



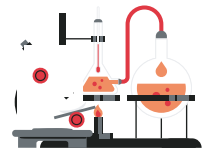
**Indian National Science Academy
&
National Centre for Good Governance**



INSA-NCGG LEADS Programme



Indian National Science Academy
Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg
New Delhi-110 002



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Messages



Message from DG, NCGG

The National Centre for Good Governance (NCGG) is committed to nurturing a culture of excellence in fostering public administration and citizen-centric governance. At NCGG, we are steadfast in our commitment to advancing governance, public policy, advocacy, and capacity building for both National and International Civil Servants. Through a range of diverse initiatives, we aim to equip civil servants with the skills and knowledge necessary to navigate the complexities of our times effectively.

1. One such pioneering collaboration is the Leadership Development Programme in Science and Technology (LEADS), conducted in partnership with the Indian National Science Academy (INSA). LEADS represents our dedication to fostering leadership and excellence within the scientific community, tailored to empower mid-career scientists with the requisite skills to lead in the dynamic landscape of Indian Science and Technology.
2. LEADS serves as a catalyst for shaping the future of leadership in science and technology, emphasizing talent nurturing, collaboration, and collective intellect to address pressing challenges. The programme offers a unique platform for scientists to delve into the realms of administration, policy formulation, and strategic decision-making, facilitated by interactions with eminent experts.
3. The first batch of the LEADS programme, a collaborative effort between INSA and NCGG, marked a significant milestone in 2023, held from July 12th to 18th at INSA, New Delhi, represented the first of its kind for the scientific community. It was a 7 days full residential programme. Forty-four (44) participants were chosen from a pool of candidates representing various laboratories and institutions. These participants, comprised of senior scientists from government laboratories and academic institutions, were actively involved in pioneering technology development across diverse domains. Their wealth of administrative experience enriched the programme's discourse and engagement.
4. As we move forward, NCGG remains committed to fostering a culture of innovation, excellence, and inclusive growth. Together with INSA, we embark on a journey of discovery, growth, and leadership, towards a future defined by progress and prosperity.

Shri V. Srinivas



Message from President, INSA

Dear Participants, it gives me great pleasure to extend a warm welcome to you all as you embark on the journey of the Leadership Development Programme in Science and Technology (LEADS). This initiative, a collaborative effort between the Indian National Science Academy (INSA) and the National Centre for Good Governance (NCGG), stands as a testament to our commitment towards nurturing leadership excellence within the scientific community.

LEADS is not just a programme, it is a transformative experience crafted exclusively for Professor/Scientists like yourselves, who are at the forefront of innovation and discovery in various laboratories across the nation. Our aim is clear: to equip you with the skills, insights, and mindset required to navigate the complexities of leadership roles within the Indian Science ecosystem.

Throughout this programme, you will have the privilege to engage with eminent speakers. Their wealth of knowledge and experience will serve as invaluable guides, offering perspectives on leadership roles, challenges, opportunities, and best practices. I urge you to approach this seven-day journey with an open mind and a willingness to learn and grow. Embrace the challenges, seize the opportunities, and forge connections that will enrich your professional journey and contribute to the advancement of science and technology in our nation. Remember, leadership is not about titles or positions; it's about inspiring others, driving change, and making a positive impact on society. By investing in your leadership development, you are not only investing in yourselves but also in the future of scientific excellence in India.

On behalf of the entire LEADS team, I extend my best wishes for a fruitful and enriching experience.

Warm regards,
Professor Ashutosh Sharma



Message from VP (Science & Society), INSA

Dear Colleagues,

I am extremely pleased to extend my warm greetings and welcome to each of the participants in the prestigious Leadership Development in Science & Technology (LEADS) programme, organized jointly by INSA and NCGG to enlighten 44 selected participants from academic and research organisations across the country who carry appropriate potential to emerge as a future leader in the science and technology (S&T) sphere in this country and make important contributions in shaping the future of the nation.

The LEADS programme is designed with an intention to create a knowledge platform that will enable the future S&T leaders who have had little and no opportunity to learn various challenges in administering projects, schemes, departments, or institution may now interact with experts and peers from various domains, and learn the nuances of academic and scientific leadership in the national and international levels. The Institutional Leaders, especially invited from selected Institutions would be happy to share their insights, experiences, visions, and expertise gathered over the years that could help the younger ones aptly deal with administrative challenges with confidence and pursue excellence in S&T. Overall, LEADS aims to facilitate next generation leaders to acquire skill sets and confidence to learn, collaborate, and lead with integrity, empathy, clarity, and vision.

I urge each one of you to utilize this opportunity to the maximum extent possible by considering this LEADS programme as a platform to interact and engage with your peers, and absorb the wealth of knowledge that they carry and will be eager to share with you in the next few days. Together, let us inspire, empower, and elevate one another to new heights of excellence.

Best wishes

Indranil Manna



Message from Executive Director, INSA

Dear Participants, with great pleasure I extend a warm welcome to you all as you embark on the transformative journey of the Leadership Development Programme in Science and Technology (LEADS). This pioneering initiative, a collaborative effort between the Indian National Science Academy (INSA) and the National Centre for Good Governance (NCGG), stands as a beacon of excellence for the scientific fraternity.

LEADS has been meticulously designed to equip Professor/Scientists like yourselves with the necessary skills and insights to thrive in leadership positions within the dynamic landscape of Indian Science and Technology. As you immerse yourselves in this comprehensive programme, you will have the invaluable opportunity to learn from eminent speakers. Their collective wisdom and experiences will serve as guiding lights, illuminating the path towards effective leadership roles, and addressing the myriad challenges and opportunities that lie ahead.

At its core, LEADS seeks to foster a holistic understanding of leadership, encompassing not only technical prowess but also administrative acumen and strategic vision. We recognize the pivotal role that Professors and Senior Scientists play in shaping the future of scientific innovation and development.

As you embark on this enriching journey, I urge you to seize every opportunity for growth, collaboration, and learning. Embrace the diverse perspectives and experiences shared by your peers and mentors, and leverage this platform to elevate not only your personal leadership journey but also the collective advancement of science and technology in our nation.

I extend my best wishes for a transformative and enlightening programme.

Dr. Brajesh Pandey

LEADS Programme 2024 Schedule

Organised by INSA and NCGG

April 1-7, 2024

Venue: INSA, New Delhi

1st April 2024

09:00 - 10:15	Inauguration
10:15 - 11:30	L01: New Paradigms in Governance Shri V. Srinivas, Secretary, DARPG & DG-NCGG
11:30 - 12:00	Tea/ Coffee
12:00 - 13:15	L02: Everything you wanted to know, but afraid to ask Prof. Ashutosh Sharma, President, INSA,
13:15 - 14:30	Lunch
14:30 - 15:45	L03: Going Against The Grain: Leadership and Building an Innovative Institution Prof. UB Desai, Emeritus Professor, IIT Hyderabad
15:45 - 16:15	Tea/Coffee
16:15 - 17:30	L04: Leadership for Academic Excellence and Technology Development Prof. Indranil Manna, VC, BITS Mesra
Evening Session	ES1: Motivational Talk H.C. Verma, Emeritus Professor, IIT, Kanpur

2nd April 2024

09:00 - 10:15	L05: Science, Technology and Innovation Landscape of India : A Vision for Viksit Bharat Dr Akhilesh Gupta, Senior Adviser, SERB & Head, DST
10:15 - 11:30	L06: Women in administration: Way forward to a Gender Just World Dr. Ranjana Aggarwal, Director, NIScPR
11:30 - 12:00	Tea/Coffee
12:00 - 13:15	L07: Challenges of Communicating Science in India: Clever Ways of Communicating Science Shri Pallava Bagla, Science Reporter
13:15 - 14:30	Lunch

14:30 - 15:45	L08: S&T and International Collaboration-leveraging science diplomacy for high priority and high opportunity areas Dr. Arabinda Mitra, Hon. Distinguished Fellow, O/o PSA
15:45 - 16:15	Tea/Coffee
16:15 - 17:30	L09: Making a Life vs Making a Living Shri Gurcharan Das, Author
18:00 - 19:15	Es2: Understanding the diversity of Holi Festival through Gramophone records Shri Akhilesh Jha & Ms. Shreyasi Jha
3rd April, 2024	
09:00 - 10:15	L10: Capacity Building and Human Resource Development in S&T: Role of CSIR Dr. Geetha Vani Rayasam, Head, CSIR-HRDG
10:15 - 11:30	L11: Using Accounting Data in Policy Planning and Monitoring Shri Akhilesh Jha, Chief Controller of Accounts, M/o Rural Development
11:30 - 12:00	Tea/Coffee
12:00 - 13:15	L12: Driving Change: Strategies for Implementing Transformational Leadership in Government and Institutions Dr. Subi Chaturvedi, Chief Corporate Affairs & Public Policy Officer, InMobi
13:15 - 14:30	Lunch
14:30 Onwards	L13&14: CVC and CIC Exposure Visit
4th April, 2024	
9:00 - 10:15	L15: Scientific Leadership towards Global Impact Dr. Archana Sharma, Principal Scientist, Physics Department, CERN
10:15 - 11:30	L16: Translational Materials Research: Crossing the Valley of Death Dr. Tata Narasinga Rao, Director, ARCI
11:30 - 12:00	Tea/Coffee

12:00 - 13:15	L17: Promoting Innovation and Entrepreneurship in Academia – DST Approach Shri. Praveen Roy, Head, NSTEDB
13:15 - 14:30	Lunch
14:30 - 15:45	L18: India's COVID-19 Vaccination Journey Dr. VK Paul, Hon'ble Member, NITI Aayog
15:45 - 16:15	Tea/Coffee
16:15 - 17:30	L19: Managing Emerging Challenges to Make Institutions Fit and Resilient Shri. Balvinder Kumar, Former Secretary, Ministry of Mines
18:00 – 19:15	Evening Session 3:

5th April, 2024

9:00 - 10:15	L20: The Impact of Intellectual : Property Rights (IPR) Laws on Scientific and Academic Leadership: Strategies, Challenges, and Opportunities Ms. Mansi Chaudhry, Intellectual Property Attorney
10:15 - 11:30	L21: Leadership in Technology-driven world Prof. Manoj Choudhary, Vice Chancellor, Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya
11:30 - 12:00	Tea/Coffee
12:00 - 13:15	L22: Mental Well-being as National Mission Ms. Deeksha Awasthi, Founder Deeksha Life & Global Mental Health Ambassador
13:15 - 14:30	Lunch
14:30 - 15:45	L23: Bridging the Two Cultures Shri Ajit Seth, Former Cabinet Secretary, GOI
15:45 - 16:15	Tea/Coffee
16:15 - 17:30	L24: Prevention of Sexual Harassment at workplace Ms. Aparna Bhat, Lawyer, Supreme Court
18:00 - 19:15	ES4: Financial Rules and Public Procurement Shri Vishvajit Sahay, Additional Secretary & Financial Adviser, DST

6th April 2024	
09:00 - 10:15	L25: Conduct Rules, Disciplinary Rules Shri Sandeep Mukherjee, Director, (ISTM)
10:15 - 11:30	L26: Role of IP in Vikshit Bharat Prof. Unnat P Pandit, Controller General, Patents, Designs & Trade
11:30 - 12:00	Tea/Coffee
12:00 - 13:15	L27: Administrative and Financial Issues of Autonomous Bodies with Special Reference to DST Dr. Manoranjan Mohanty, Head, Autonomous Institute & Nano Mission, Division, DST
13:15 - 14:30	Lunch
14:30 - 15:45	L28: Some Tips and tricks for successful scientific Leadership Prof. Shekhar Mande, Former DG, CSIR
15:45 - 16:15	Tea/Coffee
16:15 - 17:30	L29: Navigating Ethical Dilemmas in Scientific Research: The Role of Integrity in Leadership Dr. Madhu Dikshit, Former Director, CSIR-CDRI
18:00 Onwards	ES5: Cultural Program and Almuni meet
7th April, 2024	
09:00 - 10:15	L30: Academic Leadership Prof. Avinash K Agarwal, IIT Kanpur
10:15 - 11:30	L31: Public Policy Shri SN Tripathi, DG, Indian Institute of Public Administration
11:30 - 12:00	Tea/Coffee
12:00 - 13:15	L32:Administrative Skills for Good Leadership" Prof. V K Ahuja, Director, Indian Law Institute
13:15 - 14:30	Lunch
14:30 - 15:45	L33: Leadership for Excellence Shri Bharat Lal, Secretary General, National Human Rights Commission (NHRC)
15:45 - 16:15	Tea/Coffee
16:15 - 17:30	Valedictory

Speakers' Biographies



Shri. Ajit Seth

*Former Cabinet Secretary &
Scientific Consultant Policy,
O/o Principal Scientific Adviser (PSA)*

Shri Ajit Kumar Seth joined the IAS in 1974 and, in the course of a varied and distinguished career, performed a range of important administrative roles in Uttar Pradesh and in the Government of India.

He obtained B.Sc (Hons.) and M.Sc. degrees in Chemistry from St. Stephen's College, Delhi University. Throughout he was a recipient of the National Science Talent Scholarship. He thereafter obtained an M.Phil (in Life Sciences) and, mid career, a Master's degree (in Development Finance) from the University of Birmingham, U.K . In 2015, the University of Birmingham conferred upon Shri Seth a Doctorate honoris causa.

Shri Seth served as District Magistrate/Collector of Mainpuri and Lucknow districts, Special Secretary Industries, Secretary, Home and Vigilance, Divisional Commissioner Kumaon, Principal Secretary Vigilance and Principal Secretary Rural Development in Uttar Pradesh in the Government of India and in the Ministries of Commerce and Textiles, including a diplomatic assignment in the Permanent Mission of India to the United Nations at Geneva in the 1980s.

Shri Seth was appointed Cabinet Secretary to the Government of India in June, 2011. He was in this apex position till retirement in June, 2015 after having served in two administrations. During this period, he also chaired the National Crisis Management Committee and was member of the Space Commission and the Atomic Energy Commission. After his superannuation, Shri Seth was appointed Chairman, Public Enterprises Selection Board (PESB), a position he held till November, 2016.



Dr. Akhilesh Gupta

Secretary, Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB), Delhi

Dr Akhilesh Gupta has a post graduate degree from Lucknow University in Physics and a doctorate degree from IIT Delhi in Atmospheric Sciences. Dr Gupta has been the Adviser to Union S&T Minister, Secretary to University Grants Commission (UGC) and Secretary to Science & Engineering Research Board (SERB). Dr Gupta is currently the Senior Adviser in the Department of Science & Technology, Govt of India heading Policy Coordination and Programme Management Division and overall in-charge of 5 national missions viz., National Mission on Interdisciplinary Cyber Physical Systems, National Quantum Mission, National Super-computing Mission, National Mission on Strategic Knowledge for Climate Change and National Mission for Sustaining the Himalayan Ecosystem.

Dr Gupta has published over 200 research papers in various National and International journals and proceedings of conferences. He is editor of 7 books, author of over 350 articles and nearly 1000 reports. Some of the key research areas of interest to Dr Gupta include, Tropical cyclone prediction, monsoons, weather and climate modelling, STI policy areas like Open science, equity & inclusion, STI financing, system interconnectedness, etc.

Dr Gupta has been the leading author of India's National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC), Head of the Secretariat which drafted India's new Science, Technology and Innovation Policy, which is under finalization and contributed significantly to the formulation of Anushandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF).

Dr Gupta was awarded Honorary Doctorate by Jagadguru Rambhadracharya Divyanga university, Chitrakut; Honorary Professorship by Amity University Rajasthan and Sanjay Ghodawat University, Kolhapur, Maharashtra.

Dr Gupta is a Fellow of Indian National Academy of Engineering (FNAE), Fellow of Indian Meteorological Society (FIMS), a Fellow of Association of Agrometeorologists (FAAM) and a Fellow of Society for Science of Climate Change and Sustainable Environment (FSSCE).



Shri Akhilesh Jha
*Chief Controller of Accounts
Ministry of Rural Development and
Panchayati Raj, GOI*

Akhilesh Jha is a gramophone historian, a data artist and a Civil Servant by profession. He is a Civil Servant of 1996 batch and currently posted in Ministry of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, Government of India. He is a public policy & PFM expert. He has worked for undertrial prisoners, pioneered computer literacy for slumdwellers in India and has been working for the destitute patients.

Akhilesh Jha was Professor at National Institute of Financial Management (NIFM) during 2014-15 and taught public financial management and e-governance. He taught a course 'PG Diploma in Buddhist Studies' at Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA).

Akhilesh has authored 18 books; made more than 100 documentaries on Indian history, culture and music; written more than 500 articles/research papers for about 30 newspapers, magazines and journals. He has created an archive of more than 10000 rare gramophone records.

Akhilesh Jha has served at various positions in Ministry of Civil Aviation, Ministry of Tourism, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of External Affairs, Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers, Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas, Ministry of Science & Technology, Ministry of Law & Justice, Ministry of Corporate Affairs, and Ministry of Science & Technology.

Areas of interest-

Vedas, Indology, folktales of Mithila, life of Lakshadweep, role of music and musicians in nation building, sites of Indic knowledge system in Pakistan, aural stocks of shellac records, evolution of constitutional system in India, data science, using technology in heritage space...



Ms. Aparna Bhat
Advocate, Supreme Court

Aparna Bhat is an Advocate at Supreme Court. She is a litigator conducting cases on behalf of a range of persons, organizations and companies, and government organizations in various courts. She is also a policy developer and advisor working with the government through various Ministries and Departments, Bi-lateral and multilateral organizations, commercial establishments, and non-profit organizations. She works in researching laws and policies, analyzing and reviewing institutions and institutional practices. As a litigator, she has represented the government and the private institution, individuals who cannot afford legal services, civil society organization, and government commissions like the National Commission for women, Delhi commission for women, and National commission for children, in the high court and supreme court of India as well as victims in the criminal trials. In recognition of the work, she has been called by Supreme Court to act as Amicus Curiae on various instances in cases of child abuse. She has also helped the Delhi Commission for Women and created an alternate system of representation of victims in rape and trafficking cases. Landmark judgments that have been exclusively conducted by her successfully are the cases relating to acid attack, which changed the law dealing with acid attack crimes, started providing compensations for the victims, and directed that they should be given free treatment, a case relating to the creation of a specialized agency for the conduct of cases of trafficking, matters related to the treatment of victims of sexual violence by giving them multi-discipline support from the time complaint is lodged with the police, case relating to regulating agencies which place domestic help in house-hold to a name a few. Her office has provided support to over 1100 victims of rape from September 2005 to April 2011, which went to increase the conviction rate in the state of Delhi from 10% to 29% in the period that she created and managed the Rape Crisis Cell. As a policy developer, Ms.Bhat has worked extensively to develop policies on child care, sexual harassment at the workplace, and rehabilitation of victims of trafficking with a special focus on economic rehabilitation and sexual health. She has also helped the government draft rules for statutes and developed compensation schemes for violence victims. She has researched the laws related to juvenile justice, commercial sexual exploitation of children, implementation of international conventions, adolescent health, and policies related thereto, reviewed the manner in which the judiciary conducted the case of rape and trafficking in Delhi to looking at implication of child marriage. She has also undertaken the status of implementing the SAARC Convention on trafficking in the region for the International Organisation of Migration for their ADB project.



