gene Campaign'** to create a formal platform for this work.

Chairperson of the Gene Campaign, which is a grassroots level research and advocacy group in India,. The Campaign has worked in 17 states, conducting over 400 district and village level meetings over the years. Gene Campaign has worked together with a cross section of people including farming and tribal communities, academic institutions, government departments, political and activist groups, NGOs and students. It is linked to a large network of national and international organizations, which enables it to have a national and international outreach.

Membership in National Policy Forums (Present & Past)

Agriculture & Food

- Member, International NGO Steering Committee of Global Forum for Agricultural Research (GFAR)
- Member, Working Group on International Undertaking on Plant Genetic Resources, Govt. of India.
- Member, Committee on Plant Genetic Resources, Indian Council of Agricultural Research, New Delhi
- Member, Working Group on Knowledge Applications in Agriculture, National Knowledge Commission, Govt. of India
- Member, Working Group for Community Agro-Biodiversity Conservation, Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Authority, Govt. of India
- Member, Commission on Center-State Relations, Task Force on Natural Resources, Environment, Land and Agriculture, Govt. of India

- Member, Research Advisory Committee, National Academy of Agriculture Research Management (NAARM), Govt. of India
- Member, Expert Committee to frame the Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers Rights Bill
- Member, Agriculture Commission, Jharkhand, India
- Member, Research Advisory Committee, National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources, (NBPGR) Govt. of India
- Member, Steering Committee, Agricultural Diversity Group, International Development and Research Council (IDRC), Canada.
- Member, Task force for mainstreaming gender in National Agricultural Technology Program (NATP), Agriculture Ministry, Govt of India

Biodiversity and Conservation

- Member, National Afforestation and Eco-development Board, Ministry of Environment & Forests, Govt. of India.
- Member, Expert Committee on Access and Benefit Sharing, National Biodiversity Authority, Govt. of India
- Governing Council, Inst. of Bioresources & Sustainable Development, Manipur, India
- Member, Steering Committee, National Biodiversity Board, Govt. of India
- Member, Expert Committee to frame Biological Diversity Bill.
- Member, Forest Conservation Committee, Govt. of India.
- Member, Steering Committee, Biodiversity Conservation Project - India.
- Member, State Biodiversity Board, Government of Madhya Pradesh
- Member, Committee on Export Policy of Medicinal Plants, Govt. of India.

Biotechnology, IPR and International Trade

- Member, Expert Committee to develop Methodologies for Monitoring Environmental impacts of Genetically Modified Organisms in Crop Production, FAO, Rome
- Member, Advisory Committee on Intellectual Property Rights and Indian Germplasm Resources, Govt of India
- Witness, Standing Committee on Agriculture, Seeds Bill, 2004
- Member, Expert Committee to frame the National Biotechnology Policy
- Chairperson, Task Force on Biodiversity & Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs) for Eleventh Five Year Plan (2007-2012), National Planning Commission, Govt. of India
- Member, Expert Group on TRIPS- CBD linkage, Ministry of Commerce, Govt. of India
- Chairperson, Committee on Intellectual Property Rights, BCCP, India.
- Member, National Commission on International Trade, Min. of Commerce, Govt. of India
- Working Group on TRIPs, Confederation of Indian Industry, India

- Member, High -Level Advisory Board, Biotechnology Consortium, India Ltd.
- Consultant for Biotechnology, Business Council for Sustainable Development, India.
- Member, Expert Group on WTO and CBD, Min. of Commerce, Govt. of India
- Witness, Parliamentary Select Committee on Patent Amendments.
- Witness, Parliamentary Standing Committee on the Dunkel Draft and IPR
- Witness, Parliamentary Committee on Subordinate Legislation
- Witness, Parliamentary Standing Committee on Commerce

Education and Development

- Member, International Advisory Committee, STEPS Centre, Institute of Development Studies (IDS), Sussex, UK
- Member, Board of Trustees, MS Swaminathan Research Foundation, Chennai.
- Member, Research Advisory Committee of National Innovation Foundation
- Member, Governing Board, Delhi College of Arts and Commerce, University of Delhi
- Member, Governing Board, Vivekananda College, University of Delhi
- Member, General Assembly of ActionAid, India.

- Member, State Planning Board, Government of Meghalaya,
- Member, Central Advisory Board on Education, Govt. of India.
- Member, Scientific Experimentation Committee, Govt. of India.
- Member, Committee on Ethical issues – Indian Council of Medical research (ICMR)
- Governing Council and Syndicate, Veer Kunwar Singh University, Arrah, Bihar
- Member, Syndicate, BR Ambedkar University, Muzzafarpur
- Member, Ethics Committee, Sir Ganga Ram Hospital, New Delhi
- Governing Council, Asian Development & Research Institute, India.
- Governing Board, Rashtriya Mahila Kosh, Govt. of India.
- Fellow, Ashoka Foundation, Virginia, USA.

