

25 YEARS OF CHI (1999-2024)**CENTRAL HIMALAYAN INSTITUTE (CHI)****(For Good Governance and Development Studies)**

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Research Scholar & Director: D.S. Bisht

CAREER PROFILE OF RESEARCH SCHOLAR

Born on 26 August, 1941 (official). Educational qualification - equivalent to graduation after pre-commission training in the Indian Military Academy, Dehradun (1962-1963). Date of commission 30 June, 1963.

Military Service

Twenty years of active military service as part of Infantry Battalion with actual battle experience of Indo-Pak war of 1965, Nagaland (1969-72) and personal achievement of capturing an enemy post on 18th May, 1964 in J & K which the Pak Army had established after crossing CFL, similar to Kargil intrusion of 1999. I was rewarded on the spot by the Brigade Commander then Brig O. S. Kalkat and promoted to Captain with only 11 months service. My performance during Military service stands well recorded in the History of the Jat Regiment and in a book titled 'The Far- Flung Frontiers' by Major General O.S. Kalkat published in 1983. After having experienced the most satisfying profession of soldiering, I decided to proceed on premature retirement which enabled me to acquire in-depth knowledge of civil service and functioning of Central and State govt departments during my reemployment in Uttar Pradesh state from 1983 to 1999.

Civil Service

Sixteen years of Civil service (Aug 83- Aug 1999) as District Soldiers Welfare officer in the state of Uttar Pradesh. Here I got deeply interested and involved in social welfare program of the government. During this period, I also attended training program then at the Uttar Pradesh Administrative Academy, Nainital and also at the Institute of Entrepreneurship Development, Lucknow. I was highly successful to introduce fast delivery system and innovation to get all kinds of grants, facilities and relief to all eligible personnel under my jurisdiction. This was spontaneously commended upon by the press, the public at large as well as the beneficiaries living in remote hilly and rural areas of the plains. My performance was also recognized by an All -India Ex-servicemen organization with its Head office in Maharashtra state who honored me with 'Maha Yodha Seva Award' in 1995.

Author of the books

Military service also gave an opportunity to study the socio-economic life of the people living in various parts of the country-starting from Jammu & Kashmir, Punjab, Nagaland, Meghalaya, Gujarat, Maharashtra including life in metropolitan cities like Mumbai. Physical knowledge of the land and the people, practical experience of both military and civil service has been the major contributing factor which helped me to write many useful articles and books related to governance, social welfare, planning and socio-economic development studies. My first book 'Guide to Garhwal and Kumaon Hills' containing comprehensive socio-economic, cultural and historical survey was published in 1982 and 3rd revised edition with revised title 'Uttarakhand Today' was published in 2008. This book has been reprinted by foreign publishers in USA/UK/Germany/New Zealand and is now sold all over the world. My second book titled 'Selfless Soldiering' was published in 1985 which was described as an "Honest appraisal of profession of Arms" in 'Sainik Samachar'- March 29, 1987.

Having seen closely the status of present-day civil administration and the conditions of the people in rural areas including those serving in the Armed forces, I was able to write two more books in Hindi for the welfare, awareness of duties and entitlement both for Armed forces personnel and common citizens in the country. The Information Dept of State government of Uttar Pradesh then found the books very useful and distributed the book in the state. 'Defence Services Pension Rules' compiled by me has helped hundreds of military pensioners in the country who received their due entitlement of pension after a gap of 5-50 years.

As Research Scholar

While implementing social welfare program of the government in Uttar Pradesh (1983-99), I got an opportunity to study the basic problem of poverty, planning and development in the light of changing socio-economic conditions of the people particularly of those living in rural and hilly areas in various parts of the country. My concern finally resulted into a first ever research study project undertaken by me titled 'Poverty Planning and Development' which was sponsored by then Planning Commission, Government of India, successfully completed by me in November, 2003 and published in 2008. The outcome of this research study project is now quoted and referred to for discussion during seminar etc. by many research scholars today.

However, the above study project report also concluded that even after understanding the issues related to poverty, planning and development - not much will change for the majority of the population unless the quality of Governance is improved. As a result of this, then Planning Commission GoI sponsored my second research study project titled 'Governance and Development of Rural India' which was also completed by me successfully, approved by then Planning Commission in August, 2010 and published in 2014. As part of citizenship education program of my research institute, I have been able to write two more books titled 'God Faith and Religion' and 'Selfless Soldiering and Public Service' which are presently available on the website of Central Himalayan Institute. The other research study project of national importance in hand, based on my life long experience, is titled **"Making of Corruption Free United India (After 75 years as progressive and welfare state)"**. The preamble of the research study project and contents with AI overview/evaluation are presently available on the website of my institute. After the arrival of artificial intelligence (AI), new milestones have been established by me as research scholar. AI has given very positive and favorable overview of the three research-based books submitted to three different AI platforms which have been quoted in the following pages.