Dr. Arabinda Mitra

*Hon. Distinguished Fellow &
former Scientific Secretary
Office of the PSA, Goa*

After Master's degree in Geology from Patna University, Arabinda Mitra started his career in 1985 as a research scholar in the Dept. of Geology, Delhi University. In 1987 he joined the Department of Atomic Energy as Scientist SC and was involved in survey and exploration of atomic minerals in J&K and Uttarakhand Himalayas.

In 1988 he was awarded the prestigious Cambridge Nehru Fellowship to pursue PhD in Marine Sciences at University of Cambridge, UK. His PhD work on Rare Earth Element geochemistry of mid-ocean ridge hydrothermal systems has been published in journals Nature, Marine Chemistry, Geochimica Cosmochimica Acta etc.

On return from UK, in 1993 he joined the Indian Antarctic Program in the Department of Ocean Development, now Ministry of Earth Sciences. He has to his credit the planning and launching of annual expeditions to Antarctica, including several national and international scientific projects at the Indian station Maitri. He was directly involved in planning and establishing the National Centre for Polar & Ocean Research in Goa, where he set up the first ice core study laboratory of the country.

In the course of all these assignments, he won several academic awards including the ORS Award of UK, JSPS Award of Japan and was elected as a Fellow of the Geological Society, London. He was a member of the 14th Antarctic expedition and has participated in scientific cruises to the Indian, Atlantic, and Southern Ocean including the Sea of Japan. He represented India in the Antarctic Treaty meetings of SCAR and COMNAP.

In 2001, he joined as Scientist F in DST, and was responsible for bilateral cooperation in Science and Technology with USA. In Nov 2004, Dr. Mitra was confirmed as the founding Executive Director of the bi-national Indo-US Science and Technology Forum where he played a seminal role in steering a vibrant and multi-faceted cooperation in R&D which catapulted Science, Technology and Innovation as a pillar of Indo-US bilateral collaboration.

In 2011, Dr. Mitra took over the responsibilities of Adviser & Head of International Cooperation in DST. This job involved overseeing India's international science and technology engagements with 44 countries across the globe, including Africa. Several new dimensions of bilateral cooperation with both developed and developing countries including cross border academia-industry collaboration to foster innovation and industrial R&D were launched under his stewardship.

From June 2018 until October 2021, Dr. Mitra served as Scientific Secretary in the Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India with the core mandate to develop national missions, provide policy interventions, and render advice in matters related to science, technology and innovation. Currently, he serves as Honorary Distinguished Fellow in the O/o PSA, helping capacity building across S&T departments of Government of India, working in partnership with the Capacity Building Commission. He is also Advisor in IIT-Kanpur's Startup Incubation and Innovation Centre, helping promote technology-led and deep-tech innovation eco-system.



Dr. Archana Sharma

*Principal Applied Scientist,
Physics Department, CERN,
Geneva*

Recently honored with the highest civilian award for Indians living abroad, Pravasi Bhartiya Samman Award 2023, by the President of India, and by the Bharat Gaurav at the British Parliament, Dr. Archana Sharma is Head of Relations with International Organizations, Principal Scientist at the CERN Laboratory in Geneva, Switzerland. An internationally recognized expert, she has worked on several CERN experiments both on R&D involved in designing and operation of large-scale gaseous detectors for radiation and scientific management. In particular, the Gas Electron Multiplier that she introduced as a new technology in the Compact Muon Solenoid Experiment, at the Large Hadron Collider at CERN, has been an original contribution with over 650 GEM radiation detector system the largest size ever built.

Following a graduate degree in Physics from BHU Varanasi, received her Ph.D. from Delhi University in 1989 followed by a D.Sc. (Doctoratès Sciences) from the University of Geneva, in 1996. Archana also earned an executive MBA degree from International University Geneva in 2001. Her publications, review articles and book: a special volume on Instrumentation on Particle Physics are widely referred to & cited. She is the co-owner of patents on a family of timing and high-rate capable devices and has served on numerous committees and plays a vital role in advisory review boards for leading International Conferences, Publications and Symposia in the field. An examiner for European Commission Horizon 2020 projects and for relevant national funding agencies and an Adjunct professor in several institutions she teaches regularly courses on gaseous detectors and their applications in high energy physics and in other fields like medical imaging and diagnostics, astronomy, space and PET. Actively facilitating knowledge exchange and capacity building in the science and technology sector (particularly in India), main author of over 250 and co-author of over 1600 publications, she is invited regularly in international conferences and public addresses in various science and technology events. Currently she is Chair of the Engagement Office of the CMS Experiment, managing the experimental responsibilities of over 250 institutions in 40 countries. Her projects have churned out 75 PhDs. She is a Distinguished Lecturer at the IEEE, has collaborated with events at the ILO Geneva and World Communication Forum Davos as spokesperson for diversity, excellence in scientific communication. She is also well known for her relentless efforts in mentoring young students particularly girls in STEM.

Archana is also an author 3 popular science books:

<https://tinyurl.com/IndiaScienceGeniuses>

<https://tinyurl.com/Nobel-Dreams-of-India>

<https://tinyurl.com/A-to-Z-CERN>



Shri Balvinder Kumar

*Former Union Secretary, Mines and Member,
Real Estate Regulatory Authority.
Retired IAS Officer*

He belonged to 1981 batch of Indian Administrative Service of Uttar Pradesh (U.P) cadre and got superannuated in February, 2017 from the post of Union Secretary, Ministry of Mines, Government of India. In continuation, he got a government assignment of Member, Real Estate Regulatory Authority up to the age of 65 years.

During service, he did Masters in Development Administration from University of Birmingham, England, U K from 1987 to 1988.

At Central Government level, he has served Fertilizer, Agriculture, Handloom, Mines and Metal Sector. Also posted as Vice Chairman of Delhi Development Authority.

After retirement from the service, Balvinder Kumar was briefly appointed in May 2018, as Vice Chairman of SGT University of Gurugram, Haryana.

Balvinder Kumar is now serving in 3 private companies as an Independent Director.

Besides, being an ex-bureaucrat, he is an author and painter. He has written 4 books on spirituality and life sciences, the last one was “Exploring Life”. He had organized painting exhibitions at Lalit Kala Academy and in Lucknow.

He is also pursuing a blog and has written more than 100 articles mainly on mental wellbeing.

As a founder and chairman of Mind Therapy, a Venture set up No in March 2023, he is full time engaged in diversified activities pertaining to mental health.



Shri Bharat Lal

*Secretary General, Chief Executive
Officer of the Commission, National Human
Rights Commission (NHRC) India*

Shri Bharat Lal is recently appointed as Secretary General Chief Executive Officer of the Commission. Prior to that, he was working as Director General of National Centre for Good Governance, an autonomous institution of Govt of India. Mr. Bharat joined Civil Service in July, 1988. In January, 2022, joined Lokpal of India, the anti-corruption body of the country, as its secretary. He is also the founder Mission Director of 'Jal Jeevan Mission', a flagship programme started in August, 2019 to ensure clean tap water to every household and public institutions of the country, by 2024. Since very early in career, Mr Lal started working on water management. For a very long period, worked in drinking water and sanitation sector, both at the federal and state government of Gujarat. He was involved in 'sector reforms' in water and sanitation sector started in 1999 by the federal government and played a pivotal role in formulating, planning and implementing decentralised, demand-driven and community-managed water supply, sanitation and water resource management programmes.

Post-earthquake in Gujarat, had set-up Water and Sanitation Management Organization (WASMO) in 2002 to facilitate potable tap water to every household and improved sanitation. This work became an example, which has been acknowledged by conferring Prime Minister's Civil Services Award, Commonwealth Association for Public Administration and Management (CAPAM) Award and United Nation's Public Service Award to WASMO. In a drought prone and desert State like Gujarat, availability of drinking water is no more an issue. Based on this experience, Government of India, in 2019 launched 51 Billion US \$ programme, namely, Jal Jeevan Mission Har Ghar Jal to ensure potable tap water to every rural household in adequate quantity of prescribed quality on regular and long-term basis. The idea is to not allow paucity of water to become a limiting factor in the socio-economic development of the country and its quest for high economic growth to eliminate poverty.

During 2017-19, he served as Additional Secretary to the then President of India Shri Ram Nath Kovind. As Pri. Resident Commissioner of Gujarat, promoted and facilitated investment in Gujarat as well as state's world-wide outreach. Believe in 'out of box' thinking and finding solutions to solve complex problems. have vast experience of policy making at the highest level, both on national and international issues.

He got the privilege of working with Prime Minister of India Shri Narendra Modi since 2001, when he became Chief Minister of Gujarat. Since March 2020, also worked in the core team managing Covid-19 pandemic caused by Corona virus in the country.



Ms. Deeksha Awasthi

Founder

DeekshaLife , Faridabad

Deeksha Awasthi, Founder, Deeksha Life, is driving and leading the efforts across the country to make Mental Well-being to become a National Mission. She is currently championing Mental Wellbeing amongst Youth across several Institutes & Universities in India. She recently delivered a presentation on Mental Health to all IIT Directors, aiming to grasp the existing needs and gaps in this area. Additionally, a recommendations document was submitted to tackle the issue.

An alumna of IIT Kanpur, Deeksha, holds 15+ years of experience in R&D, strategic planning, and market research. Known for driving growth and profitability through technology solutions, she has served on Advisory Boards for organizations in Ed Tech, Health Tech, and Media Tech globally, bringing a unique perspective to business needs.

- Key Note Speaker & Panelist at over 75+ National & International Seminars, Workshops & Conferences, where she talks about Leadership & Role of Mental Health in an Organization's growth & success.
- Published over 25+ articles on Unique Leadership & Mental Health Perspectives in National & International Magazines.
- Recipient of various awards including the United Nations Humanitarian Award, Top Most Leader in Mental Health, Social Excellence - Healthcare Category Award & Her Rising Award.
- She is a Global Mental Health Ambassador (GMHA, USA) & Global Impact Ambassador (GIN, USA).
- She mentors startups at FIRST Incubation Centre IITK. Also served as a Member of the Board at AA IITK for two tenures consecutively.
- She is the Director of Social Entrepreneurship & Enterprises, a platform which promotes social innovation in India through 500+ enterprises working on various SDGs.



Dr. Deeksha Gupta

*Director-Global Strategy for Society
Programs, ACS International India*

Deeksha leads Global Strategy for Society Program (GSSP) office at the American Chemical Society (ACS). Her office is responsible to grow ACS footprint by building partnerships and develop programs for global scientific community across AsiaPac (excluding China), Middle East, Africa, Latin America. ACS works with and for constituents from schools, colleges, research institutions (academia, Industry) and Govts. And non-governmental organizations. In her previous roles, she led development and implementation of ACS's India strategy and operations, managing editor for ACS Omega. She has rich experience in building programs, products, teams and partnerships. Currently she spends most her times in ideation, prototyping, and scaling programs and products or global communities. She serves on various national and international committees/platforms in STEM. Deeksha holds a Ph.D. from IIT Delhi in Material Science and Engineering. She has worked at the Royal Society of Chemistry, UK, City University of New York, USA, RWTH Aachen, Germany and Momentive Performance Materials (former GE Silicones), Bengaluru, India.



Dr. Geetha Vani Rayasam

*Head, CSIR-Human Resource
Development Group, Delhi*

Dr. (Mrs.) Geetha Vani Rayasam, has vast experience in academia, industry, Government of India and abroad. She is a Ph.D. in Biochemistry from IISc Bangalore and has post-doctoral experience in IGBMC, France and at the NIH, USA.

She has worked in Industries such as Ranbaxy (Daiichi-Sankyo) and SMART ANALYST in areas of new drug discovery and development. She has been at CSIR for more than a decade in a variety of roles ranging from the Open Source Drug Discovery Program to Heading Business Development and Industry Alliance at CSIR-IGIB. More recently she was heading the Science Communication and Dissemination Directorate (SCDD) at CSIR HQ.



Shri Gurcharan Das

Author, Commentator, Public Intellectual

Gurcharan Das is an author, commentator, and public intellectual. He is best known for a much-acclaimed trilogy on a lifelong search for a flourishing life based on the classical Indian goals of life. *India Unbound* was the first, on artha or 'material well-being,' it offers a personal account of India's economic rise and is available in 17 languages and filmed by the BBC the Guardian called it 'a quiet earthquake.' The second, *The Difficulty of Being Good*, on dharma, 'moral well-being', illuminates our day to day moral dilemmas, and 'one of the best things I've read about contribution of great literature to ethical thought,' according to the philosopher, Martha Nussbaum. *Kama: The Riddle of Desire*, on the third goal, teaches how to cherish desire in order to live a rich, flourishing life. His latest book, *Another Sort of Freedom*, is a memoir and a contemporary take on moksha, the fourth and final aim of life.

He graduated in philosophy with honors from Harvard University, where he has been inducted into Phi Beta Kappa for 'high attainments in liberal scholarship.' He later attended Harvard Business School (AMP) where he is featured in four case studies. He was CEO of Procter & Gamble India and Managing Director, Procter & Gamble Worldwide (Health & Beauty, Strategic Planning) before he retired early to become a full-time writer. He writes a regular column for the Times of India and other Indian language papers, and contributes to Financial Times, Wall Street Journal and New York Times. He is a speaker to some of the world's largest corporations.

His other books include *India Grows at Night: A liberal case for a strong state*, which was on the FT's best books for 2013; a novel, *A Fine Family*; a book of essays, *The Elephant Paradigm*, and an anthology, *Three Plays*. He has edited for Penguin a 15-volume economic and business history of India. He lives in Delhi with his wife.



Professor H. C. Verma, Padma Shri

Eminent Professor, IIT Kanpur

Professor Harish Chandra Verma (Padma Shri-2021), renowned for his illustrious career in the Department of Physics at the prestigious Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur, holds a distinguished position as a retired Professor. Prior to his tenure at IIT Kanpur, he imparted knowledge and wisdom at Science College, Patna University, where he served as a Lecturer and Reader from 1979 to 1994.

Throughout his academic journey, Professor Verma's research has traversed diverse realms, from Nano fabrication employing focused ion beam to unraveling the mysteries of magnetism in Graphite upon irradiation by ion beams. His expertise extends to the intricate domain of nanoscale magnetic materials, Fe-based alloys, and Earth Science, among others. His scholarly endeavors have culminated in the publication of 139 research papers in esteemed journals.

Not merely confined to research, Professor Verma's passion for education transcends boundaries. He has authored numerous textbooks in Physics tailored for both school and college levels, enriching the academic landscape with his profound insights. Moreover, his contribution to pedagogy is evident through the development of over 600 physics experiments, serving as invaluable tools for educators to engage and inspire students in the classroom. Recognized as a stalwart in promoting physics education, Professor Verma has furthered his impact as an Executive Committee member of the Indian Association of Physics Teachers (IAPT), dedicated to fostering excellence in physics education across schools and colleges.

Beyond academia, Professor Verma's altruistic spirit shines brightly through his involvement in social causes. His instrumental role in founding the NGO "Shiksha Sopan," which unites IIT Kanpur faculty, students, and local youth, underscores his commitment to community development and empowerment.

Professor Verma's intellectual curiosity extends to the rich heritage of science in Ancient India. Through meticulous research and captivating talks, he sheds light on the remarkable achievements of ancient Indian scholars, captivating audiences with topics ranging from "Mathematics before ZERO" to "Surgery: A 9000-year-old Tradition in India."

In essence, Professor Harish Chandra Verma epitomizes the quintessential scholar, whose multifaceted contributions encompass academia, education, social welfare, and the preservation of cultural heritage. His legacy resonates as a beacon of inspiration for generations to come.



Professor Manoj Choudhary

Vice Chancellor

Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya, Vadodara

Prof. Manoj Choudhary is currently working as the First/Founding Vice-Chancellor of the Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya (University), Vadodara. Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya (GSV) is a Central University under the Ministry of Railways (Govt. of India), and is focused on the entire transportation sector and logistics.

Prof. Manoj Choudhary is currently on lien from IIT Jodhpur, where he is a Professor of Electrical Engineering. He also served as the Dean (International Relations, Alumni Relations and Corporate Relations) at IIT Jodhpur. He received his Ph.D from IIT Kanpur and his B.E in Electronics & Communication Engineering from MBM Engineering College Jodhpur.

Towards national missions, he is contributing to 5G and 6G Task Force, (Department of Telecom, Govt of India). Prof. Manoj is the Finance Committee Chairman and a member of the Management Council of the Semiconductor Laboratory SCL (Ministry of Electronics & IT). He is also chair/member of several technical evaluation committees for various ministries (Telecom, Electronics, Energy). He is also an Independent Director on the board of Jodhpur Discom (Electricity/Energy Dept).

Prior to joining Academia, Prof. Manoj has had a very vast experience in the Technology Industry as a top technologist and business leader, having worked with top electronics, semiconductor and telecom companies. He was the Senior Director and Head of the System LSIR&D (Semiconductor Chip Business) at Samsung R&D Center at Bangalore. In this role for 5 years, he led the business unit and grew the team 5 times to 1,200 R&D Engineers working in the SOC (System on Chip) design & development along with software for various market segments including Wireless Modem (5G/4G), Connectivity, Automotive, Camera image sensors and Power management ICs. He was lead member of team to develop world's 1st 5G chip and world's 1st 108 Megapixel camera for mobile phone.

