



Brief Bio-data of Dr. R.B. Deshmukh, Vice Chancellor, Mahatma Phule Krishi Vidyapeeth, Rahuri 413 722, Dist.Ahmednagar (M.S.).

Dr. Rajaram Bapusaheb Deshmukh was born on 1st August, 1945 at village Nalawane in Junnar Tahsil of Pune district. He was recipient of Merit Scholarship during graduation at College of Agriculture, Parbhani of Marathwada University (1962-1966) and completed his post graduation in Cytogenetics and Plant Breeding in First Class from College of Agriculture, Pune of Poona University in 1968 and Ph.D. from Mahatma Phule Krishi Vidyapeeth in 1980.

He worked as Demonstrator, Lecturer and Assistant Professor of Agricultural Botany at College of Agriculture, Kolhapur during 1969 to 1973 and Associate Professor at Post Graduate Institute, Rahuri during 1974-1975. He shouldered the responsibility of pulses research during 1975 to 1994. He was selected as Professor of Agricultural Botany with three advance increments in 1991, Head, Department of Agricultural Botany in 1994 and then as Director of Research in December, 1995 in the same university. He had an opportunity to work as visiting scientist at the Queensland University, Brisbane, Australia for 10 months in 1992. On his voluntary retirement from University service in 2002 he worked as the Chief General Manager in Agri. Input Industry till **he took over as the Vice Chancellor of MPKV on 10th February, 2005.**

Dr.Deshmukh during his service career guided 31 M.Sc.(Agri.) and 7 Ph.D. students, developed 15 improved varieties of pulses, published / presented 157 scientific and 149 technical publications. Some of his varieties of gram viz., Vishwas (Phule G-5), Vijay, Vishal and Virat are popular among the farmers not only in Maharashtra but also in other States like Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal and Orissa.

Dr.Deshmukh, not only taught students and developed varieties but also strengthened pulses research at MPKV by way of developing several research collaborations with national and international institutions such as NCL, Pune; the University of Queensland, Brisbane, Australia; CSIRO, Canberra, Australia, Washington State University, Pullman, USA., etc. As a Director of Research he implemented several new ad-hoc research projects, NARP and NATP projects, centrally sponsored schemes in addition to State plan and non-plan and ICAR projects. His role was crucial in initiating new research projects and strengthening on going projects by way of creating required infrastructure.

Dr. Deshmukh visited Australia, USA., Mexico, The Netherlands, Switzerland and Germany for attending scientific seminars / meetings. He also worked on several Committees of the Universities, State Government and the ICAR.

His contribution in the field of research and development were recognized by several national and international agencies. Some of the important **awards** are:

- 1. Colombo Plan Award 1992.**
- 2. ISPRD National Award 1998.**
- 3. ICRISAT'S "Doreen Mashler" International Award 2002.**
- 4. CGIAR'S "King Baudouin" International Award 2002.**