



पृथ्वी विज्ञान मंत्रालय  
Ministry of Earth Sciences



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**Sub: Dr. Mrutyunjay Mohapatra receives Sir Gilbert Walker Award-2025 for his pioneering contribution in meteorological science and services**

India Meteorological Department (IMD) celebrates a moment of immense pride as **Dr. Mrutyunjay Mohapatra**, Director General of Meteorology, **India Meteorological Department (IMD)**, has been awarded the **Sir Gilbert Walker Award by Indian Meteorological Society (IMS) for his exceptional contributions to science & technology, research & innovation and their applications in weather forecasting and severe weather warnings, especially with respect to cyclones and monsoonal low-pressure systems.**

**The Sir Gilbert Walker Gold Medal is awarded** by the IMS to recognize outstanding and pioneering contributions in the field of meteorology and related areas. **The award honours lifetime contributions** towards the discovery of new phenomena, understanding atmospheric processes, and developing meteorological services for societal benefits.

**Born on 12 August 1965 in Bhadrak district, Odisha**, Dr. Mohapatra holds M.Sc. in Physics in 1987 and Ph.D. in Physics in 2007 from Utkal University. Dr. Mohapatra started his career at Defence Research & Development Organisation, Chandipur, Odisha in 1988. He joined as a Lecturer in Physics in DK College, Jaleswar, Odisha in 1990 and IMD in 1992 as a Meteorologist. **Rising through the ranks, he is currently the Director General of Meteorology, IMD since 2019**. He is also the 3rd Vice President of World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) and Secretary of WMO and UN-Economic & Social Commission for Asia & the Pacific Panel on Tropical Cyclones since 2023.

**His leadership in modernising India's cyclone warning system since 2007 marks pivotal transformation of IMD's meteorological prowess.** His tenure witnessed quantum leap in forecast precision which boosted preparedness and resilience in cyclone-vulnerable regions not only in India but also in 13 neighbouring countries in the North Indian Ocean (NIO). His visionary approach positioned India as a global leader in early warning systems and disaster preparedness. He is popularly known as the 'Cyclone Man of India'.

**His pioneer contributions** involve advancement of cyclone warning system, development of modern forecasting technologies, indigenous development of decision-support tools, impact-based forecasting, sector specific meteorological services, multi-hazard alerts, introduction of forecast verification and development of cyclone data base.

He has published **more than 165 research papers** and edited **4 books** and **8 journals**. He contributed significantly in advancing scientific understanding of monsoonal low-pressure systems, cyclone characteristics, storm surge, and climate impacts.

He led IMD's **Modernisation Programme (2007–12)** for weather forecasting, WMO's **Severe Weather Forecasting Programme (2016)**, **South Asia Flash Flood Guidance System (2021)**, and **Mission Mausam (2024)**. He contributed immensely in strengthening global collaboration on meteorological and climate resilience initiatives.

He is also the honorary recipient of **UN Sasakawa Award (2025)**, **American Meteorological Society Outstanding Service Award (2025)**, **National Award on E-Governance (2025)**, **25<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup> Biennial Mausam Awards**, and **honorary D.Sc. from five universities**.

**This accolade honours Dr. Mohapatra's visionary leadership and his pioneering scientific, technological, and research contributions** that have advanced weather forecasting and severe weather warning systems, minimising losses to life and property.



Dr.

Mrutyunjay Mohapatra, Director General IMD receiving Gold Medal from Dr. M Ravichandran, Secretary Ministry of Earth Sciences



Dr. M Ravichandra felicitating Dr. Mohapatra

From Left: Dr. S. I. Laskar, Scientist-F IMDS & General Secretary, IMS. Dr. Suryachandra Rao, Director IITM, Dr. M Mohapatra, DGM IMD, Dr. M Ravichandran, Secretary MoES and Sh. Anand Kumar Sharma, President IMS



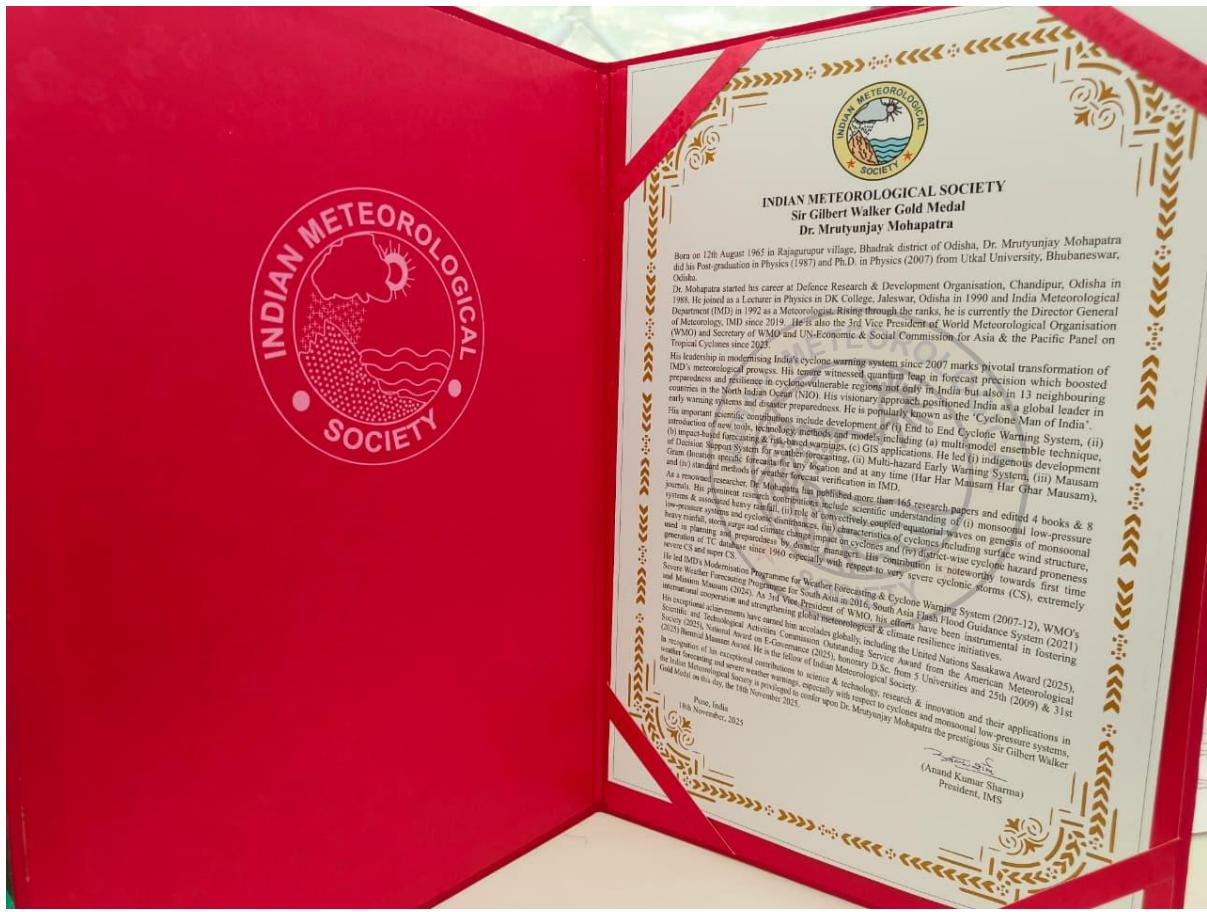
Dr. Mohapatra receiving citation from Secretary MoES



Award Ceremony



Sir Gilbert Walker Gold Medal



## Award Citation