During 2014-2016, he was the Director of Samsung Digital Media & Communication (DMC R&D) leading 5G Communication and IoT (Internet of Things) R&D along with new standards development. During 2010-2014, he led Samsung Advanced Institute of Technology India. Between 2002-2006, he set up the next generation wireless research

group and Intellectual Property Group at Samsung. His research led to standardization of emerging wireless technologies such as Ultrawide Band and 3G-WLAN interworking in IEEE and 3GPP. He has been one of the authors of Ultrawide Band MAC standard at the WiMedia Alliance besides serving as world-wide co-chair of its Technical Steering Committee. During 2006-2010, he worked with Texas Instruments as Development Unit Manager of mobile handset modem software development.

Very well recognized internationally and at national level, Prof. Manoj is credited with building a strong research team for wireless standards and intellectual property mission at Samsung. He has been author/co-author of 6 IEEE/ECMA standards. He has won many awards such as “University Gold Medal”, “Young Achiever Award”, “Patent of the Year Award” to name a few.

Prof. Manoj has 31 granted patents in US, Korea, European Union and India, and shas delivered numerous talks, papers and tutorials in international and national conferences and industry forums (FICCI, IESA, NASSCOM, CII, Economic Times etc) across transportation, logistics, higher education, semiconductor and telecom industries. Dr. Manoj is co-author of the book “Ultra Wideband Demystified: Technologies, Applications, and System Design Considerations” published by River Publishers, Denmark.



Dr. Manoranjan Mohanty
*Scientist-G and Head, Autonomous Institute
and Nano Mission Division, DST*

Dr. Manoranjan Mohanty is Doctorate in Seismology with specialization in Seismic Hazard Assessment. He has been working in the Department of Science and Technology(DST), Ministry of Science and Technology, Government of India for the last 26 years. He looked after the R&D funding program of DST related to Earth Sciences including seismology under Science and Engineering Research Board, a statutory body under DST, Government of India, New Delhi. The nature of the job under the above program is to promote S&T in the country, particularly research in new and promising areas of Earth Sciences and to manage these programs in a way so that significant impact is made at national and international level. Now he is working as Scientist -G and heading the Autonomous Institutions and Nano Mission Divisions of DST. He facilitates administrative support to nurture the 25 Autonomous Institutions and Professional Bodies under the administrative control of DST. These institutions carry out front-ranking research in diverse areas of basic sciences, advanced materials and bio-medical technologies. Dr. Mohanty is also spearheading the Technical Research Centre (TRC) Program of DST. The TRC program is translating scientific discoveries and technological inventions into products and services of societal and industrial relevance. Recently, he has been given the additional responsibility of part time Chief Vigilance Officer of DST.



Ms. Mansi Chaudhry
Founder & Managing Partner
The Frontiers Legal [TFL], Delhi

Mansi Chaudhry is an accomplished attorney-at-law with a distinguished background in life sciences, biological sciences, biochemistry, and herbal technology. She possesses an extensive breadth of knowledge and expertise across a range of biological subjects and technology areas, including biotechnology, stem cell technology, CRISPR, immunology, gene therapy, pharmaceuticals, protein therapeutics, mycorrhizal technology, and other related areas.

Ms. Chaudhry is a registered Patent Agent, trademark attorney, and an Advocate admitted with the Bar Council of Delhi. She is the recipient of the prestigious "Women-Scientist Scholarship Scheme-KIRAN IPR (erstwhile WOS-C)) in Intellectual Property Rights" awarded by the Patent Facilitating Centre under the aegis of Technology Information Forecasting Assessment Council (TIFAC), an autonomous body of the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India.

With more than 16 years of experience in the field of patents, Ms. Chaudhry has played an instrumental role in several significant patent cases both in India and internationally. She is highly adept at drafting and prosecuting patent applications, providing strategic patent counselling, reviewing patent portfolios to identify market risks, and offering opinions on patentability, validity, and freedom to operate issues. Her exceptional management skills have enabled her to efficiently oversee large patent portfolios of diverse technologies on a global scale. During her tenure as the head of the Patent Renewal Department at a previous engagement, she effectively managed a large patent renewal portfolio for foreign patent applications across numerous countries worldwide.

She has been handling all types of IPRs-Patents, Trademarks, Copyright, Designs, Plant Variety Protection, Geographical Indications, Biodiversity Protection and related areas.

Ms. Chaudhry actively participates in numerous international and national conferences and seminars and is regularly invited to serve as a faculty member or speaker at several seminars, conferences, and patent awareness workshops conducted by various forums in India and by various government agencies and private sector entities to provide training and advice on Intellectual Property laws.

PRACTICE AREAS

Patents | Designs | Trademarks | Plant Variety Protection | Biodiversity & Traditional Knowledge | IP Prosecution Strategy and Management

PROFESSIONAL CREDENTIALS

Registered Patent Agent

Registered Trademark & Design Attorney

Advocate Admitted with the Bar Council of Delhi

Patent, Trademark & Design Facilitator under Scheme for Facilitating Start-Ups Intellectual Property Protection (SIPP), Government of India

NIPAM-TIFAC Coordinator, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India.



Shri Pallava Bagla
Science Photo Journalist

Pallava Bagla (61) is a charismatic Indian science communicator respected for his deep understanding of his country's S&T system. He has won many national and international awards for his work. He anchored a weekly program 'Life in Science with Pallava Bagla' on the India Science Channel, making 76 half hour documentaries on Indian S&T. Explaining complexities of science in a simple language is his forte. His pioneering work showcasing India's missions to Mars and Moon has been applauded this aired in English and Hindi for New Delhi Television and online where he is a Consulting Science Editor. In his over two decades of writing for the prestigious American weekly Science, his stories have highlighted India to the world.

He has won three National Awards for his science writing and in 2010, he was awarded the 'David Perlman Award for Excellence in Science Journalism' considered the Oscar of science journalism and given by the American Geophysical Union, Washington DC, for his landmark writings which exposed the Himalayan glacier blunder by the UN's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). He is also the winner of Red Ink Award in 2021 by Mumbai Press Club.

He runs a regular photo blog on Twitter, Facebook and Instagram titled 'Enjoy Nature' and used to pen a weekly column of S&T for the Press Trust of India (PTI) and has authored several books. He is photographer for the world's top photo agency Getty Images. His YouTube Channel 'New Frontiers in Science and Development' is very popular.

Author of several books, he also served as 'Shri Raman Pai chair Visiting Professor in Science Communication' at the National Institute of Advanced Studies, Bengaluru which resulted in the book 'Bridging the Communication Gap in Science and Technology: Lessons from India' edited by Pallava Bagla and V. V. Binoy and published by Springer in 2017.

He served as President of the International Science Writers Association and was a member of the Executive Board of the World Federation of Science Journalists. A member of the Managing Committee for the Working News Cameramen's Association. He can be reached at Pallava.bagla@gmail.com; Twitter: [pallavabagla](https://twitter.com/pallavabagla)



Shri Praveen Roy
Head, DST-National Science & Technology
Entrepreneurship Development Board

With over 18 years of service within the Department of Science and Technology, Sh. Praveen Roy has been nurturing innovation and entrepreneurship throughout India's Science and Technology sectors. As the Head of the Technology Translation and Innovation (TTI) Division, his leadership has been instrumental in the management and promotion of Government of India's initiatives focused on startups, innovation and incubation in the technology sector.

Under the auspices of the Startup India, Standup India initiative, he has played a crucial role in the conception and growth of over 100 technology business incubators within prestigious institutions like IITs, IIMs, NITs, and various leading universities and institutions nationwide with Department of Science and Technology's flagship National Initiative for Developing and Harnessing Innovations (NIDHI) Program. The NIDHI Program has successfully supported the establishment of over 175+ Technology Business Incubators.

His tenure at DST since 2005 has been marked by significant contributions to both national and international projects with a commitment to advancing India's innovation ecosystem and to strengthening international collaborations in entrepreneurship and startups. Sh. Roy's efforts have been instrumental in initiating and nurturing public-private partnerships with Intel, Lockheed Martin, Boeing, Texas Instruments, Tata Trust, Microsoft and others.

Sh. Roy provides strategic insights and recommendation to Ministries and Departments on matters related to innovation, entrepreneurship and startups, shaping policy and strategic direction in these critical areas.

Before his distinguished service in the government sector, Sh. Praveen Roy garnered experience in the private sector, working with MNCs and corporate units in instrumentation and telecom services. His background in telecom and IT technologies serves as a foundation for his ongoing efforts to encourage and promote entrepreneurship in cutting-edge technologies.

Sh. Roy continues to be an instrument of growth to a generation of entrepreneurs and innovators, positioning India as a global leader in technological advancement and entrepreneurial spirit.



Dr. Ranjana Aggarwal
Director, CSIR-National Institute of
Science Communication and Policy Research,
Delhi

Prof. Ranjana Aggarwal (on lien from Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra) is the founder Director of CSIR-National Institute of Science Communication and Policy Research (CSIR-NIScPR) which came into existence by merging of two well recognized national institutes namely CSIR-National Institute of Science Communication and Information Resources (CSIR-NISCAIR) and CSIR-National Institute of Science Technology and Development Studies (CSIR-NISTADS). Prof. Aggarwal also held the position of Director of CSIR-NISTADS and CSIR-NISCAIR since 2019 before their merger. She had served as Director, Women's Studies Research Centre, Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra prior to joining CSIR. She had worked as postdoctoral fellow/visiting scientist in many well-known European Labs viz. Cambridge University, UK, University of Trieste, Italy, and Trinity College Dublin, Ireland.

Her research interests consist of design and eco-friendly synthesis of small organic molecules of therapeutic interest. Besides chemistry, Prof. Aggarwal is actively engaged in addressing the issues concerning Women's equality and development and seek to find explanations and remedies for the unequal position of women in the society, patriarchal roots that leads to women's suppression. She was instrumental in policy formulation on Prohibition of Sexual Harassment at Workplace for several Higher Education Institutions. She actively participates in capacity building programs for women in Higher Education and skill development programs for rural women. Under her mentorship, CSIR-NIScPR is undertaking evidence based STI Policy studies and Science Communication initiatives of national relevance.

Her research contributions have been acknowledged in the form of awards and honours notably Commonwealth Fellowship by the Association of Commonwealth Universities, UK, Dr. Basudev Banerji Memorial Award by Indian Chemical Society, Prof. S. S. Katiyar Endowment Award by Indian Science Congress and President, Chemical Sciences Section, 108th Indian Science Congress. As an accomplished academician she has been nominated as visitor's Nominee for several Indian Institutes of Technology, Central Universities and Chancellor's Nominee for many Haryana State Universities.



Shri SN Tripathi
Director General, IIPA

Shri Surendra Nath Tripathi, IAS (Retd) is an IAS officer of 1985 batch (Odisha Cadre). An MA in Political Science from Allahabad University and MBA in Public Policy from Slovenia, Sh Tripathi is a highly seasoned Civil Servant with a true academic flavour. Before joining IAS, he had been Lecturering in Allahabad University and walking through a Banking assignment.

He took over the charge of Director General IIPA in April 2019 while he was still holding the charge of Secretary, Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, Govt of India.

Before that he adorned many important positions both in Govt of India as also in the Govt of Odisha.

He worked as Additional Secretary & Financial Adviser in Union Ministry of Agriculture Rural Development Statistics and Programme Implementation and Joint Secretary as also Development Commissioner in MSME. He served as Chairman Coir Board besides being in the board of NSIC, ITPO, DSIIDC and KVIC

In Govt of Odisha, he held highly important positions like Secretary IT, Secretary Panchayati Raj and Rural Development, Information and Public Relations besides working as District Magistrates Sambalpur.

He worked as Managing Director of OSFC, OSCB, OSIC, OFDC and Oil Orissa besides working as RDC Cuttack. He briefly worked as VC Orissa University of Culture.

He worked as Consultant for UNICEF on Food Security and Women Empowerment issues.

He is credited with revolutionising the Panchayati Raj and Rural Development Deptt. of Odisha. As Secretary IT, he digitised all Govt orders and other information of Govt of Odisha and put them into public domain on Website.

He is credited with wide ranging reforms in the Tool Room concept while being in MSME as JS and then Development Commissioner MSME.



Shri Sandeep Mukherjee

*Director, Department of Personnel & Training,
Institute of Secretariat Training and Management*

Shri Sandeep Mukherjee is Central Secretariat Service officer of the 1992 Batch who has worked in various Ministries such as Ministry of Law, Department of Personnel & Training etc. He was a faculty member in ISTM in two stints first from the year 2000-2006 and again from 2008-2011 as Deputy Director (Vigilance) and Faculty. He is a Master Trainer for Design of Training. For Vigilance matters, Shri Mukherjee is an approved trainer by the Central Vigilance Commission for conducting training programmes on Vigilance programmes. He is an accredited Master Trainer of the Government of India on “Reservation in Services for SC/ST/OBC”. He is at present working as Director, DoPT, in Institute of Secretariat Training and Management (ISTM). His areas of specialisation are as under:

- a) Vigilance/Disciplinary Procedure for Government/CPSE/Autonomous bodies
- b) Reservation in services for SC/ST/OBC/EWS/PwD
- c) Prevention of sexual harassment and related subjects
- d) Administrative Laws for employees of CPSE/Government
- e) Establishment related subjects
- f) Noting and drafting techniques
- g) Training Techniques

He has conducted number of training programme for various Government of India Ministries/Departments and also PSUs and Autonomous Bodies such as (i) Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration, Mussourie for IAS officers, (ii) National Police Academy Hyderabad for IPS officers, (iii) Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA), Delhi, (iv) Coal India Limited (v) BHEL (vi) Hindustan Copper Limited (vii) Indian Oil Company Limited (viii) SAIL (ix) Rural Electrification Corporation Ltd (x) ONGC (xi) NPCIL, Oil India (x) Power Grid Corporation, (xi) CBI Academy etc.

Publications and writings: He has authored one of the most popular handbook on the “Reservation for SC/ST/OBC” in the Government services. He has also authored a distance learning material on reservation in services which is available in “persmin.nic.in”. During his tenure as Deputy Director (Vigilance) in Institute of Secretariat Training and Management which is one of the premier training institute of

Government of India, he was also involved with the development of the 'Handbook for Disciplinary Authorities' which is also available on DOPT's website at 'persmin.nic.in'.

He is one of the first trainer to realise the difficulty in holding face to face training programme during the covid pandemic and has designed and developed short videos on "Reservation in services" and "Vigilance/Disciplinary Proceedings" which can be accessed on YouTube channel. Subsequently as an officer posted in ISTM, he is involved in development of e-learning courses on various subjects under National Programme for Civil Services Capacity Building (NPCSCB) i.e. Mission Karmayogi.



Dr Shekhar Mande

*Former Director General, CSIR & Secretary,
DSIR, Govt. of India*

Prof. Shekhar C. Mande is a Structural and Computational Biologist. He did his M.Sc. in Physics from the University of Nagpur. He holds a Doctor of Philosophy in Molecular Biophysics from the Indian Institute of Science. Following his Ph.D., he joined Prof. Wim G. J. Hol as Postdoctoral Fellow at Rijksuniversiteit Groningen in the Netherlands. Since 2001, he was a senior staff scientist at the Centre for DNA. Fingerprinting and Diagnostics. Between September 2011 and September 2018, He served as a director at National Centre for Cell Science in Pune, India. He was the former Director-General of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)-cum-Secretary, Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (DSIR), Govt. of India. He served on many advisory committees before moving to Delhi in 2018, including task forces of the Department of Biotechnology and Department of Science and Technology, Govt of India. He used to Chair the Basic Science task force of the Department of Biotechnology. He was a core member of the Biophysics, Biochemistry, Molecular Biology, and Microbiology task force of the Science and Engineering Research Board of the Department of Science and Technology. He is also served as a member of the management council of the Tata Institute for Fundamental Research (TIFR), Mumbai as a representative of the Maharashtra State Government. He used to be a member of the Management Councils of the Solapur University and the Savitribai Phule Pune University. He is a member of the Governing Body of the Indo-French Centre for Promotion of Advanced Research (CEFIPRA) and served as a member of the Research Council of the Institute of Genomics and Integrative Biology, Delhi. Until December 2019, he served as the chair of the National Committee for the International Union of Crystallography of the Indian National Science Academy, New Delhi. Currently he is the National President of Vijnana Bharati, a large voluntary science movement in India with Swadeshi spirit. He was awarded in 2005 the Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize for Science and Technology, the highest science award in India, in the Biological Sciences category. B M Birla Young Scientist Award, 1999. Wellcome Trust International Senior Fellow, 2003- 08. Fellow, Indian National Science Academy New Delhi, Elected 2010. Fellow, National Academy of Sciences, Allahabad, India, Elected 2003. Fellow, Indian Academy of Sciences, Bangalore, Elected 2003. BC Guh Memorial Lecture of the Indian National Science Academy, 2017. BK Bachhawat Memorial Lecture of the National Academy of Science, India, 2017.



Ms. Shreyasi Jha
Formerly The Asia and Pacific Museum,
Warsaw

Shreyasi Jha is an archaeologist by training and profession. She did her Masters in Archaeology with specialisation in Heritage and Museum Studies from Leiden University, The Netherlands.

Shreyasi has worked for the Government of Netherlands in Ministry of Culture, Education & Science on a comparative study of Dutch and Indian Heritage Management Systems. She has also worked at The Asia and Pacific Museum, Warsaw in Poland. She is a recipient of the Black Trowel Collective Microgrants, 2023.

She has presented many research papers in prestigious conferences on culture and history in India and abroad. She is currently working on the Gandharan Archives of Museums world over.



Dr. Subi Chaturvedi

*Global SVP
Chief Corporate Affairs &
Public Policy Officer, InMobi Group*

Dr. Subi Chaturvedi is a distinguished strategic advisory, public policy, corporate affairs and communications technology professional with over two decades of industry experience across areas such as digital economy, telecom & internet services, media & entertainment, banking, energy, entrepreneurship, startups, deepening democracy, sustainability & diversity working with governments, MNCs, international organizations and multilateral institutions in leadership roles. She has served as the Global Co-Chair of the Netmundial Initiative, Member of the UN Internet Governance Forum (MAG), appointed by the UN Secretary General, as well on the Boards of the world's leading business chambers & associations UK India Business Council (UKIBC), USIBC (rep & chair) & IGFSA.

She has assisted bilateral negotiations between sovereign nations culminating in MoUs in the areas of ICT, financial, digital and health services worth over \$100 mn in the field of ICT & electronics.

