

BRIEF BIODATA



DR. MEENAKSHI BANERJEE,

(PROFESSOR and HEAD, DEPARTMENT OF BIOSCIENCE)

Dr Meenakshi Banerjee obtained her B.Sc (Hons), **First Class first**, M.Sc. **First Class first**, **(Gold Medallist)** **Ph.D** degrees from, Banaras **Hindu University**. She joined Barkatullah University as **Lecturer in 1989**. She became **Reader in 1997** and **Professor in 2005**. Presently she is **Head** of Bioscience Department of Bioscience. She has to her credit a large number of honors and distinction like **M.P Young Scientist Award in 1990** followed by the prestigious **DAAD Fellowship to Germany in 1995**. She was the recipient of **J.E.B Young Scientist Award** of the Academy of Environment Biology for her outstanding contributions in the field of Algal Physiology, Ecology and Biochemistry of Cyanobacteria in **1995**.

In **1998** Dr Banerjee proceeded to UK on the **coveted Staff Academic Commonwealth Fellowship** in Biotechnology as an Honorary Visiting Fellow in the **University of Durham**. There she worked on the very new branch of biological science i.e. Astrobiology which deals with studies of organisms in outer space and its analogous in the Antarctic. In **2002** Dr Banerjee received the reputed **UGC Career Award** given to scientists in recognition of the significant noteworthy contributions in their respective field to specialization and academic career.

In March **2003** Dr Banerjee received the coveted **Scientist of the Year Award** for her out standing contributions in the field of Cyanobacterial Biotechnology by the International board of Awards of the National Environmental Science Academy New Delhi. In **2004** Dr Banerjee was honored with the UNESCO recognized **Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose National Award for Excellence in Environmental Biotechnology** by J.K. Foundation, India followed by the **Fellowship Award** of the National Environmental Science Academy. She has also been the recipient of the **Fellowship Award** of the Academy of Environmental Biology, **2005** and **Distinguished Scientist of the Year by International Board of Award NES A 2005**. Recently she has received the coveted **Albert Schweitzer Science Medal from the Albert Schweitzer International Foundation UK, 2006** and the **DBT Overseas Associateship to USA** from Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science Technology, and Govt. of India. –**2006-07**.

Dr Banerjee is a **Fellow and Life member** of many **Scientific Bodies** of National and International repute. Widely traveled, Dr Banerjee has **visited many foreign countries** to deliver talks and attend conferences. Dr Banerjee has been actively engaged in the various aspects of **Algal Biotechnology** and **Cyanobacterial Research** and their applications. She has been the **guest faculty** to many Departments of Barkatullah University and associated with the Teachers Training Center for training Higher Secondary Teachers, Government of M.P. Dr Banerjee has supervised **10 Ph.D.** and **24 M.Phil** students .She has **55 publications** in reputed peer reviewed International and National journals. She has attended more than **65** National and International Conferences / Congresses/ Symposia. She has successfully completed 4 research projects of National funding agencies.

Dr Banerjee's current interest lies in extensive research for the propagation of rare varieties of medicinal plants on algal biofertilizers and studies of the unique cyano bacteria from diverse habitats including the cold and hot deserts where these organisms survive at the borderline of life.