

Professor Pradip K. Sikdar had his education at the University of Calcutta (Geology/Hydrogeology) and University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, UK (Integrated Coastal Zone Management). A teacher by profession and hydrogeologist by education, he was a Senior Scientist and Executive Secretary at the Centre for Study of Man and Environment, Kolkata and a Lecturer in the Department of Applied Geology, Indian School of Mines, Dhanbad before joining the Indian Institute of Social Welfare and Business Management in the Department of Environment Management in 2000. Currently as the Professor in the Department of Environment Management he is actively engaged in research and teaching groundwater hydrology and environmental impact assessment. He has over 28 years of experience in project management and implementation, field and research work in groundwater systems including application of computer models in scientific evaluation of hydrogeologic systems, groundwater resources development and protection. He also provides technical and management advice on a wide range of subject dealing with watershed management, natural resource development and environmental management issues to industries, consultant groups and NGOs. . His work on the effect of pumping in and around Kolkata City on the advection of groundwater from contaminated sites such as the Dhapa Solid Waste Dumping Ground and East Kolkata Wetlands using a combination of hydrogeology, isotope hydrology, geochemistry and numerical modeling of groundwater flow has been widely cited. He has done extensive research on arsenic contamination in groundwater of Bengal Basin and his primary interest in arsenic is to explain the spatial distribution of As-pollution in aquifers of Bengal Basin. His present research also deals with sustainability of water supply in the fluoride affected and semi-arid regions of West Bengal and in designing groundwater abstraction structures.

Prof. Sikdar has several students for Master, Doctoral and Post-doctoral research work. Till date five research students have been conferred the Ph.D. degree under his guidance. He is also a Visiting Faculty in the Departments of Geology and Environmental Science, University of Calcutta and the Department of Geology, Presidency University, teaching Hydrogeology and Water Resource Management. He has delivered several lectures in national and international conferences, seminars, workshops, UGC sponsored refresher courses, etc. He is serving as a Reviewer of many national and international journals. Prof. Sikdar is the member of several national and international professional institutions and societies and is also in the Board of Editors of some leading national journals. He was a Member of the CGWB State Level Technical Evaluation Committee and West Bengal Fact-finding Commission on Environment (non-official). He has published more than 100 research papers in international and national journals, conference proceedings and books and 35 project reports. He has authored a book 'Groundwater of West Bengal: Assessment, Development and Management' (in Bengali) and co-authored a book titled 'A Text Book of Environment'. Prof. Sikdar has also edited two books on 'Interlinking of Indian Rivers'. He is the recipient of the 22nd Dewang Mehta Business School Award 2014 for the 'Best Professor in Water Resources Management' and Groundwater Science Excellence Award in 2015 by the International Association of Hydrogeologists – India Chapter in appreciation of his achievements in the field of groundwater in India.