



who is well known all over the world for his research contributions in mushrooms, mycorrhiza, and ethno-mycology/ ethno-botany and slime fungi. He has published 12 books, over 200 research papers and guided 28 Ph D students. He has been the chairman/member of various national committees. He is also on the editorial board of a number of Journals besides being the member of number of societies and associations concerning mycology, plant pathology, microbiology and biotechnology.

**Monika Rana** :- also an alumnus of the Department of Biosciences, Himachal Pradesh University, and Shimla. She completed her M Sc. and M Phil in botany in 2000 and 2002 earning a Gold Medal each and Ph D in 2005. She worked on the molecular and a nutraceutical aspect of the morels. She is presently associated with some NGO's for scientific research and development.

**Onkar Shad** :- is an alumnus of the Department of Biosciences, Himachal Pradesh University, Shimla. He passed his Masters in Botany in 1983 and M Phil in 1985 with flying colours .He received his Ph D degree in 1989 and worked on various aspects of morel biology. His rural background helped him in collecting the ethnic information on morels for the entire Himachal Pradesh. After his education he decided to dedicate his life for social work and has been helping the poor and downtrodden in various capacities and at various fora and fighting for their rights. He has utilized his science background for welfare of the people