

Obituary: Dr. Anil Kumar Srivastava (1957–2025)



With profound sorrow, the Indian Society of Veterinary Pharmacology and Toxicology (ISVPT) mourns the passing of Prof. (Dr.) Anil Kumar Srivastava, a towering figure in Veterinary Pharmacology, an eminent academic leader, and a visionary scientific statesman, who left us on 25 December 2025.

Born on 1 August 1957 in Varanasi, Dr. Srivastava pursued his early education at Ashok Inter College and Queen's College, Varanasi. He obtained his BVSc & AH (1979), MVSc (1981), and PhD (1984), laying the foundation for a distinguished academic career. His global scientific outlook was further strengthened through advanced training at the GSF Institute of Toxicology, Munich, Germany (1988–1990).

Dr. Srivastava began his career as an Assistant Professor and rose through merit and vision to occupy several of the most prestigious positions in Indian agricultural and veterinary education. He served with distinction as Professor and Head of Veterinary Pharmacology & Toxicology at PAU (now GADVASU), Ludhiana; Principal and Dean, College of Veterinary Science & A.H., SKUAST, Jammu; Director and Vice-Chancellor of ICAR–National Dairy Research Institute (2008–2017); Chairman, Agricultural Scientists Recruitment Board (ASRB), New Delhi; and Vice-Chancellor, DUVASU, Mathura. His leadership was marked by institutional strengthening, academic excellence, and transparent governance.

A founding pillar of ISVPT, Dr. Srivastava served as its President from 2013 to 2017 and was the Founder Chief Editor of the Journal of Veterinary Pharmacology & Toxicology (JVPT). His contributions extended across national scientific bodies, where he served as President of several academies and professional associations, Chairman of key Government of India task forces and committees, and a member of multiple governing and advisory boards including DBT, FSSAI, and the Planning Commission advisory committees.

Renowned for his exceptional analytical ability and command over data, Dr. Srivastava was admired as a compelling speaker, mentor, and teacher. His lectures and scientific discourses combined clarity, depth, and intellectual rigor, inspiring generations of students and colleagues alike.

A recipient of numerous prestigious honours—including the ICAR Jawaharlal Nehru Award, International NOCIL Award, German Academic Exchange Fellowship, and multiple Lifetime Achievement Awards—Dr. Srivastava was a Fellow of several leading national and international scientific academies.

India has lost one of its most eminent veterinary pharmacologists and academic leaders. Prof. (Dr.) Anil Kumar Srivastava's passing leaves a void that is deeply felt across the scientific and academic community. His legacy lives on in the institutions he nurtured, the standards of excellence he set, and the countless students and colleagues whose lives he shaped with his wisdom, compassion, and unwavering commitment to science. The ISVPT bows its head in profound gratitude and sorrow, mourning not only a remarkable scholar and visionary leader, but a mentor and guide whose presence inspired confidence, integrity, and purpose.

He is survived by his family, colleagues, and an extended fraternity of students across the country and beyond, who will forever cherish his guidance and carry forward his ideals of knowledge, service, and humanity. His memory will continue to illuminate the path of veterinary science in India for generations to come.