She currently serves as the Global SVP, Chief Corporate Affairs & Public Policy Officer, Inmobi, India's first unicorn and now a double unicorn with Glance also notching up incredible growth in less than two years since its inception. She has held leadership positions in the country's leading banks, industry bodies, chambers, advocacy firms and think tanks. Dr. Subi also currently Chairs the USIBC's prestigious Digital Economy committee, FICCI's committee on Women in Technology, Policy & Leadership; Assocham's national committee on Cybersecurity & Cyber laws. Also serves as the Sherpa of the US India CEO Forum WG7 on Inclusive growth, Entrepreneurship, startups & MSMEs and contributes actively to the WGs on Investments, FDI & ICT.

She has represented India on Internet Governance globally and has also served as a member of the United Nations Multistakeholder Advisory Group (MAG), appointed by

the former UN Secretary General. During her 3 year tenure, she was not only the first Indian to represent two stakeholder groups but ran over 17 main sessions on the role of global governments in netgov, multistakeholderism, access, bringing the next billion online, and best practices for CERTs.

She also played the leading role in ensuring more representation and participation for academia, youth, media and civil society from the global South, developing countries, emerging economies and underrepresented stakeholder groups in leadership roles. She also supported and moderated the launch of Digital India at the Indian Government's first Open session in the UN IGF at Bali. Post the Edward Snowden revelations, she was also chosen to be on the board of the Netmundial process to represent the global community in shaping the future of the Internet where over 193 countries' ICT and telecom ministers and global CEOs participated.



Dr. Tata Narasinga Rao
Director
International Advanced Research Centre for
Powder Metallurgy & New Materials (ARCI)

Dr. Tata Narasinga Rao received his Ph.D. degree in Chemistry from Banaras Hindu University, India in 1994. After working at IIT Madras as Research Associate, he moved to The University of Tokyo in 1996 as a JSPS post-doctoral fellow and subsequently became lecturer in the same University in 2001. He joined International Advanced Research Centre for Powder Metallurgy and New Materials (ARCI), Hyderabad, India, in 2003 as senior scientist, and presently he is the Director of ARCI. In addition, he is also Adjunct Professor at IIT-Hyderabad and NIT-Warangal.

He is recipient of several awards and honors including 'Material Research Society of India (MRSI) Medal'-2009; 'Tokyo University of Science President Award'-2014; 'Academician of Asia Pacific Academy of Materials (APAM)'-2015; 'Technology Day National Award'-2016 (received from President of India); Fellow of Telanganav & AP Academy of Sciences'-2017; 'Bangalore India Nano Innovation Award'-2018 (receiver from Bharat Ratna, Prof. CNR Rao) and Materials Science Annual Prize-2022 of MRSI. Recently, Dr. Rao has been admitted as Fellow of Royal Society of Chemistry through "Leaders in the Field" scheme. Recently, he has been awarded with "Honorary Fellowship of the Electrochemical Society of India for the year 2023".

Dr. Rao has published more than 195 research papers and filed/granted more than 20 international and Indian patents several of which have been translated to technological developments. His publications got total citations more than 16000 with an h-index of 51. The average Impact Factor is above 5 for his publications of last 5 years. Dr. Rao has been a member of several project assessment / standardization and governing board committees at national level.

Dr. Rao is known for his translational nanomaterials research. Six of the technologies developed by his team are transferred to industry and commercialized. Most notable recent technology transfer is related to process know how for LiFePO₄, which was transferred to an Indian Industry for the first time in India.



Professor Uday B. Desai
Professor Emeritus,
Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad

Uday B. Desai received the B. Tech. degree from Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur, India, in 1974, the M.S. degree from the State University of New York, Buffalo, in 1976, and the Ph.D. degree from The Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, U.S.A., in 1979, all in Electrical Engineering.

He was the Founding Director of IIT Hyderabad - June 2009 to June 2019 and is credited for taking it to rank among the top 10 engineering institutions in India in the NIRF engineering ranking. During his tenure IIT Hyderabad also ranked 10th in AIIRA 2019 (Atal Ranking of Institutions on Innovation Achievements).

For nearly five years he served as the mentor Director for IIIT Chittoor, Sri City. He was also mentor Director for IIT Bhilai during its initial setting up phase. He was also mentor Director for IIIT Raichur during its initial phase.

From Jan 1, 2023, he is the Vice President of Indian National Academy of Engineering.

At present he is the Chancellor for Anurag University, Hyderabad, and Chancellor of ICFAI University, Dehradun. He is also an Honorary Distinguished Professor at Plaksha University, Mohali. He is an Advisor for several private universities and chair / member of some committees in DST and MEITY.

His research interests are in wireless communication and signal processing, cyber physical systems, Internet of Things and Artificial Intelligence.

Dr. Desai received the outstanding Alumni Award from University of Buffalo (State University of New York) in 2015. In 2016 he received the Distinguished Alumni Award from IIT Kanpur.

He is a Fellow of INSA (Indian National Science Academy), Fellow of Indian National Academy of Engineering (INAE). He was the recipient of J C Bose Fellowship. He is also the recipient of the Excellence in Teaching Award from IIT-Bombay for 2007.



Professor Unnat P. Pandit
Controller General of Patents,
Designs & Trade Marks (CGPDTM),
DPIIT

Dr. Unnat P Pandit is a Professor of IP, Innovation, and Entrepreneurship at Jawaharlal Nehru University and is currently serving as Controller General of Patents, Designs & Trade Marks (CGPDTM) at the DPIIT, Government of India.

Formerly, Prof Pandit served as a Dean of ABVSME @JNU and as a Program Director of Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) at NITIAayog.

Professor Pandit was also a member of IPRTT, which was constituted to draft India's National IPR Policy.

Dr. Pandit has also worked as OSD to Commerce and Industry Minister, GoI.

Dr. Pandit was also Head of IP in the Pharma Industry.

Professional Academics:

Member of Innovation Committee Constituted for CSIR by DSIR, MoS&T-GoI

Member Screening & Expert cum External Monitoring Committee (SEEMC) for ongoing CSIR Projects.

Member of SAC for Women Scientist Scheme-C (WOS-C) under 'Women in Science and Engineering-Knowledge Involvement in Research Advancement through Nurturing (WISE-KIRAN) division of DST, MoST-GoI, which is implemented through TIFAC.

Board Member of Forum on Indian Traditional Medicine (FITM) in RIS established by MoAYUSH-GoI.

BoG member in GTU, Ahmedabad.

Prof. Unnat Pandit has served in academic, industry and bureaucratic roles towards catalysing the Indian IP, Innovation and Entrepreneurship ecosystem.



Professor VK Ahuja

*Senior Professor
Indian Law Institute, New Delhi*

Professor (Dr.) V. K. Ahuja holds Ph.D. and LL.M. Degrees from University of Delhi and M.Phil. Degree from Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), New Delhi. He has done a Certificate Course on Law Teaching and Legal research Skills from Cardiff Law School, Cardiff University, United Kingdom.

Professor Ahuja is Senior Professor at the Faculty of Law, University of Delhi. Professor Ahuja is presently on deputation as Vice-Chancellor of National Law University and Judicial Academy, Assam. He has also served as Joint Director of Delhi School of Public Policy and Governance, established under Institute of Eminence (IOE), University of Delhi (2020-2022). He has also served as Professor In-charge of Law Centre-II, Faculty of Law, University of Delhi, Delhi (2017-2020). He has 28 years of teaching and research experience at Post Graduate and Masters level. His areas of interest are Intellectual Property Rights and International Law.

He has written five books on Intellectual Property Rights, International Law and Mediation; and two Volumes of Halsbury Annotated Statutes of India on IPRs. He has co-authored a Handbook on Geographical Indications and also edited several books on Human Rights, Intellectual Property Rights, National Education Policy, Constitutional Law, Mediation, and other subjects. He has published more than 50 articles in the UGC Care listed Journals and International and National journals of repute.

He completed a Research Project on the topic “State Practice on Implementation of International Law in India: An Analytical Study of Constitutional Provisions and Case Laws”.

He delivered lectures at Delhi Judicial Academy, Jharkhand Judicial Academy, Bihar Judicial Academy and Assam Judicial Academy. He also delivered lectures at World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), UGC Refresher Programs and Orientation Programs. Being a NAAC Assessor, he has been Chairperson of the NAAC Peer team at several occasions.



Dr Vinod K. Paul
Hon'ble Member, NITI Aayog

Dr. Vinod Paul served on the faculty of the Department of Paediatrics, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi, from 1985 to 2020, and was Head of the Department for nearly a decade. He is a globally recognised medical scientist and a public health exponent.

Government of India appointed Dr. Paul as a Member of the National Institution for Transforming India, the NITI Aayog, in August 2017 where he leads the Health, Nutrition and Education verticals. He has played a pivotal role in formulating the Ayushman Bharat-PMJAY, the Ayushman Arogya Mandir scheme and POSHAN Abhiyaan.

Prof. Paul also served as the Chairman of the Board of Governors in supersession of the Medical Council of India in 2018-20. This tenure was recognised for a record increase in undergraduate and postgraduate medical seats and introduction of telemedicine guidelines, district residency scheme and a plethora of other reforms.

Dr. Paul has been a part of the core team of the Union Government for Covid-19 pandemic response. He chaired the National Task Force on COVID-19, the Empowered Group on Emergency Management Plan and Strategy, Empowered Group on Vaccination as well as the National Expert Group on Vaccine Administration for COVID-19 (NEGVAC).

Prof. Paul has over 400 scientific publications and an h-index of 62 to his credit. He featured among the world's top 2% scientists in the field of paediatrics according to a study conducted at Stanford University in 2020. He is a Fellow of all the three Science Academies of the country, and a recipient of the pre-eminent Dr. B. R. Ambedkar Centenary Award for Excellence in Biomedical Research by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR).

Dr. Paul was conferred with the prestigious Ihsan Dogramaci Family Health Foundation Prize by WHO at the 2018 World Health Assembly for his globally recognized service in the field of family health.



Shri Vishvajit Sahay

*Additional Secretary & Financial Adviser
Department of Science & Technology
New Delhi*

Shri Vishvajit Sahay, IDAS (1990), PCDA (P), Prayagraj is currently serving as Additional Secretary & Financial Advisor at the Department of Science & Technology alongwith the charge of Financial Advisor of Department of Biotechnology and Ministry of Earth Sciences.

Participants' Biographies



A. R. Dixit

Professor

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About

Dr. Amit Rai Dixit is a full-time Professor in the Mechanical Engineering department at the Indian Institute of Technology (Indian School of Mines) in Dhanbad, Jharkhand, India. With 21 years of experience, he has significantly contributed to teaching and research, enhancing the academic landscape.

Beyond academia, Dr. Dixit has played vital roles in institutional administration. He served as the Head of the Mechanical Engineering Department from 2020 to 2023, demonstrating adept leadership. Previously, he served as the Training & Placement Incharge from 2013 to 2018 and as Warden from 2009 to 2013, showcasing his versatility.

Currently, Dr. Dixit serves as the Dean (Infrastructure), shaping the institution's infrastructure for optimal learning and research environments.

His scholarly contributions are extensive, with over 200 publications, including books, book chapters, and research papers in esteemed international journals and conferences. He has supervised the completion of 12 PhDs and 38 postgraduate theses, nurturing the academic pursuits of numerous scholars.

Dr. Dixit's global engagement is exemplified by his participation in the European Union-sponsored Erasmus+ program in 2018 and 2023. He is committed to advancing research frontiers, which is evident through his establishment of state-of-the-art laboratories and ongoing research in additive manufacturing, non-conventional manufacturing processes, and machining of exotic materials.

Furthermore, Dr. Dixit's proficiency in securing and executing externally funded research projects underscores his expertise in project management and strategic research planning, with five completed projects and two ongoing initiatives reflecting his capability to handle finances diligently.



Abir De Sarkar

Scientist G

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About

Prof. Abir De Sarkar has been serving the Institute of Nano Science and Technology (INST), Mohali as Scientist G & Dean (Faculty). Prof. De Sarkar is into high-performance scientific computing, pursuing research in the realm of Computational Nanoscience with an emphasis on two-dimensional materials for energy and electronics. After having completed his PhD from the Saha Institute of Nuclear Physics, Kolkata in 2004, Prof. De Sarkar had his first postdoctoral stint at the Fritz Haber Institute of the Max Planck Society, Berlin, Germany and the last one at Uppsala University, Sweden. He joined INST, Mohali in March, 2014 as Scientist-E (Associate Professor) and gradually rose to the rank of Scientist G (Senior Professor H). He has been the recipient of the President of India, medal for the year 2000 for having topped all the postgraduate disciplines in the Calcutta University. The CNR Rao Award for Excellence in Nano research for the year 2018 has been conferred upon him in appreciation of his work on 2D materials. American Chemical Society has recognized him in the top 3% of highly cited authors for 2019-2020, while the top cited paper award 2023 has been conferred upon him by IOP Publishing, UK. He has also been recognized him as an outstanding reviewer and trusted reviewer for 2023 by IOP Publishing, UK. He has guided 5 scholars to the successful completion of their PhD, who have secured h-index ~ 13 from their PhD work. Currently, he is guiding 9 PhD scholars. Prof. De Sarkar has published more than 100 papers to date and has acquired an h-index of 33.



Ajay Singh

Professor

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About

Dr. Ajay, Professor, Physics Department, Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Roorkee, India, have more than 28 years post Ph.D. Research & Teaching experience and among leading researcher in the area of Theoretical Condensed Matter Physics with Academic Administration at different levels. His current research interests lie in theoretical Modelling and Computational Simulations of Electronic properties in Strongly Correlated low dimensional quantum materials such as Superconductors-Quantum dots hybrid Josephson junction finite and infinite correlation regimes, Superconducting Qubits based Quantum Computation as a potential of superconducting circuits for quantum information processing, Electronic Transport in Twisted multilayer Graphene Nanostructures, and theoretical aspects of High temperature Superconductivity in Iron and Cuprates within Many Body strongly correlated Quantum Theoretical formalism based on Green's function Technique. After completing his Ph.D. on Superconductivity in narrow band systems in 1995 under supervision of Prof.R.S.Tripathi, joined the Condensed Matter Theory Group, working on strongly correlated systems under Prof. S.K.Joshi (former DG CSIR) at National Physical Laboratory (NPL)- New Delhi, in September 1996 as Project Scientist (Post-doctoral research assignments) on "Transport Behavior of Strongly Correlated Electronic systems a DST - sponsored project research. He joined IIT Roorkee in 2008. Prior to joining IIT Roorkee, he has been serving as Assistant Professor in the Department of Physics at G B Pant-University. Dr. Ajay has undertaken many international visits: The IESC, Cargese, Paris France, The Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics (ICTP) Trieste, Italy, International Institute of Advanced Scientific Studies (IIASS) University of Salerno- Italy, Cavendish Laboratory-London, University of Cambridge, UK, and Antalya-Turkey for Research interactions and in the pursuits of high end research tools & advanced Theoretical techniques applicable for Quantum hybrid Nano-devices His research works (more than: 120) appeared in reputed international peer reviewed Journals and contributed extensively through sponsored research projects, supervision of Ph.D. (12) & more than 25 (Masters projects) Scholars and research talks/presentations in International Conferences/ National Seminars.



Ambika Behl

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About

Dr. Ambika Behl is a Senior Principal Scientist at Central Road Research Institute. She has done her PhD from IIT Roorkee and has work experience of more than 18 years.

Dr. Behl served as Chairperson of BIS-PCD6 committee and member of Indian Road Congress (IRC) Committee, Assocham, Bitumen India Forum and Transportation Research group of India. She is actively involved in drafting BIS and IRC codes for highway materials. She has authored many research papers and articles on various subjects of asphalt pavements. She has delivered invited lectures at many national and international platforms. She is also a faculty for Academy of Scientific and Industrial Research (AcSIR) CRRI. She has been granted patent for the process developed for “use of PVC plastic waste in road construction”. She has developed indigenous warm mix additive and rejuvenator for pavement recycling. She is recipient of CIDC (construction industry development council) Vishwakarma Achievement Award 2021, Bitumen India Award 2017, Skoch (Silver Category) award for Pavement Recycling project. She also received Best Research Paper Award by Dr. Harsh Vardhan at India International Science Festival 2016. In the year 2022 she became the first woman to receive IRC PanditJawaharLal Nehru Birth Centenary Award for her contributions to the field of Highway Engineering. She has a rich experience in Research and Development activities of Highway Sector in the area of Flexible Pavement Materials: Polymer modified asphalt, Warm Mix Asphalt Technology, Recycling of Pavements, Use of waste materials in road construction, Waste plastic Roads, Stabilized Pavements.



Anandan S.

Senior Scientist

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About

Dr. S. Anandan obtained his doctoral degree in Chemistry-Energy Interdisciplinary from the University of Madras, India under the supervision of Prof. Dr. P. Maruthamuthu, where he worked on Dye-Sensitized Solar Cells. After two postdoctoral terms at the Chungnam National University in South Korea (under Prof. Minjoong Yoon) and Hong Kong University of Science & Technology in Hong Kong (under Prof. Yang Shehe), he worked as a visiting researcher at the National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology (AIST) in Japan under (Dr. Masaharu Okazaki). Subsequently, he joined the Central Electrochemical Research Institute in India as a Pool officer and later joined the National Institute of Technology, Tiruchirappalli, where he is now a Professor of Physical Chemistry, leading the research group “Nanomaterials and Solar Energy Conversion Processes”. He also spent short periods at the University of Melbourne (Australia), Feng Chia University (Taiwan), University of Loughborough (UK), University of Alicante (Spain), CNR Naples, and University of Concepcion (Chile). His recent research interests include hybrid semiconductor nanomaterials and their applications in Dye-sensitized solar cells, perovskite solar cells, photocatalysis, electrocatalysis, supercapacitors, fuel cells, and biosensors. He is the author of ca 393 research articles, 29 book chapters, and 2 international patents. He is serving as an editorial board member in the Ultrasonics Sonochemistry-Elsevier Journal. Under his guidance, twenty-seven Ph.D. scholars and fifty-three Masters student completed their degrees. In addition, four Ph.D. and three M.Sc. students are pursuing research under his guidance. His research work to date is largely multi-disciplinary involving Nanomaterials, sonochemistry, photochemistry, photocatalysis, electrocatalysis, Fuel cell catalysts, photosplitting of water molecules, bio-molecule interactions, sensors, supercapacitors, OLED applications, organic, inorganic & polymer solar cells.



