

## Ashok Dalwai, IAS (R)

Chairman, Karnataka Agriculture Price Commission



### Contact Information:

Official	Current Residential Address	Permanent Address
Leslie Coleman Building Commissionerate of Agriculture Complex Seshadri Rd, Near K. R. Circle, Opp. SJP College Ambedkar Veedhi Bengaluru-560001 Karnataka Email: <a href="mailto:ashokdalwai@gmail.com">ashokdalwai@gmail.com</a> Phone: +91 9591988080	Ashok Dalwai 28, 5 <sup>th</sup> Main Tatanagar Bengaluru- 560024 Karnataka Email: <a href="mailto:ashokdalwai@gmail.com">ashokdalwai@gmail.com</a> Phone: +91 9591988080	Ashok Dalwai Village-Koujalgi District-Belagavi Pincode-591002 Karnataka Email: <a href="mailto:ashokdalwai@gmail.com">ashokdalwai@gmail.com</a> Phone: +91 9591988080

### Summary

Dr. Dalwai is a dedicated and committed professional with more than 40 years of career in the All India Services. He is a native of Karnataka, born in a small village of Koujalgi in district Belagavi. He finished his schooling from Sainik School, Bijapur and then graduation in Agriculture and post-graduation in Agricultural Economics from UAS, Dharwad. He joined the Indian Police Service (IPS) in September 1981 and served in the then undivided Andhra Pradesh. On subsequent selection by the UPSC, he shifted to the IAS in September 1984.

As a member of the Indian Administrative Service of the 1984 batch, he was borne on the Odisha Cadre, and also worked in Karnataka Cadre on deputation. He has served in different capacities at both field and policy formulation stages in the States of Odisha and Karnataka, as also Government of India. His grass root level experiences gained from serving in different backward and tribal pockets of Odisha and Karnataka, besides as District Collector of Kalahandi (Odisha) & Raichur (Karnataka); and in urban management, as Commissioner of Bangalore City Corporation (now renamed as Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagar Palike - BBMP) bring him close & clear understanding of peoples' issues in both rural & urban settings.

At the senior level, he has held several important and critical positions, including as Secretary and Principal Secretary in the Departments of Industries, Steel, Mines and Textiles, Agriculture, Water Resources besides holding various tenures as Chairman/Vice Chairman, and Chairman &

Managing Director of Public Sector Undertakings, Development Boards, Research & Academic Institutions amongst others.

Specifically, he has led initiatives in restructuring of State PSUs, which were in the red following the liberalisation of Indian economy in 1991. Some of these include Karnataka Silk Industries Corporation (KSIC), and Karnataka Handloom Development Corporation (KHDC) in his capacity as Secretary to Government of Karnataka, Department of Commerce & Industry.

Currently he is serving as Chairman, Karnataka Agriculture Price Commission and Chairman, Institute of Social and Economic Change

**Current  
Engagements,**

- **Chairman, Institute of Social and Economic Change (ISEC),** Bengaluru since February 2025
- **Chairman, Karnataka Agriculture Price Commission-** since January 2025, in the rank of Minister
- **Chairman of Commodities Derivative Advisory Committee (CDAC).** Appointed by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI), Mumbai and has been serving in this capacity since 2019
- **Co- chairman,** Indian Chamber of Food and Agriculture (ICFA), New Delhi
- **Co-opted Member** of the **Governing Council** of Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences & Technology (SKUAST), Srinagar
- **Honorary Professor,** Indira Gandhi Krishi Vishwavidyalaya, Raipur

**Other  
Current  
Engagements**

- **Chairman** of the Committees on ‘**Restructuring of the State Agricultural Universities**’, Karnataka
- **Vice Chairman, National Committee on “Formulation of National Policy on Agricultural Markets.”** Appointed in December 2024 by the National Council of State Agricultural Marketing Boards (COSAMB), New Delhi
- **Member-** Jammu & Kashmir Holistic Agriculture Development Program (HADP), Srinagar
- ‘**Member** of the Committee on Drafting of the **Fourth Agricultural Roadmap for the State of Bihar.** Nominated by the Government of Bihar

- **Member,** Chief Minister Environment Sustainable Development Task Force, Maharashtra