Honors and Awards

If you believe in the essence of 'Shrimad Bhagavad Gita' i.e. *'Thy right is to work only, but never to the fruits thereof'*, then Honors and Awards are not relevant. Besides 'Maha Yodha Seva Award', I was also nominated for 'Secular India Harmony Award - 2001' by United Children Movement, New Delhi. I continue to follow the dictum laid down at the Indian Military Academy, Dehradun i.e. *'The Safety, Honor and Welfare of your country comes First Always and Every Time'* which has been the prime source of inspiration for me to practice selfless soldiering, public service and undertake research and writing for the welfare of the people and development of the country. Research and writing also helped me to claim for higher rate of military pension that was payable to me as Lt Col due to up-gradation from Major to Lt Col which was notified only in 1984 after my premature retirement. The MoD finally accepted my claim in 2024 without my going to Court or Tribunal for higher rate of pension claim. To know more about my life long practical experience and experiment in public service, read my autobiography titled 'Selfless Soldiering and Public Service' presently available on the website of my institute.

CENTRAL HIMALAYAN INSTITUTE (CHI) TODAY

Achievement

Central Himalayan Institute is a one-man research institute without any patron, Godfather and donation which was registered as private trust vide Regn. No. 702 dated 24 June, 2008 in Dehradun. The aim of the Institute continues to be originally conceived i.e. to assist in balanced and sustainable socio-economic development of the country in general and the Central Himalayan region in particular. The research study project undertaken by the institute included broadly the following.

- Inter -disciplinary research related to development and planning at the national and state level for the eradication of poverty and unemployment in the country.
- Inter-disciplinary research related to sectoral development programs, schemes and projects for rural, urban and regional development.
- Governance related research studies with particular reference to corruption, inefficiency in political, economic and civic governance and its impact on the economic development of the country, implementation of welfare schemes and delivery of public services at the grass root level.
- Research studies related to judiciary, administration of justice and legal aid/ legal education in India.

Keeping in view the aims of the institute, the following major research study projects were successfully completed and the details are briefly given as under.

- ‘Poverty Planning and Development’ (In-depth case study of Uttarakhand state) which was sponsored then Planning Commission of India and successfully completed in 2003. The research -based book (395pp) was originally published in the year 2006 which has been reprinted by unknown publishers and distributed through Flipkart/Amazon etc.
- ‘Governance and Development of Rural India’ was the second research study project sponsored by then Planning Commission of India and successfully completed in 2010 and published in the year 2014(465pp) This research-based book has also been reprinted again by unknown publishers in the year 2024 as a result of very favorable overview by AI and is also selling well through Flipkart etc.
- The long-awaited research study project titled ‘Making of Corruption Free United India’ (After 75 years as progressive and welfare state) is the most comprehensive and action-plan oriented research study project ever undertaken by any institute or individual which is due to be published in 2026. The Preamble with contents of the research-based book are presently available on the website of CHI.

Note: All the above three research study projects have received very favorable AI overview as a result of AI platform now available to independent research scholars. Beside ‘Modern Life Management Guide’ (444pp) published in 2005, another research-based book titled ‘God Faith and Religion’, as part of public education program of CHI, has also been completed which is presently uploaded on the website of CHI. This book has also received a very favorable AI overview which are given in the following paragraphs.

NEW BENCHMARK ESTABLISHED BY CHI AFTER THE ARRIVAL OF AI

I am fortunate to see the present age of the artificial intelligence (AI) as research scholar which has directly enhanced my performance in research and writing. It was some unknown publishers who took the initiative to obtain the overview of AI of my earlier research- based book titled ‘Governance and Development of Rural India’ which was published in 2014(465pp). Based on very favorable AI overview, the book has been reprinted in 2024 and is now selling well through Flipkart/Amazon etc. I am extremely satisfied with the platform of AI which has given very fair overview and evaluation of the following three research-based books in few minutes on merit authored by me. This could not have been done by the existing qualified professionals in the academic field even in few months and without direct or indirect personal contact. Conclusion drawn by AI after evaluation of the three books is given in the following paragraphs.

AI overview and evaluation of a book titled ‘Governance and Development of Rural India’ (465pp)

- Major D S Bisht’s work, specifically “Governance and Development of Rural India” (2014) (case study of Uttarakhand state) focusses on the challenges and strategies for improving rural life, after highlighting the need for efficient administration, grassroot empowerment, and infrastructure development in hilly regions. His analysis often emphasizes local-area planning such as water management, over centralized, one-size-fits all solutions.
- The study emphasizes that sustainable rural development in hilly areas requires a deep understanding of local, natural, and social conditions.
- The book serves as an empirical study, reflecting over 20 years of experience and observation of rural administration and development. Its primary objective is to evaluate how governance quality directly impacts the effectiveness of development programs.
- While focusing specifically on Uttarakhand, the findings offer broader insights into the challenges faced by hilly and rural terrains across India.
- Bisht argues that even well-defined poverty and development plans substantial change is unattainable without improving the quality of governance and the agencies involved in implementation.