Ankur Gupta

Associate Dean, IRO

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About

Ankur Gupta is an Associate Professor at the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Jodhpur, India. He received his Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering from IIT Kanpur, India and served at IIT Bhubaneswar afterwards for three years before joining IIT Jodhpur in 2019. He has over 120 research contributions to his credit, including patent, peer reviewed international journal papers (90), 20 book chapters, 3 co-edited books, 1 authored book, conference proceedings (15), and over 40 invited talks/presentations across the globe. He has supervised 02 PhD students and 16 M. Tech. projects, and currently supervising 10 PhD students and 04 M. Tech students. He has developed the “Microtechnology Lab” at IIT Jodhpur. He recently received the "Institute of Smart Structures and Systems (ISSS) Young Scientist Award 2022" and "Indian National Young Academy of Sciences (INYNAS) membership 2023" in "Engineering Sciences" category by INYNAS, a recognized scientific body under the Indian National Science Academy (INSA). Dr. Gupta was also selected as “BRICS Young Scientist” by the DST, India, to participate in the Second BRICS Young Scientist Conclave held at Zhejiang University, China, in 2017. He is also a recipient of the ISEES Young Scientist Award (2017), IEI Young Engineer Award (2019/20), and SERB International Research Experience (SIRE) Fellowship Award (2022) for a research visit at the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology, Germany and Scientific high level visiting fellowship sponsored by French Embassy (2023) to visit UTT France. His research interest is in manufacturing, exploring MEMS and microsystem fabrication for a wide range of applications. He is also coordinating various international relations and outreach (IRO) activities at IIT Jodhpur in the capacity of Associate Dean (IRO) at IIT Jodhpur.



Ashverya Laxmi

Staff Scientist VI

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About

Dr. Ashverya Laxmi did her Masters in Botany from Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra, in 1996. She did her PhD in Plant Molecular Biology from the University of Delhi South Campus with Professor Jitendra P. Khurana in 2002, wherein she characterized *Arabidopsis* mutants defective in various signal transduction pathways. She moved to Ohio State University, Ohio, USA, in 2003, and the Samuel Robert Nobel Foundation, Oklahoma, USA, post-doctoral in 2005, to work further on signaling cross-talk. She joined as a staff scientist at the National Institute of Plant Genome Research, New Delhi, after coming back from the USA in 2006, and has been serving the institute for the past 18 years. Dr. Laxmi has been felicitated with the National Women Bioscientist Award 2015 for her excellent contribution in understanding the molecular basis of plant plasticity under various environmental conditions. She has also been elected as a Fellow of the National Academy of Sciences (NASI) in 2016 and a Fellow of the Indian National Science Academy (INSA) and the Indian Academy of Sciences (IASc) in Bangalore in 2021 for her outstanding contributions in science. She has also been awarded the Sir JC Bose National Fellowship for outstanding scientific contributions in the year 2021. Her major interest lies in exploring molecular mechanisms involved in imparting stress resilience to plants and their sustainable growth in constantly changing environmental conditions.



Chandrashekhar N. Bhende

Professor

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About

Chandrashekhar N. Bhende received PhD degree from Indian Institute of Technology Delhi, India in 2008. From June-2008 to Dec. 2008, he was Post-Doctoral Fellow in University of Wollongong, Australia. In Jan. 2009, he joined as Assistant Professor in Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati, India. In 2010, he moved to School of Electrical Sciences, Indian Institute of Technology Bhubaneswar, India and presently serving as Professor. At IIT Bhubaneswar, he carried out responsibilities of Career Development Cell as a Prof.-In-Charge for four years, Associate Head (EE) for about one year and presently carrying out responsibility of Dean (Postgraduate & Research Program).

His field of interest includes energy management in microgrid & smartgrids, power quality issues, condition monitoring and application of artificial intelligent techniques. He is carrying out several research projects including collaborative international projects.

He has been honoured with prestigious Innovative PhD Thesis Award in 2009 by Indian National Academy of Engineering (INAE) and Honorary Adjunct Fellow, Victoria University, Australia for the period of April - July 2013. He is recipient of Indo-Australia Science & Technology Fellowship 2012-13, Bhaskara Advanced Solar Energy (BASE) Fellowship-2017 and ASEM DUO-India Fellowship in 2020. He served as Guest Editor for Special Issue on "Trends and Prospects in Photovoltaic Systems" in International Journal Energies of MPDI in 2022. Presently, he is a member of "Policy Advocacy & Vision Group for Implementation of Odisha Renewable Energy Policy", Energy Deptt., Govt. of Odisha.



D. G. Basumatary

Director

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About

Currently posted as Scientist- F (electrical) at National Test House(WR),Mumbai. During the long service tenure amidst various capacities in NTH (WR) & NTH(NER), I have been able to contribute it's quality objectives by-

Implementation of National/International standard IS/ISO/IEC-17025-2017 through NABL and BIS recognition schemes.

Commitment at all level to implement & maintain a robust management system

Familiarized all personnel/scientific staff concerned testing/calibration with the management system & its implementation by effective guidance/training.

Continuous improvement/up gradation of its managerial & technical capabilities effectively

Total customer focus & satisfaction by communicating with them more effectively, adhering to strict time schedule of completion of jobs & reporting accurate/reliable results.

..with above level playing and as part of NTH Mission, rendering assistance with regard to the improvement of Indian engineering products and to enable to meet the national/international standards for their acceptability in the global market thereby contributing for development.



Dheeraj Kumar

Dy. Director

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About

Professor (HAG), Department of Mining Engineering, IIT (ISM) Dhanbad

Dy. Director, Indian Institute of Technology (ISM) Dhanbad

Project Director, Mining Technology Innovation Hub, DST, GoI

Director, TEXMiN Foundation, a Section 8 company of DST, focusing on Mining Technology Development and Incubation

Director, ACIC IIT (ISM) Foundation, a Section 8 company of NITI Aayog, working on Community Innovation and Startup Ecosystem.

21 years' experience in Academic, Research & Consultancy, and Administration

Founded the Technology Innovation Hub (TIH) in "Mining Technology" in the name of TEXMiN for developing technologies, innovation, and start-up ecosystems in mining and earth science domains with substantial contributions from both Govt. and Industries

21 start-up companies in the Mining Technology domain are incubated in TEXMiN with substantial financial support. Most of the founders are from topnotch institutions, including IITs.

A group of 25+ IIT Alumni are presently working under my mentorship in TEXMiN Technology Development, Innovation & Entrepreneurship activities.

38 projects of Technology Development are presently executed in TEXMiN under my Guidance, out of which ten technologies are commercialised and used in coal and metal mines.

Significant credentials in Mining and Construction industries, with R&D projects (ongoing and completed projects) and CoEs with Rs. 3870.57 Lakh funded by CIL, MoM, MOC, DST, DoS, MoWR&MoE.

Developed and commercialised indigenous mining technologies for safe, smart, sustainable mines.

Guided 21 PhD Scholars in Mine digitisation, Automation, Remote Sensing, and GIS.

Published 50 Journal papers in SCI indexed Journals (WoS database).



Girdhari Lal

Senior Scientist

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About

Dr. Girdhari Lal works as Scientist F at the National Centre for Cell Science, Pune. He received a Ph.D. from the Department of Microbiology and Cell Biology, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore. He was an Assistant Professor at Mount Sinai School of Medicine, New York City, USA, before returning to India in 2010. Dr. Lal's Laboratory is interested in understanding cellular and molecular biology of immune tolerance. His laboratory is investigating the role of neuroimmune communication in Autoimmunity and Cancer. He has published 64 papers, 5 book chapters, edited two books, and presented his work in more than 200 National and International meetings (82 Invited Talks and 52 Oral presentations). He received several National and International awards, including the Ramalingaswami Fellowship and Innovative Young Biotechnologist Award from the Department of Biotechnology, and the Swarnjayanti Fellowship from the Department of Science and Technology, Ministry of Science and Technology, Government of India, and NASI-Scopus Young Investigator Award by Elsevier.



Girija Moona

Scientist

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About

Dr. Girija Moona is currently working as a Principal Scientist and Head of the Length, Dimension, and Nanometrology section at CSIR-National Physical Laboratory (the National Metrology Institute of India), Delhi. She has done her PhD in Hybrid Metal Matrix Composites from the Mechanical Engineering Department, Delhi Technological University, Delhi. With a professional experience of 19+ years, Dr. Girija's areas of research encapsulate; Dimensional Characterization of Standard Artefacts for Different Industrial Segments, Monte Carlo Simulation for Measurement Uncertainty Evaluation, Hybrid Metal Matrix Composites, Metrological Assessments for Biomedical Applications such as Dental Implants & Surgical Tools and Additive Manufacturing etc. She has authored more than 90 publications in peer-reviewed journals, and international and national conferences. She has also authored several book chapters. She is an active reviewer of many reputed journals related to metrology, mechanical engineering, and materials. At CSIR-National Physical Laboratory, she is fulfilling the parliamentary mandate by operating and maintaining the Primary Standard of Length for realization of SI unit "meter". She has also participated in various international intercomparisons related to dimensional metrology on behalf of CSIR-NPL India, to prove the international equivalence of CSIR-NPL, maintain traceability to SI units, and claim CMC's on BIPM (International Bureau of Weights and Measures) key comparison database. She has been on official deputation at the National Physical Laboratory, United Kingdom, National Institute of Metrology, Thailand, National Institute of Metrology, China, and the National Metrology Institute Japan for Dimensional Metrology activities. She is the Lead of the Asia Pacific Metrology Programme Developing Economies Future Proofing Task Force, a member of the Technical Committee of Length of Asia Pacific Metrology Programme (APMP), a member of APMP Focus Group for Digitalization in Metrology, and an approved CMC writer on BIPM KCDB portal for length, dimension, and nanometrology on behalf of CSIR-NPL India. She is a qualified NABL (National Accreditation for Testing and Calibration Laboratories) assessor and a member of BIS committee (PDG 25). She has guided several Ph.D., M. Tech, M. Sc., and B. Tech students in their research works. Dr. Girija Moona is working on various prestigious projects related to Dimensional Metrology.



Gopi Krishna Seemala

Professor E

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About

Dr. Seemala am currently working as a Professor-E at Indian Institute of Geomagnetism, Navi Mumbai. He works in the research area of Ionosphere dynamics and Space Weather, using various ground based and satellite borne instruments; and evaluating their impact on satellite-based navigation systems.

Education:

Pursued Masters in Electronics (1999-2001) and completed Ph.D. in Physics in 2007 from Andhra University, India.

Professional Experience:

Post-doctoral fellowship from Institute for Scientific Research (ISR), Boston College, USA for 2 years (from 2007 to 2009). Dr. Seemala worked as a Research Scientist at Institute for Scientific Research (ISR), Boston College, USA, for another two years (from 2009 to 2011) before coming back to India. I have worked as a Guest Researcher at Research Institute for Sustainable Humanosphere (RISH), Kyoto University, Japan, (from 2012 to 2013) before joining the Indian Institute of Geomagnetism, India.

At Indian Institute of Geomagnetism, He is also coordinating the maintenance and upgradation of 12 geomagnetic observatories that are run by IIG; and also, the IIG experiments that are being operational at Indian Antarctic stations Maitri and Bharati.

He is delivering additional administrative duties of officiating Registrar, and also actively participating in various office committees.

Dr. Seemala is currently guiding 3 Ph.D. scholars for doctoral degree, and 2 project students for Masters dissertation.

He has published about 60 research papers in peer reviewed international journals.

<https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=DXGYxXAAAAAJ&hl=en>



Govindaraju T.

Professor

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Scientific Research (JNCASR), Bengaluru*

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About

Govindaraju T is a professor at Bioorganic Chemistry Laboratory, New Chemistry Unit, JNCASR, Bengaluru, India. He received his MSc (2000) from Bangalore University and Ph.D. (2006) from the National Chemical Laboratory, Pune, India. He carried out postdoctoral research at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA (2005-2006) and Max Planck Institute of Molecular Physiology, Dortmund, Germany (2006-2008). He served as a Chair, Educational Technology Unit, JNCASR. His research interests are at the interface of chemistry, biology, and biomaterials science, include Alzheimer's disease, peptide chemistry, molecular probes, diagnostic therapy (theranostics), molecular architectonics, and silk-inspired biomimetics and biomaterials. He has over 165 publications, 35 patents, and four authoritative books to his credit. He has founded a startup company (VNIR Biotechnologies Pvt. Ltd. <http://vnir.life>) to translate many of the inventions from his laboratory. He has discovered a novel drug candidate with immense potential to treat Alzheimer's disease and is licensed to a biopharma for further development. Prof. Govindaraju is the recipient of several awards and honors, Alexander von Humboldt Fellowship (2006) of AvH Foundation, Germany, profiled as "India's Young Blood" by Chemical and Engineering News (C&EN), ACS, Innovative Young Biotechnologist Award (2010), INSA Medal for Young Scientist (2011), Sir C V Raman Young Scientist Award (2014), CRSI Bronze Medal (2016), MRSI medal (2017), IPS-Young Scientist Award (2017), Swarna Jyanti Fellowship (2015-16), CDRI Award 2019 for Excellence in Drug Research, Special Lecture Award of Pharmaceutical Society of Japan at Kyoto University, National Prize for Research in Peptides and Nucleic Acids (2020), Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize (2021) in chemical science, SASTRA-CNR Rao Award 2022, Bhagyatara Award 2022 (Punjab University), Sun Pharma Science Foundation Research Award 2022, Fellow of Royal Society of Chemistry (FRSC), London, UK, Fellow of Indian Academy of Sciences (FASc), Bengaluru, VASVIK Award (Biological Sciences & Technology) for the year 2022 (Industrial Research Awards) and National Technology Award (Translational Research) 2023, Govt. of India.



Indira Rani

Scientist F

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About

M.Sc. (Physics) from the University of Kerala with First Rank. Ph.D. (Physics), Space Physics Laboratory (SPL), VSSC, Trivandrum (University of Kerala).

Joined National Centre for Medium Range Weather Forecasting (NCMRWF) in 2009.

Areas of interest: Observation processing, Numerical Weather Prediction (NWP), data assimilation with special emphasis to Indian satellites, reanalysis, atmospheric boundary layer, monsoon, etc.

Published around 30 scientific papers in peer reviewed journals. Actively involved in imparting training on various aspects of observations and NWP data assimilation to the Airforce, Navy, and IMD personnel.



Janakrajan Ramkumar

Professor Incharge

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About

Prof. Ramkumar has an illustrious career spanning more than two decades in the realms of research, academia, and industry. His remarkable contributions to the development of highly accurate micro/nano machining processes have played a pivotal role in shaping the cutting-edge defense systems of our time. From revolutionary metamaterials for defense technology to advanced machining processes for aerospace and missile components, such as those used in the Man Portable Anti-Tank Guided Missile (MPATGM), Prof. Ramkumar's work has left an indelible mark on the field. As a dedicated researcher, he has harnessed his knowledge and expertise to address the needs of the less fortunate, focusing on empathy-driven studies to improve the lives of deserving individuals. Notably, he has spearheaded the implementation of assistive technologies for locomotive and visual disabilities, breaking down architectural barriers and revolutionizing the Agritech sector. Since joining IIT Kanpur in 2003, Prof. Ramkumar's research journey has been characterized by a harmonious fusion of teaching and learning practices, aiming to produce innovative solutions that enhance product efficiency while minimizing environmental impact. His brainchild projects, including the Imagineering Lab, 4-i Lab, Tinkering Lab, Maker's space, MedTech Lab, and RuTAG (Rural Technology Action Group) at IIT Kanpur, have created an ecosystem catering to the needs of students, scholars, faculties, and projects across the nation.

Beyond his pioneering work, Prof. Ramkumar has been an inspiring mentor, nurturing over 15 successful start-ups throughout the country, each of which has introduced groundbreaking products to the market. Moreover, during the challenging times of the Covid pandemic, he exhibited frugal innovation by creating essential solutions like the SWASA masks and Sanjeevani (Oxygen Concentrator), blessing frontline workers and hospitals nationwide. Prof. Ramkumar's dedication to sharing knowledge has been evident through his creation of twelve MOOCs courses with a staggering 5 lakh views, reaching an international audience.



Jayendran Venkateswaran

Institute Chair Professor

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About

Prof. Jayendran Venkateswaran (JV) is an Institute Chair Professor of Industrial Engineering and Operations Research at IIT Bombay, where he has been a faculty since 2005. His current research and teaching interests are in systems thinking, system dynamics, agent based modeling & simulation, discrete-event simulation, supply chain & sustainability and Operations Research (OR) for development. He has several publications in leading journals and conferences to his credit. He has guided 9 doctoral students and 40+ graduate (Masters') students. He has worked on several sponsored and consulting projects. He has organised two international conferences in 2012 and 2018. He is also currently the Head of IEOR department.

He co-led the Solar Urja through Localisation for Sustainability (SoULS) initiative at IIT Bombay (www.soulsiitb.in) which involves a range of activities towards decentralised renewable (solar) energy access, rural entrepreneurship & small industries development, etc. The initiative has received several awards including the IEEE Empower a Billion Lives Global Award in 2019, and CSIR's S&T for Rural Development Award 2019.

Dr. Jayendran completed his Doctorate in Systems & Industrial Engineering, and Masters in Systems Engineering, both from the University of Arizona, Tucson in 2005 and 2002 respectively. He obtained his bachelor's degree, MSc (Tech) in Engineering Technology, Birla Institute of Technology and Science (BITS), Pilani, in 2000.



