

Darshan Shankar

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Date of Birth: 04/07/1951
Current position: Chairman
Indian Institute of Ayurveda and
Integrative Medicine, C/o **FRLHT**,
Bangalore
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Professional Background:

1993-2008 (April)	Executive Director, Foundation for Revitalization of Local Health Traditions (FRLHT), Bangalore, India.
1987-95	.. Consultant, Office of Advisor to Prime Minister on Technology Missions, New Delhi
1986-92	.. Executive Chairman, LSPSS, Coimbatore, India.
1982-84	Research Fellow, United Nations University, Tokyo,
1980-86	.. Director, Academy of Development Science, Karjat tribal blocks, Raigad Dist., Maharashtra, India.
1980-82	.. Consultant, UNICEF, Regional Planning Office, New Delhi, India.
1973-80	.. Coordinator, Inter-disciplinary Centre for Research and Training in Development, University of Bombay, India

Awards:

In 1976, Commonwealth Youth Service Award given for designing and implementing the best educational project in the Commonwealth for linking University education to community needs

In 1998, 'Norman Borlaug' Award for contributions to promoting conservation of wild populations of medicinal plants,

In 2002, Equator Initiative Prize by the United Nations.

In 2003, the Columbia University's Centre for Complementary & Alternative Medicines International Award to Darshan Shankar & FRLHT, in recognition of FRLHT's outstanding contributions to revitalization of traditional systems of health-care in India.

In June 2007, the Rotary Club of Bangalore "Citizen Extra Ordinaire" award for path breaking contributions to the field of traditional medicine & environment.

In Nov. 2007, "Better Interiors Excellence" award for Green Person of the Year.

Honorary Positions (Current):

1. Advisor (ISM), Planning Commission, Government of India,
2. Member, Executive Board of Global Initiative for Traditional Systems (GIFTS), Oxford, U.K,
3. Research Advisory Committee of National Innovation Foundation (NIF), Ahmedabad,
4. Member Academic Council, Rajasthan Ayurveda University, Jodhpur
5. Member, National Biodiversity Authority, Ministry of Environment and Forests, GOI
6. Chair, Karnataka Knowledge Commission on Traditional Medicine Systems
7. Member, Board of Director, Inter University Doctoral Research program on Endogenous Knowledge, Netherlands
8. Member, Independent Commission on Development & Health in India, New Delhi

Honorary Positions (Past):

1. Convener, Working Group on Traditional Health Sciences of the National Knowledge Commission, Govt. of India
2. Member, National Wild Life Board, Govt. of India,
3. Member, International Expert Group to advise PM's Office, Govt. of Malaysia, on development of herbal sector,
4. Member, Population Commission, Govt. of India,
5. Member, International working group on Complementary medicine established by the Commonwealth Health Ministers,
6. Member, Working Group of Planning Commission on ISM in 7th, 8th, 9th, & 10th 5-year plans,
7. Member, Negative Plant List Committee, MoEF, Govt. of India,
8. Member, Research Council, Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences, Karnataka,
9. Member, International Expert Group set up by IUCN & WWF, Germany & WHO on Standards for Sustainable harvest of medicinal plants,

Publications:

- Published chapters in several books and reports published nationally and internationally.
- Published several articles in journals.
- Edited and written in a book titled "Challenging the Indian Medical Heritage" Published by Foundation Books, subsidiary of Cambridge University Press.