



Dr. A.K. Pandey is Dean, College of Horticulture and Forestry, Rani Lakshmi Bai Central Agricultural University, Jhansi. Prior to joining RLBCAU, Jhansi, Dr. Pandey served as Dean, College of Horticulture and Forestry, Pasighat, Arunachal Pradesh under Central Agricultural University, Imphal, Manipur. Before entering the University service, Dr. Pandey worked as Principal Scientist at the ICAR-Indian Institute of Vegetable Research, Varanasi. He is ARS Scientist of 1985 batch. Dr. Pandey obtained his M.Sc. (Ag.) and Ph.D. degree in Horticulture from C.S. Azad University of Agriculture and Technology, Kanpur. Dr. Pandey participated in the 1st International Post-Graduate Course on Protected Agriculture in Arid and Semi-arid Region at Hebrew University, Jerusalem, Israel. He has published more than 80 research papers, 167 popular articles and review articles in journals of national and international repute. Dr. Pandey has authored 12 books, viz. (i) *Bharat mein Sabji Utpadan: Pramukh Kismein evam Vikas Ki Taknike*, (ii) *Grih Vatika evam Hamara Swasthya*, (iii) *Patti vali Sabjiya*, (iv) *Alpupyogi Sabjiya*, (v) *Nai Sajiya*, (vi) *Underutilized Vegetable Crops*, (vii) *Dalhani Sabjiya*, (viii) *Aquatic Vegetables*, (ix) *Drumstick (Moringa oleifera Lamk)*, (x) *Velvet bean (Mucuna prureins L. DC.)*, (xi) *Exotic Vegetables*, and (xii) *Curry leaf*. Dr. Pandey's contribution towards utilizing the underutilized vegetable crops in addressing the nutritional security is considered one of the most notable achievements in enriching the food diversity and inviting the attention of researchers to lesser known vegetables of the country.

Dr. A.K. Pandey has been conferred several awards and honours for his distinguished academic contributions. Hon'ble President of India has conferred on him the prestigious Rajiv Gandhi Gyan-Vigyan Puraskar for his book *Dalhani Sabjiya* during 2012. Defense Research and Development Organization (DRDO) honoured him with the first prize of Rajbhasa Puraskar for his book *Bharat mein Sabji Utpadan : Pramukh Kismein evam Vikas ki Taknike*. His other two books, *Pattivali Sabjiya* and *Nai Sabjiya* have also been awarded by the DRDO. He also received Rajbhasa Puraskar for 2003-04 under National Award Scheme for original book writing on Gyan-Vigyan on his book *Grih Vatika evam Hamara Swasthya*. Dr. Pandey is a prolific writer and for his significant contribution, Scientific and Applied Research Centre, Meerut, UP has conferred on him the Outstanding Authorship in Science and Technology Award (2010) and Life Time Achievement Award (2016) by BSRD, Allahabad. Dr. Pandey is a member on board of a number of scientific Societies and Academic panels. He is a Fellow of Indian Society of Vegetable Science (ISVS), Varanasi and Society of Biological Sciences and Rural Development, Allahabad.