Kaustuv Sanyal

Professor

*Institute: DST, Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for
Advanced Scientific Research (JNCASR),
Bengaluru*

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About

Kaustuv Sanyal is JC Bose National Fellow (2020-25), Professor and Chair of the Molecular Biology and Genetics Unit at the Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research in Bengaluru and a former visiting professor at the Osaka University in Japan (2020-23). He obtained a PhD in yeast genetics from Bose Institute, Kolkata (1999) and completed a postdoctoral fellowship at the University of California, Santa Barbara (1999-2005). Since 2005, his laboratory studies chromatin organization, chromosome structure-function and molecular factors that regulate high fidelity chromosome segregation. He has been working in these areas for three decades and contributed significantly. He has presented more than 125 invited lectures across the globe and published more than 75 articles in peer-reviewed journals. He is an elected fellow of the American Academy of Microbiology, Indian National Science Academy, Indian Academy of Sciences, the National Academy of Sciences. He is a nominated member of the Faculty Opinions (F1000Prime), UK. He has been recently awarded the GN Ramachandran Gold Medal for excellence in Biological Sciences and Technology (2022) by the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, Govt. of India and the Sun Pharma Research Foundation Award Basic Sciences (2022). Previously he has been awarded Tata Innovation Fellowship (2017-20) and the National Bioscience Award and research grant (2012-15) by the Department of Biotechnology, Government of India. He serves as the secretary, Bangalore Chapter of the National Academy of Sciences, and the convenor of the Bangalore Chapter of the Indian National Science Academy. Currently, he leads a group consisting of graduate students and postdoctoral researchers, and actively collaborates with many scientists across disciplines.



Krishnakumar A.

Scientist E

Institute: National Centre for Earth Science Studies,
MOES, Thiruvananthapuram

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About

Education:

M.Sc. Geology, Cochin University of Science and Technology

M.Phil. Environmental Sciences, University of Kerala

Ph. D. Environmental Geology, University of Kerala

Research Areas:

Global Environmental Changes

Climate Change Impacts and River Basin Dynamics

Pollution and Hazard Assessment

Environmental Performance and Sustainable Development

Ongoing Projects: 3

River and Groundwater Hydrology of Peninsular Indian River Basins

Climate Dynamics, Weathering and Urban Geochemistry of selected river basins and Island territories

Hydrogeochemistry and Nutrient fluxes in the rivers of Western Ghats

Completed Projects: 11

Scientific Publications in National/International Journals: 41

Resource person for different academic programmes, National and International conferences, etc.

Reviewer in many SCI journals of Elsevier, Springer, Taylor and Francis and Wiley publishers

Attended 12 noteworthy Capacity building Training Programmes organised by various Governmental Institutions

Awards and Accomplishments

Young Scientist Project awardee of Dept. of Science and Technology (DST), Govt. of India, 2004

Recognized Research Guide of University of Kerala (Geology and Environmental Sciences) and Cochin University of Science and Technology

PhD awarded: 3 (Ongoing PhDs 6 and Co-guidance for PhD 2)

P.G (MSc and MTech) Dissertation guided: 79 from various universities across India

Postdoctoral mentorship/women scientist mentorship 2

Member, Academic Committee of Sreenarayanaguru University

Member, Board of Studies, Calicut University



Manas Kumar Santra

Scientist F

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About

Dr. Manas Kumar Santra is one of the outstanding scientists at the National Centre for Cell Science (NCCS) since 2010. He did his B. Sc. in Chemistry from Bajkul Milani Mahavidyalaya, East Midnapur in 1996 and M. Sc. in Chemistry from the Department of Chemistry in Vidyasagar University in 1998. Then, he did his M. Tech. in Material Science from the department of Metallurgical Engineering and Materials Science, IIT Bombay in 2001 and did Ph. D. in the Department of Biosciences and Bioengineering, IIT Bombay in 2006. Then, he went to UMass Medical School, Worcester, Massachusetts, USA in 2006 for his post-doctoral straining for 4 years. He returned to India and joined as principal scientist D in 2010. Currently, he is scientist F at NCCS. His research questions are interdisciplinary in nature and address pathological aspects of cancer coupled to translational perspective. He has significantly contributed to unwinding the mechanisms of cancer phenotype with special emphasis on the development of novel therapeutic targets. His lab has been instrumental in deciphering important mechanisms relevant to cancer development and progression. A major focus of his laboratory has been directed to decipher the regulatory nexus involved in cancer pathology, chemo-resistance, genotoxic stress, cellular signaling, cell cycle, dysregulation of oncogenes/tumor suppressor genes and chemotherapeutic resistance. Under his guidance 17 students are awarded Ph. D. degree. He has published 93 articles in prestigious international peer reviewed journals including Nature, Molecular Cell, Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS, USA), Cancer Research. Because of his outstanding scientific contribution, he has been awarded several prestigious awards including Fellow of National Academy of Science (FNASc), Allahabad, 2021, National Bioscience Award for Career Development, Department of Biotechnology, Government of India (2019), Charles A. King Trust Postdoctoral Research Fellowship Award, USA (2010), Ramalingaswami Fellowship, Department of Biotechnology, Government of India (2010), Innovative Young Biologist Award for the year 2008 from Department of Biotechnology, Government of India (2009) to name a few.



Manoj Majee

Staff Scientist VI

*Institute: National Institute of Plant Genome Research
(NIPGR), New Delhi*

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About

Dr. Manoj Majee is a scientist at National Institute of Plant Genome Research, New Delhi. He obtained his Master of Science degree from VisvaBharati University, Santiniketan, WB, and Ph.D. in Plant Biology from Bose Institute/ Jadavpur University, Kolkata WB. He did his postdoctoral research at University of Kentucky, Lexington, USA in the area of seed biology. Dr. Majee has made excellent contributions in the area of plant stress and seed biology. The research focus of his laboratory is to decipher the molecular and biochemical mechanisms, intricacies and events that govern seed maturation, dormancy release, germination, vigor and longevity (seed viability for prolonged periods of time) as well as seedling emergence.

His research work has provided novel insights into the mechanisms involved in preserving seed vigor and viability. The quality of his research work is clearly evident by his impressive list of publications in highly reputed Journals. He has also contributed to some well written book chapters and has patents to his credit. He is the recipient of several awards including prestigious National Bioscience Award for Career Development (2017-18) (DBT), INSA and NASI young scientist awards - a testimony to his credible and impressive research accomplishments. He is also an elected fellow of, IAS, Bengaluru (FASc), NASI, Prayag Raj (FNASc) and WAST, Kolkata.



Megala S.

Deputy Director, Science Programme Office

Institute: ISRO Headquarters, Bangalore

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About

S. Megala is the Deputy Director for Lunar Science and Exploration at Science Programme Office, ISRO Headquarters, Bangalore, India. She completed Southern Hemisphere Space Studies course from International Space University.

She started her career in ISRO as a Scientist and co-ordinated ISRO's lunar exploration missions such as Chandrayaan-2, Chandrayaan-3 and the future lunar polar exploration mission with international collaboration. She played a key role in nucleating lunar science community in the country and in getting the data peer reviewed for release to public.

She is a physicist who likes working in laboratory and has intent to pursue research in lunar science. She represents ISRO in the International Space Exploration Co-ordination Group and updates about lunar exploration plans. She is the life member of Indian Planetary Science Association.



Mukti Advani
Principal Scientist

Institute: CSIR - Central Road Research Institute, Delhi
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About

Joined CRRRI in March 2007, been to various stages starting from Junior Scientist, Scientist, Senior Scientist and Principal Scientist at present since 2028.

Research Area:

I work in area of Non motorized transport, multimodal integration at transit stops/stations, road safety aspects, transportation planning area and corresponding vehicular emissions.

Significant projects include 12th five-year plan project, i.e. Indian Highway Capacity Manual (Indo-HCM), Sustainable Transport Systems (SUSTRANS), Estimation of idling fuel (ELSIM), Road safety through AI (iRASTE), Trip Generation Manual for Indian Cities (TripGen), Simulation Software for India (MiTRANS), etc. Central Pollution Control Board, United Nations, Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, CSIR, National Mission of Himalayan Studies, Center for Air Quality Management for Delhi and NCR region, Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, sponsored these projects.

Professional Networking and Involvement:

Member, Technical Committees, Indian Road Congress
Member, Technical Committee, Bureau of Indian Standards
Member, National Clean Air Mission (NCAM),
Executive Board Member, Transportation Research Group of India (TRG-India),
Member of Governing Council, International Road Federation (IRF),
Contributed in revising multiple IRC manuals/guidelines
Member, Project Advisory Committee, NATPAC,
Program Committee (PC) Member for International Conference on Computational Urban Planning and Urban Management (CUPUM)
Program Committee (PC) Member,
Life Member of Indian Road Congress (IRC),
Life Member of Institute of Urban Transport (IUT),
Life Member of Transportation Research Group of India (TRG).



Narendra Digambar Londhe

Professor

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About

Dr. Narendra D. Londhe is presently working as Professor in the Department of Electrical Engineering of National Institute of Technology Raipur, Chhattisgarh, India. He completed his B.E. from Amravati University in 2000 followed by M.Tech. and Ph.D. from Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee in the years 2006 and 2011, respectively. He has 15 years of rich experience in academics and research. He has published more than 160 articles in recognized journals, conferences, and books. His main areas of research include medical signal and image processing, biomedical instrumentation, speech signal processing, biometrics, intelligent healthcare, braincomputer interface, artificial intelligence, and pattern recognition. He has been awarded by organizations like Taiwan Society of Ultrasound in Medicine, Ultrasonics Society of India, and NIT Raipur. He is an active member of different recognized societies from his areas of research including senior membership of IEEE.



Naveen Garg

Senior Principal Scientist and Head

Institute: CSIR-National Physical Laboratory, Delhi

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About

Dr. Naveen Garg is working as Senior Principal Scientist in CSIR-National Physical Laboratory, New Delhi. He is currently working as Head, Physico Mechanical Metrology Division and also Head, Acoustics and Vibration Standards in CSIR-National Physical Laboratory, New Delhi. He is a Mechanical Engineer specializing in Machine Design, Vibrations and Acoustics, Measurement science and working in development and up-gradation of primary standards of sound pressure and vibration amplitude and R&D in Applied Acoustics since past twenty years. He has done his Doctorate in Mechanical Engineering from Delhi Technological University, Delhi and M. Tech in Machine Design from IIT Delhi. He has published more than 50 papers in SCI Journals and around 40 papers in national and international conferences. He has been involved in many consultancy and sponsored projects pertaining to Environmental Impact Assessment studies in respect of noise and vibration for govt. bodies like Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC), Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL), India etc. He has published many papers in national and international journals in the field of acoustics and vibrations and has been actively involved in the Key Comparison exercises in Acoustics and Vibration metrology with other National Metrology Institutes (NMIs) of the world. He has been Managing Editor of MAPAN-Journal of Metrology Society of India published by Springer and reviewer of many international journals and has enormously contributed towards evaluation, analysis and control of noise pollution. He was awarded APMP Iizuka Young Metrologist Prize for Developing Economies by Asia Pacific Metrology Programme (APMP) Secretariat, Japan in November, 2017 for his notable contributions to acoustics and vibration metrology. Recently Dr.Garg has published a Book on Environmental Noise Control published by Springer Nature, Switzerland. He has been member of various national and international bodies in the field of acoustics and vibration.



Nidhi Singh

Sr. Pr. Scientist and

Heading Mass Metrology sub-division

Institute: CSIR-National Physical Laboratory, Delhi

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About

Dr. Nidhi Singh is Sr. Pr. Scientist and Heading Mass Metrology sub-division at CSIR-National Physical Laboratory.

She received B.Sc. and M.Sc. degrees in Physics from Banaras Hindu University and PhD degree in Metallurgical Engineering from IIT-Banaras Hindu University. Dr. Singh joined Ecole de Mine de Paris, Evry, France for her PDF and subsequently joined as Sr. Scientist in Division of Engineering Materials at CSIR-National Physical Laboratory New Delhi in 2009.

Her research interests include mechanical properties of high temperature titanium alloys, rare earth free permanent magnets like MnAl, MnBi, HfCo etc.

In 2017 she joined Physico-Mechanical Metrology division to work in mass metrology including development of Kibble Balance. Presently she is working towards the development of Kibble Balance setup.

In her scientific career, she has written few book chapters and more than 80 papers in SCI journals and has a registered patent. She also guides masters and PhD students as Professor in Academy of Scientific and Innovative Research (AcSIR).



Nishant K.T.

Professor

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About

Prof. Nishant K.T. completed his undergraduate studies in Biochemistry from Delhi University in 1997. He subsequently joined the integrated PhD program (M.S and PhD) and obtained his doctoral degree from the Department of Biochemistry, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore in 2005. After five years of postdoctoral work at Cornell University, USA, he established his laboratory in IISER Thiruvananthapuram in 2011. He was the Head, School of Biology, IISER Thiruvananthapuram, from 2017-2021. He is currently a Professor at the School of Biology, IISER Thiruvananthapuram. He also serves as a member of the Board of Governors, IISER Thiruvananthapuram. His research interest is in the area of genome stability. Key areas of research include mechanisms of meiotic recombination, chromosome segregation, loss of heterozygosity and aneuploidy in yeast and other eukaryotic models. These studies are relevant for understanding the molecular basis of diseases (e.g., birth defects and cancer), genome evolution, and architecture. He is on the editorial board of the journal YEAST (Wiley publications) and the Journal of Genetics (published by the Indian Academy of Sciences, Bangalore).



Om P Khatri

Principal Scientist

Institute: CSIR-Indian Institute of Petroleum, Dehradun

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About

Dr. Om P Khatri is a Senior Principal Scientist at CSIR Indian Institute of Petroleum, Dehradun and associated as a Professor with the Academy of Scientific and Innovative Research (AcSIR), Ghaziabad. He received M.Sc. and Ph.D. (Chemical Science) from Jain Narayan Vyas University, Jodhpur (India). He has been post-doctoral research fellow at Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bangalore and Kyoto University, Kyoto (Japan). His main research interests are surface chemistry, nanostructured materials and composites, ionic liquids, and thin films for tribological applications. He is also developing different types of nanomaterials for corrosion, adsorptive removal of water pollutants, gaseous separation, and sensor applications. He is an author of over 118 research papers with h-index of 42 and 6170 citations. He has delivered more than 37 keynote and invited talks/lectures in various International and National Conferences and Workshops in Japan, Singapore, and India. He has been recognized as Top 1% Highest Cited Author (2015-2019) by Industrial & Engineering Chemistry Research, American Chemical Society (ACS), USA. Dr. Khatri has been recipient of India-Japan Science Council Project Award (Twice, 2018 and 2013), Raman Research Fellowship Award (2016), DAAD Research Project Award (2014), Indo-Swiss Joint Research Program Award (2011), DST Young Scientists Project Award (2010) and JSPS Fellowship Award, Japan (2006). He has been visiting researchers to R&D Center, General Motors (USA), Kyoto University (Japan), ETH Zurich (Switzerland), Leibniz Institute for New Materials, Saarbrücken (Germany), Rice University (USA). Dr. Khatri has completed 16 research projects including 2 bilateral international projects and 4 industrial projects. He has guided 10 PhD students, and currently 6 students are perusing their PhD work under his guidance. He is actively involved in various administrative activities through different committees and also contributing for academic activities of the AcSIR.



Perumal Alagarsamy

Professor

*Institute: Department of Physics, Indian Institute of
Technology Guwahati, Guwahati
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About

Completed his Postdoctoral Fellowship at (1) Center for NanoSpinics of Spintronic Materials, Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology, South Korea, from 2001-2003, (2) Toyota Technological Institute, Japan, from 2003 - 2004.

Joined the Physics department at IIT Guwahati as Assistant Professor in Aug 2004 and now working as a Professor (HAG) since December 2021.

Received the CSIR-Senior Research Fellowship, Young Scientist Medal from Indian National Science Academy (INSA) - 2005, in Physical Sciences and a Young Scientist Research Award from the Board of Research in Nuclear Sciences (BRNS), 2005.

Received the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) Postdoctoral Research Fellow in FY2007-2008 and JSPS Invitational Fellow (Long term) FY2018-2019 to work at the National Institute for Materials Science, JAPAN.

Invited as Guest Researcher from International Center for Materials Nanoarchitectonics, NIMS, in 2009; Research Advisor in Magnetic Materials Unit, NIMS, in 2015. Received NIMS Global Collaboration Fellowship Program FY-2017 and FY-2019 to visit the Research Center for Magnetic and Spintronic Materials (CMSM), NIMS, Japan.

Published nearly 160 articles, 6 books, and 2 patents, organized 7 International Conferences and 4 National workshops.

Guided 13 Ph.D. students, 8 project staff, 30+ Master/B.Tech. students for research thesis work, completed 11 research projects and developed 3 courses (Spintronics: Physics and Technology; Physics of Magnetic Recording; Characterization of Materials) under NPTEL.

He is a life member of the Magnetics Society of India, ASM International Society, and a Senior Member of the IEEE Magnetic Society.



Prabha Chand

Professor

Institute: National Institute of Technology Jamshedpur

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About

Dr. Prabha Chand is a Professor in Mechanical Engineering department at National Institute of Technology, Jamshedpur.” She did her B.sc (Engg) in Mechanical Engineering from BIT Sindri, Dhanbad, ME in Space Engg. and Rocketry from BIT Mesra, Ranchi and then Ph.d. in Solar Energy”. She has 27yrs of Teaching Experience. Her research area Solar Energy, Aerodynamics, Thermofluid with nanomaterials and welding. She has Published 33 research paper in SCI/Scopus journal under her Supervision 05 P.hd. awarded out of 10 Scholars and 33 M.Tec. As a Administration She was Head of Mechanical Department during 2015-2018, Dean Faculty Welfare during 2019-2021 and from 2023 to continue currently she is taking care of recruitment of Faculty at NIT Jamshedpur as Dean Faculty Welfare and Chairperson of Library Committee.



P. Radhakrishnanand

Professor

Institute: NIPER-Guwahati

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About

Prof. Radhakrishnanand possesses more than 23 years of industrial and Academia experience in Analytical department at various capacities and worked in the regulatory environment throughout the career. He earned his Ph.D. in analytical chemistry in 2009 from Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University, Hyderabad, India and obtained MBA degree in 2016 in Technology management with Marketing as specialization from Osmania University, Hyderabad, India. He was Director for two pharmaceutical industries (MNC's) from 2013-2020. He is handling EMR projects and consultancy projects with a worth of ~50 Lakhs and coordinator for one of the prestigious CoE, Quality Assessment & Value Addition Centre for herbal industry in the North-eastern States of India funded by Ministry of Commerce (MoC) and Department of Pharmaceuticals with a worth of 22.62 Crores. He is one of the Board of Directors, Atal Innovation Mission, NIPER Guwahati. He is having excellent administrative experience and currently working as Registrar (i/c) of NIPER-Guwahati since December 2020.