Note: In addition, many other individuals have obtained AI overview of the above research-based book and uploaded the same on their websites which are also positive and favorable. Six of these AI overview are available on the website of our institute.

AI overview and evaluation of a book titled “Making of corruption free united India after 75 years as progressive and welfare state” (325 pages)

Overview by AI server-I Chat GPT: This project can be best understood as a serious, experience-driven governance reform manifesto, not a strictly academic research study. The research study is valuable for policy makers and administrators (specially at state/district level), civil service aspirants (for broad -understanding of governance issues), and think tank working on governance reform. The final insight of the AI server- I says, the project that stands out most is the author’s core belief i.e. corruption in India is less about lack of laws and more about failure of systems, enforcement, and accountability culture. That insight is both valid and important. The challenge is translating this wide-ranging diagnosis into prioritized, implementable reforms.

Overview by AI server- II Google: Research project titled “Making of Corruption Free United India -After 75 Years as Progressive and Welfare State,” is a comprehensive, action-oriented study authored by D. S. Bisht, a Research Scholar and Director of Central Himalayan Institute, Dehradun. It serves as a policy framework intended for stakeholders to reform political, economic, and civic governance in India. The project is an ambitious attempt to provide a “holistic and practical approach” rather than a purely theoretical academic exercise. Overall, the document provides a detailed, evidence-based roadmap for reform, positioning itself as a “valuable reference and guide book” for those in power to transition India into a corruption-free welfare state.

Overview by AI server -III Z: The third AI server in conclusion has described the project “Making Corruption Free United India” to be a substantial and serious attempt to diagnose the rot in the Indian administrative system. It moves beyond the rhetoric of “anti-corruption” slogan and looks into nuts and bolts of service delivery, recruitment, and administrative lethargy. By focusing on “Civic Governance”- the point where the state meets the citizen- the project identifies the most critical frontier for reform. While the recommendations for new Ministry might be debated, the core argument that existing laws and conduct rules need strict enforcement rather than just new legislation, is pragmatic and valuable insight. It serves as a policy frame work document that highlights the urgent need for structural reforms to preserve the unity and democratic fabric of the nation.

Note: Full text of AI evaluation have been included in Part-G of the book with necessary clarification by the author on few observations made by AI.

AI overview and evaluation of a book titled “God Faith and Religion” (310 pages)

Overview by AI server Gemini: The purpose of the book is not to sermonize, but to act as an empirical guide for ordinary and educated masses alike to understand the importance of God, faith and religion in maintaining personal peace, family happiness, and societal survival on a planet with diminishing resources. One of the book’s greatest strengths is its focus on clarity. The author deliberately replaces obscure or overly academic English vocabulary with common, straightforward terminology. This makes the core moral and philosophical tenets of ancient scriptures highly digestible for everyday readers who lack the time for intensive theological studies. The evaluation of religious practices in the book strongly champions *Karma yoga*-the path of selfless duty without obsession over its rewards. Ultimately, God Faith and Religion functions excellently as a highly readable, introductory digest. It serves as a practical blueprint for self-realization and social harmony, successfully translating dense spiritual philosophies into structured, practical life-management advice for the modern reader.

Overview by AI server ChatGPT: God Faith and Religion is an expansive religious-philosophical work written by D.S. Bisht, a retired military officer, research scholar, and writer from India. The book attempts to synthesize: Hindu philosophy, Vedic civilization, comparative religion, spirituality, ethics, meditation, mythology, and reflections on modern civilization. The author presents the book not as a purely theological treatise, but as a “research study” intended to help ordinary people understand the role of God, faith, religion, and morality in human life. The readers approaching it with openness, cultural interest, and awareness of its devotional perspective, the book offers a substantial and sincere exploration of religion, faith, and Indian spiritual thought.

Overview by AI server Microsoft copilot: The book ‘God Faith and Religion’ by Major D.S. Bisht (Retd.) is a sweeping exploration of Indian spiritual traditions, world religions, and the philosophical teachings of the Bhagavad Gita. It blends historical narrative, comparative religion, and personal reflection,

aiming to show the unity of divine truth across faiths. 'God Faith and Religion' is best suited for readers interested in Hindu philosophy, comparative religion, and spiritual practice. It is not a light read but rather a reference-style work that combines history, scripture, and devotion. Its greatest value lies in showing how diverse religions converge on shared truths, while grounding the discussion in the Bhagavad Gita's eternal wisdom.

PS: As a result of observation made by AI i.e. me as author is identified in bibliographic records as D. S. Bisht, I have discontinued prefixing my name with army rank Major/ Lt Col (Retd.) in my work to published in future. Thanking all for their good wishes and blessings which helped me to continue with the mission undertaken by CHI in accordance to guiding principles of my institute in the national interest of India as recorded on the home page of my website.

-D.S. Bisht, Research Scholar & Director of CHI Dehradun (India)-