

# Biographies

## Brief Biography of the Candidate

Asma Rani is currently part time research scholar in the Department of Computer Science & Information Systems at Birla Institute of Technology & Science, Pilani, Rajasthan, India. She has completed her M. Tech. (Computer Science) in 2009 and B.Tech (Computer Science & Engineering) in 2004. She is currently working as an Assistant Professor at Dr. B. R. Ambedkar institute of Technology, Port Blair, Andaman & Nicobar Island, India since December 2016. Before joining there, she worked as a Lecturer at Birla Institute of Technology & Science, Pilani, Rajasthan, India from January 2012 to December 2016 and was doing PhD work. Her current research interests are Data Provenance, Temporal Databases, Graph Databases, Data Analytics, Decision Support Systems, & Fuzzy Logic.

Contact her at [asma.sags@gmail.com](mailto:asma.sags@gmail.com).

## Brief Biography of the Supervisor

Prof. Navneet Goyal did his PhD from IIT Roorkee in 1995 in Mathematics. He joined BITS-Pilani in 1995 and has been there since then. He is currently a Professor of Computer Science. He served as HoD of the Computer Science department from 2011 to 2014. His research interests include Databases, Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, Data Mining, Big Data Analytics, High Performance Computing, Multimedia Analytics.

He has received two globally competitive research awards in the areas of AI and Big Data Analytics. He is a co-recipient of the Google Impact Scholar Award under their "AI for Social Good" initiative. The project, one among 30 projects selected globally, is related to reducing wildlife crime using AI. The award money is USD \$10,000. He is also a recipient of the IBM Scalable Data Analytics Innovation Faculty Award 2010 under their "Smarter Planet Initiative". The award is in the area of Scalable Data Analytics for the research concept titled "Developing a Smart Crop Management System using Data Analytics". The award carried a cash prize of USD \$15,000.

He has completed one major funded project (funding amount – INR 1.20 crores) from Dept. of Electronics Information Technology, Govt. of India, on “Developing a New Distributed Computing Solution for Data Mining”. He is currently handling three research projects in the broad area of AI.

He is Coordinator of the APPCAIR AI Research Center, BITS Pilani, Pilani Campus. The research center has been established with a funding of USD \$1 million by BITS alumni. He is also one of the founding members and currently the Coordinator of the Advanced Data Analytics and Parallel Technologies Lab. (ADAPT Lab.) at BITS-Pilani. He has successfully supervised 3 Ph.D. students and is currently supervising 5 Ph.D. students.

At present, he is in-charge of setting up a Disruptive Technologies Lab. at BITS-Pilani. The labs’ main objective is to solve societal problems which are at the intersection of disruptive technologies viz., AI/ML, Blockchain, IoT.

Contact him at [goel@pilani.bits-pilani.ac.in](mailto:goel@pilani.bits-pilani.ac.in).

<http://universe.bits-pilani.ac.in/pilani/goel/profile>

## **Brief Biography of the co-supervisor**

Prof. Shashi K.Gadia is currently Associate Professor in the Department of Computer Science at IOWA State University, Ames, USA. He did his Ph.D. in Mathematics from University of Illinois, Urbana, 1977. He guided 7 PhD & 35 MS students. He has completed 4 funded projects. He has published more than 20 journal & 35 conference papers. His research includes different dimensions/parameters in databases like temporal, spatial, belief, and scientific; nested values (XML), Zero-Information Loss Databases, Auditing, Multi-level Security, Query Languages & Optimization, & Graph Databases.

Contact him at [gadia@piastate.edu](mailto:gadia@piastate.edu).

<http://web.cs.iastate.edu/gadia/>