

Dr. R.K.Bhandari

Trustee, SSS Foundation, Tuticorin

Dr. R.K.Bhandari (born February 10, 1941) is a noted expert of International repute on Natural Disaster Mitigation and Management known especially for his work in the fields of geotechnical-earthquake engineering, landslides, and disaster education. He is a distinguished Alumnus of Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay and a recipient of Science Research Scholarship of the Royal Commission for the Exhibition of 1851 which earned him a D.I.C, Ph.D from the Imperial College of Science and Technology, University of London. Dr Bhandari is the first Indian national to receive the coveted Varne's Medal which is the highest award of the International Consortium of 32 countries for excellence in Landslide research, given at the UNESCO Headquarters in Paris. (November 2012).

Dr Bhandari is a Fellow of Institution of Civil Engineers (London) and a Fellow of Indian National Academy of Engineering, among others. He has served India in various capacities as a science administrator at the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, New Delhi, a geotechnical expert and a teacher-consultant. He was a member of the High Powered Committee of the Government of India as also a member of the core committees of the National Disaster Management Authority of the Government of India on Earthquakes and Landslides.

Dr Bhandari is recipient of numerous awards and honours which include: Plaque of Honor from the Japanese Society of Soil Mechanics; Plaque of Honor from the South East Asian Geotechnical Society, Bhasin Foundation Award for Science and Technology; Jaikrishna Prize of the Institution of Engineers, Kuekelmann Award of the Indian Geotechnical Society; Disaster Prevention Award of IIT Roorkee; Distinguished Engineer Award of the Institution of Engineers (India), IGS-Kuekelmann Award ,Distinguished Rotarian Award of the Rotary International; AIMIL Gold Medal

Some important positions held by Dr Bhandari are: Programme Director, United Nations HABITAT; Director, Central Building Research Institute, Roorkee; United Nations Chief Technical Adviser for UNCHS; Chief, International Science and Technology Affairs Directorate, CSIR; Director, Centre for Disaster Mitigation and Management, Anna University, Chennai, Tamil Nadu.; Chairman, Centre for Disaster Mitigation and Management, VIT University, Vellore, Tamil Nadu

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