

CHAUDHARY CHARAN SINGH UNIVERSITY ALUMNUS ELECTED AS THE FELLOW OF ROYAL SOCIETY (FRS).



Prof. Rajeev Kumar Varshney, a Ph.D. alumnus of the Department of Genetics and Plant Breeding, Chaudhary Charan Singh University, Meerut has been elected to the Royal Society (FRS) (<https://royalsociety.org/news/2023/05/new-fellows-2023/>).

Prof. Varshney is the only Indian and one of the 80 outstanding researchers, innovators and communicators who have been recognised in 2023 for their substantial contributions to the advancement of science through his seminal work on multi-omics approaches in legumes improvement for developing climate-resilient varieties.

Prof. Varshney is an Honorary Professor at the department of Genetics and Plant Breeding, CCS University, Meerut. Department of Genetics and Plant Breeding has critical role in his scientific temperament development which inspired him to accelerate the crop research and made significant contribution in agricultural science.

Being the fourth Indian agricultural research scientist to receive this fellowship, Prof. Varshney quotes, "I feel humbled and honoured to have been elected as a Fellow of the Royal Society. This is like a dream come true for any scientist. I am thrilled to be included alongside the stalwarts and giants such as Norman Borlaug, M.S. Swaminathan, Jim Peacock, Gurdev Khush, who have been inspirations and role models not only for me but all agricultural scientists across the world." He further added, "I am grateful to my colleagues and collaborators from Australia, India, Germany, and many countries in Asia, Africa and America with whom I had the privilege of working with over the last 25 years."

Prof. Varshney is currently working at Murdoch University in Australia as the director of Centre for Crop & Food Innovation at Western Australian State Agricultural Biotechnology Centre, and International Chair in Agriculture & Food Security. His team is working on improving wheat, legume and horticultural crops for agronomic and abiotic stress tolerance traits by developing and deploying novel genomic approaches.

Chaudhary Charan Singh University and in particular Genetics and Plant Breeding department feels proud and congratulates Prof. Varshney for his remarkable achievement.