AWARDS AND PRIZES

- Padma Shri awarded by the President of India (2011)
- *Outstanding Woman Achiever Award* (2008) Lucknow Management Association, Lucknow, India
- FICCI (Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce) *Outstanding Woman Achiever Award* (2008) Mumbai, India
- *Borlaug Award* for 'Outstanding Contribution to Agriculture and the Environment ', (2004) New Delhi, India.
- *Kissan Samman*, Farmers' Forum, for "Yeoman Service to Indian Farmers" (2003) Vijayawada, India
- *Knight of The Order of the Golden Ark* , for " Valuable contribution to biodiversity by establishing Gene Campaign", (2001) Amsterdam, Netherlands
- *National Service Award*,, Pragati Trust (1998), Hyderabad, India.
- Birbal Sahwney University Gold Medal(1971), Lucknow., India

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Books

- Risiko: Grune Gentechnik (2005) Rudolf Buntzel, Suman Sahai, ISBN 3-86099-814-5
- Indigenous Knowledge; Issues for Developing Countries (2005) Ed., Suman Sahai, Ujjwal Kumar & Waquar Ahmed, ISBN – 81-901009-3-9
- Farmer's Perception of Agrobiodiversity; A study in North India (2005). Ed. Suman Sahai, Bhaskar Mahanta, & Waquar Ahmed
- The Story of Bt Cotton in India, (2005); Ed. Suman Sahai, Gene Campaign
- Relevance of GM Technology to Indian Agriculture and Food Security (2004), ed., Suman Sahai, ISBN-81-901009-8-X
- Genetically Modified Crops: A Resource Guide for the Asia Pacific (2003), Suman Sahai, ISBN –81-901009-6-3
- Status of the Rights of Farmers and Plant Breeders in Asia' (2003), Ujjwal Kumar & Suman Sahai, ISBN – 81 901009-4-7
- Genetic Diversity in Indian Trees'.(2001), Gene Campaign, ISBN – 81 901009-2-0
- Bioresources and Biotechnology: Policy concerns for the Asian Region' (1999), ed. Suman Sahai., ISBN – 81-901009-1-2
- Microorganisms and Intellectual Property Rights' (1998), ed. Suman Sahai. ISBN – 81-901009-0-4

Book Chapters: -

- The Agrobiodiversity Commons (2011) Vocabulary of Commons, Foundation of Ecological Security, Gujarat www.fes.org.in
- Coping with Challenges to Food Security, Climate Change, Biofuels, and GMOs (2010) India's New Economic Policy : A Critical Analysis, Waquar Ahmed, Amitabh Kundu and Richard Peet, (Eds) Routledge Studies in Development and Society, pp 199 -216, ISBN – 978-0-415-80188-1
- The Genetic Engineering of Crops (2010) The World Bank in India: Undermining Sovereignty, distorting Development, Michele Kelley * Deepika D'Souza (ed), Orient Black Swan Publication, pp231-235, ISBN- 978 81 250 3864 1
- Social and Economic Aspects of Agricultural Biotechnology (2009) The WTO at the Crossroads, Paramita Dasgupta (ed), Concept Publishing Company, pp 117-131, ISBN – 81-8069-443-7
- The Social and Economic Impact of GM Crops: The case of the Herbicide Tolerance Trait (2008) Women in Biotechnology; Creating Interfaces, Molfino, Francesca; Zucco, Flavia (eds), XXIV, Springer, Secaucus, USA, ISBN: 978-1-4020-8610-6, pp331-338
- Trojan Horse (2008) Beyond Degrees, IIC Quarterly, vol. 34, No. 3&4, pp110
- India's New Plant Variety Protection and Farmer's Rights Law (2007) Plant Varieties and Farmer's Rights- Policies and legal perspectives, ed. A. Usha, Amicus Books, The ICFAI University press, ISBN- 81-314-1311-X, pp94-110

- The Seeds of Discontent (2007) India 60, IIC Quarterly 2006-2007 pp. 162-171
- TRIPS and Biodiversity: A Gender Perspective (2006) Think India Quarterly, Vol. 9, No. 2, April-June, pp63-79
- Is AgBiotechnology Suited to Agricultural Production in India (2005) India's Agricultural Challenges, ed. Ramesh Chand, Centad, Oxfam Chapter – VII, Pp 161-170
- TRIPS and biodiversity: a gender perspective (2004) Gender, Development and Trade, ed. Maree Keating, Oxfam GB, pp58-65 ISBN 0 85598 5321
- Can GM and Non-GM Crops be Segregated in India- Is Coexistence Possible? (2004) Relevance of GM Technology to Indian Agriculture and Food Security, Suman Sahai (ed), Gene Campaign, pp45-62
- Strategies for Sustainable Increase in Food Production (2004) National Food Security Summit, M S Swaminathan, Pedro Medrano, Daniel J Gustafson, Pravesh Sharma (ed) pp. 125-150
- Indigenous Knowledge and its Protection In India (2003) Trading in Knowledge: Development perspectives on TRIPS, Trade and Sustainability (Edited by Bellmann, C. Dutfield, G., & Melendez, R.) ICTSD, Pg166-174
- Protection of Indigenous Knowledge and Possible methods of Sharing Benefit with Local Communities (2003) Published in "The ICFAI Journal of Intellectual Property Rights (IJIPR)
- India's Plant Variety Protection and Farmers Rights Act, 2001 (2002) Published in "Indian Agriculture: Current Status, Prospects and Challenges", by Acharya N.G. Ranga Agricultural University, Dec. 2002, Pg. 291-305.