## **Education**

### **Ph.D. Economics,**

Karnataka University, Dharwad, Karnataka

*(Thesis: Production and Marketing Efficiency of Cotton in India – An Economic Analysis)*

### **M.Sc. (Agri.) in Agricultural Economics,**

University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad, Karnataka

*(Thesis: Marketing Efficiency of Sorghum in Karnataka)*

### **B.Sc. (Agri.),** University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore, Karnataka

## **Additional**

## **Qualification**

Several Short-term certificate courses in Management, Administration, Public Policy etc. in different National and International institutes including at **IIMs in India and at Kennedy Centre, Harvard University in the USA**

**1. Indian Police Service: 1981-1984 (Andhra Pradesh Cadre)**

**2. Indian Administrative Services: 1984-2023 (Orissa Cadre)**

**As IAS,** He has served the States of Odisha & Karnataka between **1984 and 2010**, followed by Government of India from **2010 to 2023-24** in some of the following roles:

## **Professional Experience**

- **Chairman, Karnataka Agriculture Price Commission-** since January 2021
- **Chief Executive Officer (in the rank of Union Secretary), National Rainfed Area Authority (NRAA) from 2017 to 2023**
- **Chairman, Empowered Body, Doubling Farmers' Income from 2018-24**
- **Chairman, Inter-Ministerial Committee, Doubling Farmers' Income (DFI), Government of India (2016-18)**
- **Additional Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, 2015 to 2017**

- **Head of the Technology Centre of UIDAI (Bengaluru)**, and Dy. Director General UIDAI, Regional Office, Southern Region, Bengaluru from 2010-2015
- **Secretary**, Department of Industries & Commerce, Government of Karnataka, Bengaluru from 2002-2005
- **Commissioner, Bangalore City Corporation, 2001-02**
- **Secretary/ Principal Secretary**, Departments of Industries, and Steel & Mines, 2007-2010
- **Divisional Commissioner**, Northern Division, Sambalpur, Odisha; Administrator, Command Area Development Authority (CADA), Hirakud; and Vice Chairman-Kalahandi-Bolangir, Koraput (KBK) Region Development Fund, from 2005 to 2007
- **Additional. Secretary and Director Watershed Development**, Department of Agriculture, Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar, from 1995 to 1996
- **Addtional Secretary and Director Resettlement and Rehabilitation**, Department of Water Resources, Bhubaneswar, Government of Odisha, Bhubaneswar, from 1996-97
- **Dy. Commissioner and District Magistrate**, Raichur, Karnataka, from 1997 to 99
- **Collector and District Magistrate**, Kalahandi, Odisha, from 1992 to 1995
- **Project Director, IFAD assisted Orissa Tribal Development Project (OTDP)**; and Project Administrator, Integrated Tribal Development Project, Rayagada and Kaptipada, Odisha, from 1989 to 1991

**Key Positions in various PSUs** He has held the following positions of various undertakings, which have brought him in-depth understanding of commercial and industrial bodies, developmental organizations, and the dynamics of national and global macro-economy and its impact on the organization.

- **Vice Chairman and Managing Director**, National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC), New Delhi (2017-18)

- **Head, Technology Centre, Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) (2010-15)**
- **Chairman and Managing Director, Orissa Mining Corporation (OMC), Bhubaneswar (2008-190)**
- **Chairman, Industrial Development Corporation (IDCO) – a holding company (2007-08)**
- **Chairman, Industrial Development Corporation of Orissa Ltd (IDCOL), Bhubaneswar (2007-08)**
- **Chairman, Industrial Promotion and Investment Corporation Ltd (IPICOL), Bhubaneswar (2007-08)**
- **Chairman, Orissa State Finance Corporation (ODFC), Cuttack (2007-08)**
- **Administrator, Command Area Development Authority (CADA), Hirakud, Odisha**
- **Chairman, Sambalpur Medical College, Hirakud, Odisha (2005-07)**
- **Founder-Chairman of Karnataka Sugar Institute, Belgaum which has now been named after the former Chief Minister, Shri S. Nijalingappa (2003-04)**
- **Chairman, Karnataka State Sericultural Research and Development Institute (KSSRDI), Talaghatpur, Karnataka, (2002-04)**
- **Chairman, Gangavathi Sugars, Gangavathi, Koppal District, Karnataka, (1997-99)**
- **Chairman, APMC, Raichur, Raichur District, Karnataka, (1997-98)**
- **Chairman, Cooperative Spinning Mill, Kesinga, Kalahandi district, Odisha, (1992-95)**
- **Chairman, Gunupur College, Gunupur, Odisha (1986-87)**

