

**DR. (Ms.) CHANDISH R. BALLAL,**

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**Dr. Chandish Ballal** obtained her B Sc, M Sc and M Phil Degrees from Calicut University and her PhD degree from Mysore University. She was a Merit Scholarship holder throughout her education and a University first rank holder for her M Phil degree. Her first posting as Scientist was at ICAR-Indian Institute of Horticultural Research in 1985 and later she moved on to the Project Directorate of Biological Control during the formative years, which is now upgraded to ICAR-National Bureau of Agricultural Insect Resources. She was the Head of the Division of Insect Ecology from 2013 to 2016 and Director of ICAR-NBAIR from 2016. She has always laid emphasis on environmental safety and sustainability by focusing her research efforts on conservation of biodiversity and “Biological control” a non-chemical mode of insect pest management. She has standardized continuous and effective production technologies for beneficial insects, which are being widely adopted by commercial units, researchers and students. She holds the largest live insect repository in Asia, with 127 different insect cultures. The prompt and continuous supply of quality live insect cultures made and production protocols developed by her are valuable services to the student community, bio-control researchers and commercial insectaries. By interacting with farmers and conducting demonstration trials in farmers’ fields, she has created confidence in farmers on the non-chemical mode of pest management. She has handled around 40 research projects and has more than 300 research publications (including research papers in peer reviewed journals, book chapters, edited books, Technical bulletins and Symposium papers) to her credit. She has received international travel grants from DST, IOBC, CSIR, CABI, ICAR, FAO and Beijing Academy of Sciences to present her research papers in international conferences in India, Greece, China, Srilanka, Nepal, Bangkok and USA. She is an elected fellow of several Professional Societies and is the recipient of several awards and recognitions including Prof. T N Ananthakrishnan Award 2006, Dr Sithanantam Award 2010-11, NBAIR scientific excellence Award 2015, Dr S P Singh Biocontrol Lifetime Achievement Award 2016, the prestigious ICAR Panjabrao Deshmukh Outstanding Woman Agricultural Scientist Award 2015 and most recently Dr S Pradhan Memorial Award 2018 from IARI, New Delhi, Dr (Ms) Prem Dureja Endowment Award from National Academy of Agricultural Sciences for the Biennium 2017-18 and Dr BV David Lifetime Achievement Award 2019. Throughout her career, by way of training of stake-holders, publications related to biodiversity & biocontrol, guidance provided to students, farmer interactions and supply of quality biological control agents, she has made concerted efforts to create awareness on the importance of a healthy environment and to popularise the concept of biological control amongst all stake-holders.