

Born on 1st February, 1960 at Berhampur (Ganjam), Odisha, Sri Balakrishna Mohapatra did his schooling at Berhampur and graduation from the Khallikote College, Berhampur. He obtained a degree in Law (LL.B) from Lingaraj Law College, Berhampur and Master degree in Law (LL.M) from Berhampur University.

He entered Odisha Judicial Service on 01.06.1990 and worked in different posts/Courts at different places in Odisha, both on civil and Criminal sides. He was promoted to the cadre of Civil Judge (Sr. Division) in the year 2005 and on further promotion he entered into the cadre of Odisha Superior Judicial Service w.e.f. 16.01.2012 and posted as the Addl. District & Sessions Judge, Cuttack, followed by the assignments as Special Judge, vigilance, Keonjhar, Registrar (Inspection) and Registrar (Judicial) in the Hon'ble High Court of Orissa, Special Judge, Special Court (Vigilance), Bhubaneswar, Member Secretary of Odisha State Legal Services Authority, and while working as District & Sessions judge, Cuttack he took voluntary retirement from the service on 21.08.2019.

During his service tenure covering more than 29 years **he came across and dealt with a good number of Civil, Criminal, Sessions and Vigilance cases and in that course, availed the opportunity of learning various branches of law and gaining experience in judicial performance.**

While working in the Registry of Hon'ble High Court of Orissa, he acquainted himself with the High Court Rules, precedents, practice and the power of the Hon'ble High Court regarding inspection and superintendence over the subordinate Judiciary. He was posted in the Odisha State Legal Services Authority as Dy. Secretary (in the cadre of Senior Civil Judge) and again as Member Secretary (in the cadre of District Judge) in two different terms for a total period of about five years. **In course of the said assignments, he availed the opportunity of organising Lok Adalats, dealing with/implementing various preventive and strategic schemes including free and competent Legal Services Schemes, generating and spreading legal literacy and awareness in masses with focus on different social welfare enactments including the RTI Act and Rules and various social security schemes of Central Government and State Govt. by organising and conducting outreach programmes, training programmes, camps, workshops, seminars etc.**

He also keeps interest in literary works. He is an approved lyricist of All India Radio since the year 1992 having penned a good number of poems, lyrics etc. There have been published two compilations of his poems and lyrics with applause from readers at large. He also writes short stories and feature articles. He has given talks in Radio and Doordarshan on different legal topics and social security schemes of the Government.