SASMITA MOHANTY

Junior Research Fellow (Life Sciences)

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PERSONAL STATEMENT

M.Sc. Biotechnology graduate who qualified CSIR-UGC NET JRF (Life Sciences) in June 2025 with hands-on training in PCR, qPCR, gel electrophoresis, plant tissue culture and basic bioinformatics. Completed a 10-month dissertation on drought-responsive genes in rice and seeks a JRF position on a DST, DBT or ICAR-funded project.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Dissertation Trainee · *Mahanadi Institute of Plant Sciences, Cuttack* Jul 2024 – Apr 2025

- Screened 24 rice landraces for drought tolerance under the guidance of a principal scientist, recording physiological data for 3 stress cycles.
- Extracted RNA, synthesised cDNA and ran qPCR for 6 candidate genes, analysing fold change with the 2^-ΔΔCt method.
- Maintained the lab notebook, reagent inventory and sample register as per institute biosafety guidelines.
- Presented findings at the institute's monthly research seminar and drafted the methods section of a manuscript under preparation.

EDUCATION

M.Sc. in Biotechnology · *Kalinga State University, Bhubaneswar* 2023 – 2025
Grade: 8.6 CGPA

B.Sc. (Hons) in Botany · *Government Autonomous College, Berhampur, Berhampur* 2020 – 2023
Grade: 81%

SKILLS

PCR and qPCR • RNA and DNA isolation • Gel electrophoresis • Plant tissue culture • Primer design • NCBI BLAST • R (basic statistics) • MS Excel

CORE SKILLS

- Experimental design
- Lab documentation
- Literature review
- Scientific writing
- Biosafety practices

PROJECTS

Expression profiling of drought-responsive genes in rice landraces of Odisha · *M.Sc. dissertation* Jul 2024 – Apr 2025

Compared gene expression in tolerant and susceptible landraces under controlled water stress.

- Identified 2 landraces with consistently higher expression of stress-response genes.
- Used R for ANOVA and plotted results for the final dissertation and seminar.

CERTIFICATIONS

CSIR-UGC NET JRF, Life Sciences · *National Testing Agency* Jul 2025

GATE Biotechnology (qualified) · *IIT (organising institute)* Mar 2025

NPTEL: Introduction to Bioinformatics (Elite) · *NPTEL* Nov 2024

LANGUAGES

Odia · Native • English · Fluent • Hindi · Professional

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