

Dr. Ashwani Kumar Bhardwaj

M.Sc., Ph.D. (Life Sciences), (PMP[®])

Scientist D

Research Planning & Business Development Division

CSIR – Indian Institute of Toxicology Research (CSIR-IITR), Lucknow, India

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Certified Project Management Professional (PMP) with experience in research management, business development, and Human Resource (HR).

Areas of Expertise

- Project Planning, Execution, and Monitoring
 - Research Planning & Business Development
 - Facility Establishment (cGMP Compliance)
 - Stakeholder Engagement & Strategic Partnerships
 - Technology Transfer & Commercialization
 - SOP Development & Regulatory Compliance
 - Financial Planning & Resource Management
 - Human Resource (HR)
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Technical & Writing Expertise

- MOU & Agreement Drafting (MOU, MTA)
 - Grant Proposal & Business Plan Development
 - SOP & Technical Manual Preparation
 - Protocol Design & Scientific Documentation
 - Abstract & Scientific Manuscript Writing
 - Progress Reporting & Stakeholder Communication
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Research & Technical Skills

- Molecular Biology: RNA isolation, RT-PCR, gene cloning
- Proteomics & Cell Culture Techniques
- Instrumentation: PCR, Gel Electrophoresis, MALDI-TOF, Bioreactors, Nanodrop
- Data Analysis: MS Excel, GraphPad Prism, SPSS
- Domains: Plant Tissue Culture, Hydroponics, Aeroponics, Ecological Modelling

Professional Experience

Scientist D

CSIR-IITR, Lucknow

2025 – Present - Leading research planning and business development initiatives - Facilitating industry collaborations and strategic partnerships - Supporting technology commercialization and innovation management

Project Scientist

CSIR-IMTECH, Chandigarh - Managed cGMP-compliant microbial cell bank project (NRGC BIO) - Led facility establishment, regulatory documentation (IQ/OQ/PQ) - Handled procurement, SOP development, and stakeholder coordination

Scientist & Business Development Manager

Neva Plantations LLP - Led plant tissue culture operations and commercialization - Managed large-scale production and business operations

SRF / JRF

DIHAR, DRDO, Leh-Ladakh (UT) - Conducted High-altitude Biotechnology research (2013–2018)

Project Fellow

CSIR-IHBT, Palampur - Research in molecular biology and plant biotechnology

Education

- Ph.D. (Life Sciences)
- M.Sc. Biotechnology (Hons.)
- B.Sc. Biotechnology (Hons.)

Certifications

- Project Management Professional (PMP[®]), 2023

Awards & Achievements

- DRDO Junior Research Fellowship
- DRDO Senior Research Fellowship
- Player of the Tournament – CSIR SSBMT Football

Publications (Selected)

- Bhardwaj AK et al. (2018). *Plant Cell Tissue and Organ Culture*
- Bhardwaj AK et al. (2018). *Journal of food composition and analysis*
- Bhardwaj AK et al. (2024). *Vaccine*

Book Chapter

- Bhardwaj AK et al. "Ethnobotanical and pharmacological properties of Rhodiola"

Conferences & Workshops

- International Association for Vegetation Science Symposium, Czech Republic (2015)
- National Conferences (DIHAR, DRDO)
- Organizer: ABT BIO 2023, DIWAS 2018, Seabuckthorn Conference 2017

International Exposure

Netherlands, Austria, Poland, and Germany for technical discussions on plant tissue culture, industrial applications, and collaboration development in horticulture and floriculture sectors.

Advisory Roles

- Industrial Expert – DBT Sponsored LSDDC Project (CSIR-IHBT)
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