

Concise Profile of Prof. (Dr.) Vilas M. Salokhe



Professor (Dr.) Vilas M. Salokhe, obtained B. Tech. (Agri. Engg.) degree with a Gold Medal from the Mahatma Phule Krishi Vidyapeeth, Rahuri, India in 1974; Master of Engineering (Agriculture) with distinction from Sukhadia University, Udaipur, India, in 1983; and Doctor of Engineering from the Asian Institute of Technology (AIT), Bangkok, Thailand in 1986. He started his academic career as Assistant Professor at the Mahatma Phule Agricultural University in 1974 and was promoted to Associate Professorship in 1980. He joined AIT as a Visiting Faculty in the year 1987, became Associate Professor in 1990 and full Professor in July 1996. Till December 2009, he was Professor as well as Director of the Unified Program at AIT. Since September 2010, he assumed a founding *Vice Chancellorship* of Kaziranga University, Assam, India and finished his term by July 2015.

Professor Salokhe's research interests include agricultural soil mechanics, agricultural machinery development, human factors engineering, controlled environment agriculture, agricultural systems and agribusiness management. Dr. Salokhe handled 36 research projects funded by various national and international donors. The total cost of research project funds he obtained from local and international agencies is worth about Rs. 111 million. His significant research contributions include, the innovation of enamel coating to improve the performance of soil-interacting equipment and tools; development of a semi-automatic pineapple transplanting machines, soybean combine harvester and sunflower threshing machine, improving water use efficiency for agricultural production, greenhouse microclimate control, and recently promoted System of Rice Intensification (SRI), low altitude remote sensing for soil and crop mapping. He is recipient of 21 awards/honors for his outstanding research contributions.

Professor Salokhe has published his research work extensively through more than 320 papers published in international journals/conference proceedings and presented at various meetings. He has co-authored one book and edited 18 proceedings. So far he has supervised 24 doctoral students and 97 master students.

He has worked on various institute committees. He organized 22 conferences/workshops/seminars and participated in 96 different conferences throughout the world. He also served as a *consultant* to FAO of UN, APCAM and other local and international projects. He has developed a collaborative program with a number of institutes in the Asia, Europe, and his former institute.

Professor Salokhe worked on the *Editorial Boards* of many reputed international journals. He was the *Editor-in-Chief* of the International Agricultural Engineering Journal. He is *concurrent/adjunct Professor* at the Jilin University of Technology, Changchun, China; Southern Yangtu University, Wuxi, China; Chinese Academy of Agricultural Mechanization Sciences, Beijing, China; Chiangmai University, and Kasetsart University, Thailand. He was the *President* of the Asian Association for Agricultural Engineering from 2000-2004. He is a *Fellow* of the International Commission of Agricultural Engineering (CIGR), Institution of Engineering (India), and Indian Society of Agricultural Engineers; Life members of the American Society of Agricultural Engineers, Philippines Society of Agricultural Engineers, Bangladesh Society of Agricultural Engineers. He is a *member* of the Board of Executives of the International Society of Bionics Engineering. He is *Member of Executive Committee* of AAAE and CIGR. Currently he is the *President* of the Asian Association of Agricultural Engineering (AAAE).

Prof. Salokhe's professional work has been recognized through receipt of various awards and honors. Notably among those are *ISAE Commendation Medals* in 1988-89, 1990-91, *Packo Powar Award* in 1994, *Fellowships* of CIGR, Institution of Engineers, ISAE, and is also recipient of *Kishida International Award* of American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers (ASABE) for his outstanding contributions outside the United States.

For professional work, Prof. Salokhe has extensively traveled to many countries including USA, Canada, Germany, England, the Netherlands, Italy, France, Malaysia, Mongolia, Japan, China, Chinese Taipei, Hong Kong, South Korea, Singapore, Sweden, Vietnam, Indonesia, Bangladesh, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Australia, Botswana, Laos, Cambodia and Poland.