He worked for United States Pharmacopeia (USP), Daicel, GVK Bio and Dr. Reddy Laboratories where he successfully accomplished projects on analytical method development and validations for various drug substances, drug products, Excipients, Foods, Dietary supplements, Intermediates and Raw materials under various Instrumental techniques. He has sound knowledge in Chromatography, Hyphenated techniques, and Chiral Chromatography. His expertise also extends to quality assurance, GLP and GMP laboratory management. He successfully coordinated and part of the core team which set up a new quality department at United States Pharmacopeia and Daicel for their India facility. Also, successfully coordinated for achieving ISO 9001: 2015 and NABL Accredited ISO 17025:2017 certifications.

He has authored and co-authored for more than 50 peer reviewed international and national scientific publications and presented posters in various professional conferences. He is a reviewer for several international journals. He guided more than 30 MS Pharma students as part of their project work and guided 3 Ph. D students and they received the award; 6 Ph.D. students work is in progress.



Sachin Sood

Scientist-G (DRDL)

Institute: Director Defence Research & Development

Laboratory, Hyderabad

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About

Sh Sachin Sood is working as Scientist G in Defence Research and Development Lab, DRDO. He has done his B.Tech from NIT Hamirpur in Computer Sc&Engg in 1999 and M.tech from IIT Madras in 2005. He is currently pursuing PhD from NIT Warangal. Sh Sachin Sood joined DRDO as Scientist B in 1999. He has contributed as Project Manager in Project Akash Surface to Air Missile System, then as Deputy Project Director in Project NGARM (New Generation Anti Radiation Missile). Presently, he is working as Project Director of Helicopter launched missile Helina and Dhruvastra. Sh Sachin Sood is recipient of 'Laboratory Scientist of Year' DRDL in year 2003, 'Technology Day Medal' in year 2008, DRDO Award for 'Path Breaking Research/ Outstanding Technology Development' in year 2009 as team Member, Award from Federation of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh chambers of Commerce & Industry for excellent contribution in year 2015 as team member and DRDO Award 'Agni award for excellence in self reliance' in year 2020 as Team Leader.



Sameer Tiwari

Scientist

*Institute: Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology,
Dehradun*

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About

My name is Dr. Sameer K. Tiwari, Scientist D, working in geothermal energy at Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology, Dehradun. I have earned my Ph. D. from the Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology in the field of geothermal energy in the Himalayas. In 2023, I was awarded a prestigious International fellowship by the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization & United Nations University at GRO-Geothermal Training Program, Iceland (UNESCO-UNO-GRO-GTP, Iceland). I have been honored with a prestigious N.N. Chatterjee National Award - 2021 by the Geological Society of India for my outstanding contribution to India's field energy resources. (a copy of the awards is attached herewith). I have contributed to geothermal energy resources in the Indian Himalayan regions (Ladakh, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand Himalaya). I have mapped the entire geothermal fields of the northwest Indian Himalayas and identified 40 potential geothermal sites for harnessing geothermal energy. We have estimated the reservoir temperature of all the geothermal fields of northwest Himalaya to facilitate the exploitation of geothermal energy as electricity and is the mainstay in establishing an ongoing binary geothermal power plant at Tapoban of Uttarakhand (Tiwari, 2014; Tiwari et al., 2016, and Tiwari&Sain, 2021). He has contributed to isotopic studies of geothermal springs (green energy) along the megathrust of NW Himalaya, India. He has reported, for the first time, degassing ($\sim 3.7 \times 10^7$ moles/year) of CO₂ (greenhouse gas) into the atmosphere from the Indian Himalaya (Tiwari, 2014; Tiwari et al., 2016; Tiwari et al., 2020; Tiwari & Sain, 2021). In addition, my scientific research work has added value to Indian Geosciences and Society, as evidenced by 50 research publications on geothermal energy, climate change, anthropogenic and natural hazards, groundwater, and glaciology in peer-reviewed journals.



Satish Kumar

Professor

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About

Dr. Satish Kumar is presently working as a Professor in the Department of Mechanical Engineering, National Institute of Technology Jamshedpur. He has more than 19 years of Teaching and Research experience. Dr. Satish Kumar obtained his bachelor's and Master degree from Department of Mechanical Engineering, SVNIT Surat, in 2002 and 2004. He has completed his Ph.D. under the supervision of Professor B. K. Gandhi, Department of Mechanical and Industrial Engineering, IIT Roorkee in the area of solid liquid flow in 2014. His research interests are, Rheology of Slurry Flow, Computational Fluid Dynamics, Erosion Wear, Flow Phenomena of Solid-Liquid Flow in Pump and Pipeline.

He authored (and co-authored) over 165 research articles including 80 in SCI Index journals in the field of multiphase flow. He supervised 12 Ph.D. and 55 M. Tech Thesis in the area of Multiphase flow. Dr. Satish Kumar .Google scholar H Index- is 30 (4465 Citation), H 10 Index is 110 and Scopus H Index is 26.

During the service he is hold the Faculty In-charge Admission, Controller of Examination from 2020 to 2023, Chairman of Institute Publication Cell, Chairman of Institute News-letter from 2019 to 2023 at NIT Jamshedpur. Currently supervising 06 Ph.D. Students. He has organized two national conferences, two international conferences, Two Science and Engineering Research Board SERB sponsored high end Karyshala, two ATAL-AICTE sponsored Faculty development program and more than 12 faculty development programme/short term courses. He has completed 06 sponsored research project funded by different agencies like SERB, DST, UGC successfully. Currently, 04 research projects is ongoing. He is a life member of ISTE, ASME, NSFMP, IAENG, Institution of Engineers, NITTSD etc. He has listed in top 2% world scientist as surveyed by Stanford University.



Saurabh Sharma

Scientist F

Institute: Aryabhata Research Institute of
Observational Sciences (ARIES), Nainital
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About

I am a faculty member (Scientist F) at Aryabhata Research Institute of Observational Sciences (ARIES), Nainital, India, since May 2010. I obtained my PhD in Astronomy and Astrophysics from ARIES, Nainital, in 2008. I moved to the University of Valparaiso, Chile, and INAF, Arcetri, Florence, Italy, for postdoc positions and worked with internationally renowned research groups and world-class observational facilities.

My main research interest is star formation and low-mass stars' stellar evolution. My research requires deep multi-epoch multi-wavelength imaging/spectroscopic/polarimetric data of star-forming regions/young pre-main sequence stars. Thus, observational facilities such as ARIES 1.0m/1.3m/3.6m, HCT 2.0m, GMRT, TNO 2.4m/0.7m, Subaru 8m, etc, along with archival data from PANSTARR, Gaia, 2MASS, Spitzer, WISE, Herschel, JWST, NVSS, PMO, etc have been heavily used for my research. I have developed a research group of 6 PhD students/4 Postdocs/2 faculties at ARIES along with other researchers within India (TIFR, PRL, IIST, SNBCBS) or abroad (Tokyo Univ., Valparaiso Univ., NARIT, etc.) to work in these research fields. I have 92 refereed publications with ~1600 citations and got research grants with several Department of Science and Technology (DST) calls for international bilateral programs.

I have also worked on instrumentation projects, such as developing an Optical-NIR spectrograph (TANSPEC) for 3.6m Devasthal Optical Telescope (DOT). I am also coordinating other NIR imager (TIRCAM2) on 3.6m DOT and the operations of 3.6m DOT and 1.3m DFOT. I am also managing the ARIES observatory campus located at a remote location of Devasthal, Nainital, having three big telescopes (1.3m, 3.6m, and 4m ILMT), a guest house, and around 34 staff stationed there. As a member of the ARIES academic committee, I have coordinated the activities related to conducting the screening/interviews of new Ph.D. students, reviewing Ph.D. students' works, organizing talks and colloquiums, policies, etc.



Shewane Bishnoi

Assistant Professor

*Institute: Rajasthan India Chaudhary Devi Lal
University, Jaipur*

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About

I am a biotechnologist and molecular biologist specialising in agricultural biotechnology. Belonging to a farmers background and taking an early interest from my grandfather who was a Professor of botany. I wanted to work in agriculture research. I have been a consultant to an agricultural company along with managing our own farms that can lead to progressive farming and higher yields. Having worked as an academician teaching core biotechnology subjects to masters and PhD scholars, I want to establish myself as an efficient and dynamic researcher in life sciences by Team building, collaborative networking and interdisciplinary research. Supervised three master thesis and supervising one doctoral thesis with collaboration with Rajasthan Agricultural Research University. I am focusing research on agricultural challenges in context to Rajasthan and finding solutions , particularly bajra and wheat genomics and white grub issues. Getting grants and motivating young scholars to work efficiently and methodically is what I am keen on. I want to bring exposure and knowledge exchange in best possible ways to my university. I have been a collaborator with international researchers in reviewing conference papers. The future belongs to the resilient, prepared and perceptive ones, and I would like to focus on how to be a good scientific leader in future. I have attended the prestigious Women's self leadership program for women scientist s sponsored by European molecular biology organisation that helped me grow as a group leader. Looking forward to the Leads program to build the capacity to face possible challenges at leadership positions in future. To be of immense value in a Scientific leadership position by effectively managing and administering issues in a quick and dynamic manner .



Shobha Shukla

Professor

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About

Professor Shobha Shukla is Professor in the Department of Metallurgical Engineering and Materials Sciences at the Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay, India. She obtained her doctoral degree at the State University of New York/SUNY Buffalo, USA. Subsequently she worked as a postdoctoral fellow at the School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA. Her research interests are in the field of nanophotonics devices, water technologies, metamaterials, and plasmonic devices. Prof. Shobha Shukla has published her research in several international journals and presented her research on international forums. She is also on the editorial board of 'Scientific Reports' by Nature Publishing group, 'NanoTechnology' and 'Journal of Physics-Photonics' by IoP publishing. Professor Shukla is currently heading the water innovation center (WICTRE) at IIT Bombay.



Simanta Das

Chief Radio Technologist

Institute: DST, North East Centre for Technology

Application & Reach (NECTAR), Shillong

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About

Currently engaged as Chief Radio Technologist at North East Centre for Technology Application & Reach (NECTAR), Dept of Science & Technology, Govt of India since Jan 2022. I am responsible for implementation of various technology projects of NECTAR for improvement of livelihood and ICT (Information and Communication Technology) infrastructure.

One notable project currently under supervision and project implementation is the PM-DevINE "NECTAR livelihood Improvement project (Multi State) A Value Chain on Utilization of Banana Pseudo Stem for Value-Added Products" of value Rs. 67 Cr.

My career spans 21 years with a strong academic background in Telecommunication engineering (Second, Third and Fourth generation of mobile telephony) combined with Project Management experience. Over the years, I have acquired expertise in Project Management, Project Planning, Execution, Evaluation, Telecommunication Engineering and Operations and have utilized my technical and managerial skills & experiences to drive comprehensive growth of the organization.

Past Professional Accomplishments

1. Successfully Installed & Integrated 2,700 LTE-FDD sites, as well as 1,300 3G sites, to put same on-air within a short period of 1.5 years.
2. Laid approx. 2,000 KM of OFC (intercity and NLD routes) to integrate various sites.
3. Spearheading the successful testing and migration of Signaling Traffic routing plan for MNP implementation in 2010-11 in compliance with Telecom Regulatory.
4. Good knowledge and experience on Microsoft PowerPoint presentation, MIS reporting with Excel and proper documentation, MS-Office and Tally.
5. Achieved exponential growth (About 400%) of Vodafone Business Services, within 3 years.
6. Notable achievement in career growth received 4 promotions within the service period of 8 years.



Subhajit Bandyopadhyay

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About

Subhajit Bandyopadhyay earned his MSc from IIT Kanpur in Chemistry, and his Ph.D. from the University of Victoria, British Columbia. Following postdoctoral stints at Columbia University and the University of Cambridge, he joined IISER Kolkata as an assistant professor, where he is currently a professor. He served as the Associate Dean of Academic Affairs from 2019 to 2024, overseeing the PhD program at the Institute. His academic pursuits include the synthesis and exploration of photochromic systems, the development of optical sensors for biologically significant analytes, machine learning applications in chemistry, and photo-controlled catalysis. He is dedicated to supporting students with disabilities in their educational pursuits. The smartphone app developed in his laboratory has gained popularity among visually impaired and colorblind students in more than 30 countries. He is a fellow of the Royal Society for Chemistry and was selected for a DAAD fellowship and a joint INSA-Australian Academy of Sciences fellowship. Beyond his scientific interests, he is a history enthusiast, and engages in painting.



Suhrit Ghosh

Senior Professor

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Science (IACS), Kolkata*

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About

Suhrit Ghosh was born in 1976 in India. After completion of the undergraduate education (Chemistry major) in the Presidency College (now University), Kolkata, he was admitted in the integrated PhD program (Chemical Science) at IISc, Bangalore in 1997. He received the MS degree (Chemistry) in 2000 and continued for PhD till 2005 under the supervision of Professor S. Ramakrishnan. Then he moved to the group of Professor S. Thayumanavan at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, USA, for postdoctoral studies (2005-2007). Subsequently he worked as a Humboldt postdoctoral fellow (2007-2008) with Professor Frank Würthner at the University of Würzburg, Germany. In 2008 he joined IACS, Kolkata, India, as an Assistant Professor where he currently holds the position of Senior Professor in the School of Applied and Interdisciplinary Sciences (SAIS). He was selected as an Associate of the Indian Academy of Sciences (2009-2012). He is the recipients of the B. M. Birla Science Prize (2014), Swarna Jayanti Fellowship (2015), K. Kishore Memorial Award (2016) from the Society of Polymer Science in India (SPSI), Bronze medal (2017), CNR Rao National Prize for Chemical Sciences (2023) from the CRSI and Santappa Award (2023) from SPSI. He is an elected Fellow of the Indian Academy of Sciences (admitted in 2022). Research interest of his group includes polymer chemistry, supramolecular chemistry and functional materials. He has co-authored in > 130 papers and 13 students have completed PhD under his supervision. He is currently Dean (Academic) at IACS.



Tharamani C. Nagaiah

Associate Professor

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About

Thara is currently an Associate Professor and Head, Department of Chemistry at Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Ropar, India. Her research interests include design and development of new materials with focus on energy conversion/storage and biosensing applications, in-depth fundamental analysis of the newly designed electrocatalysts by various electrochemical, spectroscopic, microscopic and scanning probe techniques.

She is a recipient of several prestigious fellowships like Alexander von Humboldt Postdoctoral Fellowship, Germany and Ramanujan Fellowship by Department of Science and Technology, Govt. of India. She is a Fellow of Royal Society of Chemistry admitted through “Leaders in the field” scheme and also an elected Fellow of Indian Chemical Society. She is a recipient of CRSI-Bronze Medal 2023 from the Chemical Research Society of India and Silver Medal of CRS 2023 from the Society Chirantan Rasayan Sanstha, ECSI National Metrohm Award 2023 from Electrochemical Society of India and A.V. Rama Rao prize for women 2024 from Chemical Research Society of India. She is an Associate Editor of Chemistry of Materials (ACS), an Editorial Board Member of Electrocatalysis (Springer Nature) and Sustainable Energy and Fuels (Royal Society of Chemistry).



Virendra Gajbhiye

Scientist-D

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About

Dr. Virendra Gajbhiye works as Scientist E at Nanobioscience group, Agharkar Research Institute, Pune. He is a formulation scientist and has been working in the field of Nanomedicine and Biomedical engineering for the last 17 years. Dr. Gajbhiye holds a Master's degree in Pharmaceutics and a doctoral degree in Pharmaceutical Sciences from Dr. H. S. Gour Central University, Sagar, India, where his research focused on dendrimer-mediated brain delivery of anti-cancer bioactives. He did post-doctoral research at the University of Wisconsin- Madison (USA) and Oregon Health and Science University- Portland (USA). Since 2013, he has worked as a Scientist in Nanomedicine at Agharkar Research Institute, Pune, India.

He has worked extensively with various nanoparticles. His research interest lies in nanomedicine, nucleic acid therapy for cancer and cardiovascular diseases, biomaterials, unimolecular micelles, theranostics, tissue engineering, regenerative medicine, nanobiosensors, nanovaccines, etc. He also has expertise in evaluating therapeutic formulations on various cell lines *in vitro* and in animal models *in vivo*.

Dr. Gajbhiye's research contributions are reflected in a substantial number of publications in high-impact journals. He has over 100 publications, one technology transfer, one granted patent, three filed patents, and three books. His citations are more than >4000, with an h-index of 33. He has received fellowships, awards, and accolades, including the INSPIRE faculty award, the Fellowship of Maharashtra Academy of Sciences, and the Vocational Excellence Award from the Rotary Club, Pune, for his contributions to nanotechnology research in healthcare. Dr. Gajbhiye has supervised numerous Ph.D., master's, and bachelor's students, fostering the next generation of researchers in the field. Dr. Gajbhiye has also been working as the Vigilance Officer of ARI, Pune, since June 2022.



Dr. Veda Krishnan

*ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute,
New Delhi*

About

Dr. Veda Krishnan is an accomplished professional with an academic journey marked by excellence including distinctions in M.Sc. and B.Sc. degrees in Biotechnology and Botany, respectively, a Ph. D. in Biotechnology, and an Agricultural Research Scientist (Senior scale) at the division of biochemistry, ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute. Over the past twelve years, Dr. Krishnan has been instrumental in advancing food and nutritional research, focusing on enhancing global human health through innovative scientific endeavors. At the forefront of her career, she is a project leader of the Food Matrix Lab and has led numerous research initiatives ranging from deciphering the role of nutritional matrix components, such as anthocyanins, -tocopherol, and resistant starch, particularly in soybean research. Dr. Krishnan has conducted groundbreaking work in characterizing phytate biosynthetic enzymes and metabolic pathway engineering for developing low-phytate soybean varieties. Her global research footprint includes stints as an International Research Exchange Fellow at Nanyang Technological University, Singapore, and a Fulbright-Nehru Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the Whistler Center for Carbohydrate Research, Purdue University, USA. Dr. Krishnan's leadership extends to securing substantial grants and fellowships from esteemed organizations like DST, ICAR, NASF, DST-SHRI Project, and the Fulbright-Nehru program, supporting groundbreaking initiatives from exploring nutraceutical potential in mushrooms to enhancing micronutrient bioavailability in rice varieties. Her work has brought international collaborations and grants such as IBERS BBSRC international institutional partnership funding and the DST-SERB, India grant. With a strong focus on innovation, she holds more than 75 publications in renowned journals and contributions to esteemed books, obtained a granted patent, and copyright, along successfully translated her research into four commercialized products demonstrating her commitment to practical solutions for nutritional challenges. Dr. Krishnan's contributions extend beyond the laboratory, as evidenced by her active involvement in global and Indian scientific societies. She has received numerous honors and awards, including being selected as a member of the Global Young Academy (GYA) becoming the first scientist from Agriculture, serving as the National Coordinator for the Young Scientist Conclave DST-India International Science Festival, secretary of INSA-Indian National Young Academy of Science, selected as Fulbright Ambassador for change, Plantae fellow and many more. Her dedication to science communication is highlighted by her participation as a resource person and speaker at international events and she has received several awards for her research presentation at different conferences. Dr. Krishnan is a dedicated educator with a passion for mentoring students at both undergraduate and graduate levels and has also contributed to online educational platforms. Her work, outreach, and research accomplishments exemplify a steadfast dedication to agricultural science and addressing global nutritional-related challenges.



