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Education

- Ph.D. Botany, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, U.P., India.
Thesis title: Understanding Molecular Interaction of Effector Proteins in *Magnaporthe oryzae*-Rice System
- M.Sc. Botany, Himachal Pradesh University, Shimla, H.P., India
- B.Sc. Medical, Himachal Pradesh University, Shimla, H.P., India

Professional Appointments

- Assistant Professor of Botany, Department of Higher Education, H.P. (2017)
[Served at Govt. College, Solan, H.P.(2017-2021); Serving at Vallabh Govt. College, Mandi, H.P.(since 2021)]

Awards

- CSIR NET-JRF (Life Sciences)
- ARS-NET (Economic Botany and Plant Genetic Resource)

Publications

1. **Banita Kumari Saklani**, Soham Ray, Kirti Arora, Ravi Kumar Asthana, and Tilak Raj Sharma. "*Magnaporthe oryzae* encoded effector protein AvrPi54 interacts in vivo with rice encoded cognate resistance protein Pi54 at the host plasma membrane." Journal of Plant Biochemistry and Biotechnology (2022): 1-10.
2. Basavantraya N. Devanna, Priyanka Jain, Amolkumar U. Solanke, Alok Das, Shallu Thakur, Pankaj K. Singh, Mandeep Kumari, Himanshu Dubey, ...**Banita Kumari Saklani**....Tilak Raj Sharma. "Understanding the Dynamics of Blast Resistance in Rice-Magnaporthe oryzae Interactions." Journal of Fungi 8, no. 6 (2022): 584.

3. Chiranjib Sarkar, **Banita Kumari Saklani**, Pankaj Kumar Singh, Ravi Kumar Asthana, and Tilak Raj Sharma. "Variation in the LRR region of Pi54 protein alters its interaction with the AvrPi54 protein revealed by in silico analysis." PloS one 14, no. 11 (2019): e0224088.
4. Kirti Arora, Amit Kumar Rai, Basavantraya N. Devanna, **Banita Kumari** and Tilak Raj Sharma. "Functional validation of the Pi54 gene by knocking down its expression in a blast-resistant rice line using RNA interference and its effects on other traits." Functional Plant Biology 45, no. 12 (2018): 1241-1250.
5. Tilak R. Sharma, Basavantraya N. Devanna, Kanti Kiran, Pankaj K. Singh, Kirti Arora, Priyanka Jain, Ila M. Tiwari, Himanshu Dubey, **Banita K. Saklani** et al. "Status and prospects of next-generation sequencing technologies in crop plants." Current Issues in Molecular Biology 27, no. 1 (2018): 1-36.

Research guided

- (i) A project report on "Estimation of Electricity Wastage in Rural Households" submitted to Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) by Sachin Arya, Enrolment No.-190500597 for the partial fulfillment of his degree of Bachelor of Arts (B.A) AHE 01
- (ii) A project report on "Evaluation of the status of Traditional Water bodies in the Barswan Panchayat of Tehsil Rewalsar, District Mandi (H.P.)" submitted to Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) by Manisha, Enrolment No.-180400699 for the partial fulfillment of her degree of Bachelor of Arts (B.A) AHE 01

Membership of scientific professional bodies:

- Lifetime member of Society for Plant Biochemistry and Biotechnology

Courses:

- 1) 4-Week Induction/Orientation Programme for faculties of Universities, Colleges, Institutes of Higher Education organized by Teaching Learning Centre, Ramanujan College, University of Delhi (Under aegis of Ministry of Education, Pt. Madan Mohan Malaviya National Mission on Teachers and Teaching) Via Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) from 20th May-18th June, 2022 (4 weeks)
- 2) Course on "Intellectual Property Rights" organized by Teaching Learning Centre, Ramanujan College, University of Delhi (Under aegis of Ministry of Education, Pt. Madan Mohan Malaviya National Mission on Teachers and Teaching) Via Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) from 16th May-22nd May, 2022 (1 week)