#### **Other Credentials**

- Recommended to set up of an exclusive **Directorate of Secondary Agriculture in the state of Karnataka**. In 2022, the Government of Karnataka became the first State to do so in the country. This aims at generating productive jobs and increased income in the agricultural sector.
- As member of the **Apex Committee constituted by Lt. Governor of Jammu & Kashmir**, drafted the i) ‘Jammu & Kashmir Holistic

Agricultural Development Project (HADP), 2023’; and **ii)** ‘Jammu & Kashmir Export-Import Policy, 2023’.

- Drafted the first **“Rainfed Area Policy for India – Accelerating Growth, 2023”**. While there have been Agricultural Policies adopted by the Union and State Governments from time to time, the current challenges demanded a dedicated policy that would bring focus on the vast rainfed regions of the country.

**Key policy  
Contributions**

**Priority has always been on reforms and restructuring for efficiency and transparency. Some of the important contributions are:**

- 1. For the State Governments – Odisha and Karnataka**
  - i) Ten-Year Perspective Plan on Land & Water Management** for Kalahandi District, 1992-93 to 2001-02
  - ii) First Agriculture Policy** of the State of Odisha
  - iii) First Textile Policy** of Karnataka, 2003
  - iv) Self-Assessment Scheme for assessment of Property Taxes in the City of Bengaluru** – structured and rolled out in the year 2000 (which was subsequently adopted across the country)
  - v) Introduced “Generally Accepted Accounting Principles” (GAAP)**, in Bangalore City Corporation, which brought in consistent and transparent system of financial reporting in a large organisation
  - vi) Launch of ‘Swachh Bengaluru’ in 1999 - a new initiative in solid waste management**
  - vii) Restructuring of Karnataka Silk Industries Corporation (KSIC); and Karnataka State Handloom Development Corporation (KSHDC);** and various other PSUs that were rendered vulnerable in the aftermath of the roll out of economic liberalisation of the country in 1991
  - viii) Participatory Irrigation Management** – rolled out and implemented it in the command areas of Odisha while serving as the Additional Secretary, Department of Water Resources, Government of Odisha
  - ix) Initiated and completed several project-related resettlement and rehabilitation (R&R) of displaced persons** – first in case of irrigation-related projects as Director of R&R, Department of Water Resources

(1996-97); and second time as Chairman of various industry-related R&R Committees while serving as Divisional Commissioner, 2005-07

**2. For Government of India,** his major contributions include the following:

- i) As Chairman of the Inter-Ministerial Committee on Doubling Farmers' Income, he has submitted a 14 (fourteen)-volume strategy with specific recommendations to the Government.** The recommendations of the DFI Report, 2018 effect a paradigm shift in the agricultural sector by treating it as an enterprise and emphasising on income security & welfare of the farmers by adopting an ecosystem approach. He was subsequently tasked to oversee implementation of the recommended strategy, in his capacity as the Chairman of the Empowered Body.
- ii) Model Agriculture Produce & Live Stock Marketing (Promotion & Facilitation) Act, 2017**
- iii) Model Contract Farming & Services (Promotion & Facilitation) Act, 2018**
- iv) Guidelines for Gramin Rural Agriculture Markets (GrAMs)**
- v) As Chairman of the Committee appointed by the Union Ministry of Rural Development, drafted the 'New Generation Guidelines on Watershed and Springshed Development Projects, 2022', which have now been rolled out by Government of India for adoption across the country**
- vi) Headed the Committee on electronic Negotiable Warehousing Receipt (eNWR) system for World Food Programme (WFP)**
- vii) Headed the Committee for drafting of the United Nations Food Security System (UNFSS), India Report 2021**
- viii) Headed the Committee on Restructuring of Crop Insurance Scheme (PMFBY) for the Ministry of Agriculture, and submitted a Report recommending comprehensive recommendations**

