## PROFILE OM PRAKASH SHARMA, IFS



Om Prakash Sharma is a Professional Forester of 1987 batch with 30 years of field and administrative experience in Government of Jammu and Kashmir. He did M.Sc. Botany from Jammu University in 1981. His previous posting profile include working as D.F.O. Research, D.C.F. Communication & Extension J&K Social Forestry Department, D.C.F. State Vigilance Organization, Regional Director Pollution Control Board, Joint Director J&K State Forest Research Institute, Conservator of Forests Working Plan O/o. Prl. CCF, Conservator of Forests Vigilance O/o. Prl. CCF, Chief Conservator of Forests (Ecotourism) in J&K Wildlife Protection Department.

He is presently working as Addl. PCCF/ Director, Ecology Environment & Remote Sensing, J&K. He has notable experience in the field of Taxonomy, Ecotourism, Documentation of traditional Knowledge, Biodiversity Conservation and Medicinal Plants Conservation. He has contributed three scientific papers published in various journals of repute. He has authored 45 books on Forestry and Non-Forestry subjects, notable contributions include: (i) Wild & Cultivated Plants of Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh, (ii) Medicinal Plants of Plains & Hills, (iii) Vidyarthi's Dictionary of Plants and Animals, (iv) Ecotourism Destinations – Gurez, Gangbal & Gulmarg, (v) Forest Flora of Kashmir, (vi) Ped, Paryavaran & Paryatan. In addition 4 poetry books in Dogri, 3 poetry books in Hindi, 4 story books in Dogri & 10 Forestry books in Dogri stand contributed.

Om Prakash Vidyarthi won "Sahitya Akademi Award" in 2002 for the literary contribution in "Dogri" language, book stands translated into Hindi "Boond Boond Smritiyan" by Sahitya Akademi New Delhi. He has initiated an innovative weekly environmental awareness programme nicknamed "TREE TALK" since 19<sup>th</sup> December, 2010 and has so far held 651 sessions involving students and members of civil society.

Om Prakash Vidyarthi lives in Jammu with his wife Dr. Kiran Sharma and his son Plash Pushpankit Sharma at 201-A, Aerobera Apartments, Channi Himmat, Jammu.

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