**Key Implications of Policy Planning**

There have been several positively disruptive impacts of the policies and programs initiated by him across the domains. They have led to transparency, simplification, and objectivity in the decision making and execution. **Two of the more outstanding initiatives that have has large- scale positive influence are :**

- (i) **roll out of Aadhar** and its use in developing several Apps for direct and hassle-free delivery of services; and
- (ii) **policy reorientation of the agriculture sector** from production-centricity **to employment and income-centricity** of the country's agricultural system **based on the DFI Report**

#### **Awards and Honors**

- **Best Outgoing Student**, College of Agriculture, UAS, Bangalore, 1979
- **Best Sportsman of the Year**, Sardar Vallabhai Patel National Police Academy, Hyderabad, 1982
- **Distinguished Alumnus** by University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore in 2013
- Conferred the **Honorary Doctorate of Science (D.Sc.) by the University of Agricultural Sciences**, Dharwad in 2016, for his services to the society in general and agriculture, in particular.
- Conferred the **Honorary Doctorate of Literature (D. Lit.) by the Karnataka State Rural Development and Panchayat Raj University (KSRDPRU)** for contributions to rural & tribal development and agriculture, in 2021
- Conferred **Doctorate of Science (D.Sc.) by the Acharya N.G. Ranga Andhra Pradesh Agriculture University (ANGARU)**, Guntur on 04.03.2022
- Orissa University of Agriculture & Technology (OUAT), Bhubaneswar announced conferment of Honorary Doctorate of Science for the Year 2021
- Conferred the Honorary Professorship by Shobhit Institute of Engineering & Technology (Deemed to be University), Meerut 02.04.2022
- Conferred '**Exemplary Thought Leadership Award**' by ICE-Danfoss, **2018**
- Conferred **K. K. Iya Memorial Oration by ICAR-NDRI for commendable contributions to Indian Society and Agriculture**
- Conferred **Honorary Fellowship by Confederation of Horticultural Association of India (CHAI)** in 2019
- Conferred **Policy Leadership award by Indian Council of Food and Agriculture**



- Conferred “**Baroda Kisan Award, 2020**” by the **Bank of Baroda** for contributions to growth of Agriculture and service to the Nation and Society
- **Amit Krishi Rishi Award 2022**
- Conferred **Lifetime Achievement Award, 2022** by the **Nutri-hub ICAR-Indian Institute of Millets Research**, Hyderabad
- Honorary **Fellowship of Agricultural Economics Research Association (AERA), 2022**

**Life Membership of  
Professional bodies**

- Indian Society of Agricultural Economics
- Indian Society of Agricultural Marketing

**Lectures Delivered and  
Publications**

He has always sustained his interest in academics and research. He has published several research papers, written general interest articles, and contributed to edited books. **He has lectured at several national & international fora, including the Food and Agriculture Organisation, Rome, and World Food Foundation, Des Moines, Iowa.** He was invited to be the Conference President for the 36<sup>th</sup> National Conference on Agricultural Marketing held at Kolhapur, and deliver the key note address in November, 2022. He has been invited to deliver Convocation Address by various universities across the country. **He regularly visits Lal Baghadur Shastri National Academy of Administration, Mussoorie for delivering lectures to officers of different seniority.**

His publications count at more than **80 (in the form of policy drafts, articles, research papers, key note addresses, books, book chapters, opinion pieces with magazine, journals, newspapers, government departments etc.)**.

**Very recently (December 2024), he has published his first** non-fiction book entitled “**Pickling in a Residential School,**” that is gaining appreciation by readers of all ages. It is available on [Amazon](#). Earlier this year (2024), his another book “**Reflections on India's Public Policies: by India's Experienced Policy makers**”, coauthored with India’s finest policy makers was published and is also available at [Amazon](#). The book has wide acceptability among civil service and policy aspirants.

In December 2024, he has also submitted a book entitled “**Secondary Agriculture: Upgrading Agriculture for Jobs and Income**”, to the Springer Nature publications It is expected to be published by the first half of 2025.

**Personal Details**

- **DoB:** 04. 06.1958
- **Language proficiency:** Kannada (mother tongue), Oriya, Hindi, and English