Zhumur Ghosh

Associate Professor

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Kolkata*

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About

I did Masters in Physics from Calcutta University, completed my doctoral studies in Indian Association for the Cultivation of Science, Kolkata in the area of Bioinformatics. Thereafter I did my postdoc at Stanford University School of Medicine where I got introduced into the field of Stem Cell Biology. Presently, I am an Associate Professor in the Department of Biological Sciences, Bose Institute. My current area of work involves studying the role of regulatory noncoding RNAs in disease biology involving cancer and neurodegeneration. We are also investigating their role towards predicting the efficacy of stem cell derived cells to be used for regenerative therapy as well as their precise modulation during pre- and post-fertilization stages of embryonic development. I started my lab at Bose Institute in 2010, with a vision to integrate dry and wet bench techniques to understand the versatility of these regulatory noncoding RNA molecules in normal and disease systems. As an initial milestone, we have developed two novel noncoding RNA databases [piRNAQuest and LncRBase]. Currently, my lab is involved towards developing AI based prediction models involving noncoding RNA mediated regulation applicable for different disease systems (<http://bicresources.jcbose.ac.in/zhumur/lab/patents.html>). These are well cited works as revealed by my h-index of 29. I have co-authored a popular text book on Bioinformatics and have jointly edited a book on Regulatory RNAs. As a part of my achievements, I am the recipient of NASI Scopus Young Scientist Award and SERB Woman Excellence Award in 2018. I have been an Associate Fellow, Indian Academy of Science (2011-2014) and is currently a Member of the National Academy of Science. I have also been serving as the Associate Editor of Molecular Plant-Microbe Interactions and as a member of the editorial board of Current Bioinformatics.

Apex Committee



Professor Ashutosh Sharma
President
Indian National Science Academy

Ashutosh Sharma is Institute Chair Professor at IIT Kanpur, President of the Indian National Science Academy (2023-25), Co-chair of S20/G20 and a former Secretary to the Government of India heading its Department of Science and Technology (January 2015- 2021). He was a Professor (1997-), and the Head (2003-05) of Chemical Engineering, and the founding Coordinator of Nanosciences Center and Advanced Imaging Center at the Indian Institute of Technology at Kanpur. Ashutosh received his PhD from the State University of New York at Buffalo (SUNYAB; 1988) working with Prof. Eli Ruckenstein a recipient of the US Medal of Science, his MS from the Pennsylvania State University (1984) and B.Tech. from IIT Kanpur (1982). Ashutosh has had a broad international experience as a research faculty at SUNY Buffalo School of Medicine (1988-90), visiting faculty at University of Texas at Austin, University of Western Ontario, University of Erlangen-Nuremberg and the World Class University Program of South Korea and as a Member of the European Research Commission. Ashutosh's research contributions are highly interdisciplinary, spanning a wide range in nanotechnology; thin polymer films; nanocomposites and devices in energy, health and environment; functional interfaces; micro/nano-mechanics of soft matter; nano-patterning and nanofabrication; colloid and interfacial engineering; biomaterials & biosurfaces; wetting and adhesion. He has published over 350 peer reviewed papers, filed over 15 patents, given over 100 invited or key note conference presentations and mentored a nanotechnology startup. Ashutosh is a recipient of numerous honors and awards including the inaugural Infosys Prize in Engineering and Computer Science, TWAS Science Prize of the World Academy of Sciences, Bessel Research Award of the Humboldt Foundation, J. C. Bose Fellowship, Bhatnagar Prize, Homi J. Bhabha Award of UGC, The Syed Husain Zaheer Medal of INSA, Distinguished Alumni Awards of IIT Kanpur and SUNY Buffalo, Life-time Achievement Award of the Indian Science Congress, UNESCO Medal for "Contribution to Development of Nanoscience and Nanotechnology", H.K. Firodia Award for Excellence in Science & Technology and Meghnad Saha Medal of INSA. He has also received six D. Sc. honoris causa from universities in the USA and India. Ashutosh is an elected Fellow of The Indian National Science Academy, The Indian Academy of Sciences, The National Academy of

Sciences, India and Indian National Academy of Engineering, The World Academy of Sciences (TWAS) and the Asia-Pacific Academy of Materials. He has also served on the Councils of the first two. He has been an associate editor of ACS Applied Materials and Interfaces, Proceedings of Indian National Science Academy and ASME Journal of Micro- and Nano-Manufacturing and has been on the editorial boards of several journals: Carbon; ACS Industrial and Engineering Chemistry Research; Current Science; Nanomaterials and Energy; Chemical Engineering Science; Journal of Colloid and Interface Science; Canadian Journal of Chemical Engineering and Indian Chemical Engineer.

Ashutosh's other interests are in ancient history and philosophy, poetry, and art.



Shri V Srinivas
Secretary, DARPG, DAR & PG &
Director General NCGG

V. Srinivas serves as Secretary to Government of India Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances and Department of Pension and Pensioners Welfare, from December 2021. He represents India on the Council of Administration of the International Institute of Administrative Sciences, Brussels for the period 2018-2023.

He has served as Special Secretary, Additional Secretary, Joint Secretary and Deputy Secretary in Government of India in the years 2000 to 2021 in the Ministries of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Health & Family Welfare, Culture, Textiles, Finance & Company Affairs, External Affairs and Petroleum & Natural Gas. He has served as Private Secretary to External Affairs Minister and as Private Secretary to Finance Minister in the years 2001-2003 and as Advisor to Executive Director (India) in the International Monetary Fund in Washington DC from 2003-2006, and represented India on the International Cotton Advisory Committee from 2010-13. V. Srinivas held additional charge of Director General National Centre of Good Governance for the period 2020-2022 and Director General National Archives of India in 2013-14.

V. Srinivas served as Chairman Board of Revenue for Rajasthan Ajmer with additional charge of Chairman Rajasthan Tax Board in 2017-18. In Government of Rajasthan, he has served as Secretary Planning and Finance (Budget), Family Welfare and Mission Director National Rural Health Mission, and Science & Technology. He has served as District Collector Jodhpur and Pali.

V. Srinivas is a recipient of the Digital India Award 2020 for e-Office, the Kaya Kalp (Clean Hospital) Awards for the years 2015 and 2016 for Clean and Green AIIMS campaign, the AIIMS Leadership Excellence Award for 2017, the National Productivity Council Awards for Highest Productivity in Rainfed Agriculture in 1995, 1997, Independence-Day certificates of appreciation for outstanding work from Chief Ministers of Rajasthan in 1998 and 2019. He is a recipient of 2 Indian Council of World Affairs fellowships for his books “India’s Relations with International Monetary Fund 1991-2016” and “G20@2023 - The Roadmap to Indian Presidency”. He has also authored his 3rd book “The March to New India: Governance Transformed 2014-2019” published in 2019. He is a Junior National Badminton Champion 1984 and an All India Universities Badminton Champion 1988. He has authored 3 books, published 199 papers/ articles and delivered 100 orations. He is a senior administrator, a respected academician and an institution builder par excellence.



Professor Indranil Manna

*Vice President (Science & Society), INSA
Vice Chancellor, Birla Institute of Technology Mesra, Ranchi
President, Indian National Academy of Engineering*

Professor Manna, President, INAE is currently the Vice Chancellor of BIT Mesra, Ranchi since August 2020 on lien from IIT Kharagpur. He obtained his B. E. Degree from Calcutta University (B.E. College) in 1983, M. Tech. from IIT Kanpur in 1985, and PhD from IIT Kharagpur in 1990. He was a PremchandRoychand Scholar (1992) and a Mouat Medal awardee (1999) at Calcutta University. He is an educationist and materials engineer with wide-ranging research interests covering phase transformation, structure-property correlation and modeling in metallic alloys, nanostructured solids, structural ceramics, coatings (by laser/plasma assisted surface engineering), additive manufacturing, and nano/ferrofluid. His studies on amorphous Al-alloys, laser surface engineering of steel/Mg/Al alloys, boundary diffusion-controlled phase transformations, and thermal/magnetic properties of nano and ferrofluid are highly cited. He teaches subjects related to materials engineering and surface engineering. As a guest scientist, he visited different renowned Institutions and Universities abroad like Max Planck Institute at Stuttgart, Technical University of Clausthal, Liverpool University, Nanyang Technological University, NIMS-Japan, Unipress-Poland, and the University of Ulm. He has authored over 300 peer-reviewed publications, guided 30 doctoral theses, and conducted 35 sponsored projects worth over Rs 25 crore as the PI.

Professor Manna is a Fellow of all the national academies of science (INSA, IASc, NASI) and engineering (INAE) in India, and was a JC Bose Fellow of DST (2012-22). He was both a DAAD (1988-90) and Humboldt Fellow (2001-02) in Germany. He was honored as a distinguished alumnus by IEST Shibpur and IIT Kharagpur. He is a recipient of The World Academy of Sciences (TWAS) prize for engineering sciences (2014) and was elected a Fellow of TWAS (2015). He is also a Member of the Asia Pacific Academy of Materials. He received the MRSI Medal (2000), Binani Gold Medal (1999) and G D Birla Gold Medal (2008) of IIM, AICTE Career Award for Young Teachers (1995), and INSA Medal for Young Scientist (1992). He was felicitated by the Ministry of Steel with the Young Metallurgist (1991), Metallurgist of the Year (2002) and National Metallurgist Award (2018). He was the National Coordinator of IMPacting Research INnovation and Technology (IMPRINT), a unique technology development initiative of MHRD during 2015-20. He has been a member of the Research Boards of several industry/R&D like RINL, GAIL, BHEL, ARCI, Min of Steel and serves in several national level committees and boards of DST, DBT, CSIR, SERB, INSA, etc.

Earlier, he served as an expert in NAAC and NBA. He is a former Vice President and President of the Indian Institute of Metals (2013-2017), President of the Materials Science Section of the Indian Science Congress (2009-10), and Vice President of the INAE (2015-21). The University of Kalyani and KaziNazrul University conferred DSc (hc) on him in 2017. He served as the Director of CSIR-CGCRI in Kolkata during 2010-2012 and of IIT Kanpur during 2012-2017. Professor Manna is now the 14th President of INAE since Jan 1, 2021, and is passionately involved in making INAE a national peer body for promoting engineering and technological self-reliance of India by translational research, innovation, entrepreneurship, and new technology.



Professor Madhu Dikshit

Vice President, INSA (Fellowship Affairs)

Former Director, CSIR-CDRI

Dr. Madhu Dikshit is an eminent Molecular Pharmacologist, with a profound focus on redox/NO biology and metabolism. Her pioneering work has impacted neutrophil biology, elucidating the intricate interplay of nitric oxide in modulating key facets such as differentiation, survival, and a myriad of actions including free radical generation, NETosis, chemotaxis, and microbicidal activity. She has meticulously explored the role of iNOS in metabolic regulations and insulin sensitivity, unraveling critical pathways that underpin physiological functions. Notably, she spearheaded endeavors in anti-thrombotic drug discovery at CDRI, culminating in the approval by the DCGI for Phase I clinical trial of a CDRI NCE.

Transitioning to the frontier of fatty liver disease at THSTI, Dr. Dikshit pioneered a multifaceted program encompassing drug and biomarker discovery. Dr. Dikshit led a DBT-AYUSH project to undertake rigorous preclinical and pharmacokinetic evaluations of the herbal extracts/formulations, seeking to mitigate SARS-CoV2 and its associated pathologies.

Dr. Dikshit has over 200 widely-cited papers and 25 reviews in esteemed peer-reviewed journals. Additionally, she has three books and eight patents to her credit. Moreover, Dr. Dikshit has mentored aspiring scholars, having supervised 37 Ph.D. candidates, 10 MD theses, and a cadre of graduate students. Through her guidance, she continues to ignite the flames of curiosity and excellence, shaping the future landscape of scientific inquiry.



Professor Avinash Kumar Agarwal

*S.B.I. Endowed Chair Professor
and JC Bose National Fellow
IIT Kanpur*

Prof. Avinash Kumar Agarwal obtained his B.E. (Mech. Engg., 1994) from Malviya Regional Engineering College, Jaipur, and MTech. (Energy, 1996) and Ph.D. (Energy, 1999) from Indian Institute of Technology Delhi. After his Postdoctoral Fellowship (1999-2001) stint at the Engine Research Center, University of Wisconsin, Madison, U.S.A., he returned to India in 2001 and joined the Department of Mechanical Engineering, Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur, where he is now serving as S.B.I. Endowed Chair Professor. He was a Visiting Professor at the University of Loughborough, U.K., Photonics Institute, University of Vienna, Austria, Han yang University, South Korea, and Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology, South Korea.

Prof. Agarwal has published more than 290 peer-reviewed international journal and conference papers, 45 edited books, 75 book chapters, and has 10100+ Scopus and 15800+ Google Scholar citations. He is Associate Principal Editor of "FUEL," Editor-in-Chief of Journal of Energy and Environmental Sustainability, and Associate Editor of "ASME Journal of Energy Resources Technology," International Journal of Vehicle Systems Modelling and Testing and the Journal of the Institute of Engineers (Series C), and editorial board member of IMechE International Journal of Engine Research. He has edited "Handbook of Combustion" (5 Volumes; 3168 pages), published by Wiley V.C.H., Germany, which is the most updated compilation on combustion in the world. For his outstanding contributions, Prof. Agarwal is conferred upon Sir JC Bose National Fellowship (2019) by SERB, Clarivate Analytics India Citation Award-2017 in Engineering and Technology, Prestigious Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize (2016) in Engineering Sciences, Rajib Goyal Prize in Physical Sciences (2015); NASI-Reliance Industries Platinum Jubilee Award (2012); INAE Silver Jubilee Young Engineer Award (2012); Dr. C. V. Raman Young Teachers Award (2011); S.A.E. International's Ralph R. Teeter Educational Award (2008); INSA Young Scientist Award (2007); UICT Young Scientist Award (2007); INAE Young Engineer Award (2005); DevendraShukla

Research Fellowship (2009-12), Poonam and PrabhuGoyal Endowed Chair Professorship (2013-16), S.B.I. Endowed Chair Professorship (2018-21) at I.I.T. Kanpur; AICTE Career Award for Young Teachers (2004); DST Young Scientist Award (2002); and DST BOYSCAST Fellowship (2002). He is an elected Fellow of Society of Automotive Engineers International U.S.A (S.A.E; 2012) American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME; 2013), Indian National Academy of Engineering (INAE; 2015), International Society for Energy, Environment and Sustainability (ISEES; 2016), Royal Society of Chemistry (R.S.C; 2018), National Academy of Science Allahabad (NASI; 2018) and American Association for Advancement in Science (AAAS; 2020). He is also the founder of IIT Kanpur's Science and Technology Research Parks (Technopark@iitk; <http://www.technoparkiitk.com>)

Working Group



Course Co-ordinator :
Dr. Brajesh Pandey
Executive Director
Indian National Science of Academy,
New Delhi

Dr Pandey is a materials scientist having more than 20 years of experience in teaching and research. He has published 50 papers in peer-reviewed International Journals. Dr Pandey has worked on various fields including defect and defect induced structural and magnetic properties, mechanism of alloying of elements during ball milling. His work on nanoparticles synthesis and study of their structural and magnetic properties is well appreciated. His students worked on preparation of magnetic multilayers for data storage application and studied direction of orientation of magnetization on the surface of multilayers. Recently he started working in the area of synthesis of nanoparticles using biological methods and synthesized silver nanoparticles for biomedical applications. Three students have completed their PhD thesis under his supervision, while 2 are pursuing their PhD research under him.

He has been awarded Dr. Vikram Sarabhai National Award for Popularization of Science in 2018 for using demonstration in teaching especially in Physics. He has conducted more than 100 teacher's workshop for demonstration based classroom teaching. He is currently serving as the Executive Director of the Indian National Science Academy (INSA) since June 2023.



Course Co-ordinator :
Professor Jayanta Kumar Singh
Dept. Chemical Engineering, IIT Kanpur

Prof. Jayant K. Singh is the Poonam and Prabhu Goel Chair Professor (HAG) in the department of chemical engineering. He received his B.Tech in chemical engineering from IIT Kanpur in 1997. He subsequently completed his M.S. degree in computer science and engineering in 2002 and Ph.D. in chemical engineering, in 2004, from SUNY Buffalo, USA.

Dr. Singh's current research interest is in material modeling and development, machine learning, energy storage, selective adsorption of gases, and the development of novel molecular simulations tool. Dr. Singh has authored over 175 peer-reviewed articles in international journals of repute and holds 5 patents. He is a recipient of prestigious awards such as the NASI-Reliance Industries Jubilee Platinum Award, IChEHerdillia Award, SERB STAR Award, JSPS Invitation Fellowship, Alexander von Humboldt Research Fellowship, Young Engineers of Indian National Academy of Engineering, IChEAmar Dye Chem Award, BRNS Young Scientist Award and DST-BOYSCAST Fellowship. He is also an elected fellow of the Indian National Academy of Engineering and National Academy of Science, India. Dr. Singh has guided 16 PhDs and 37 Masters, and 33 post-doctoral students. Dr. Singh is currently an associate editor of the Journal of Chemical Engineering Communications and serves on the advisory board of ACS Chemical Engineering Data, ACS Omega, Fluid Phase Equilibria. He is the founder of Prescience Insilico Pvt Ltd., which specializes in accelerating drug and material Prescience Insilico Pvt Ltd., which specializes in accelerating drug discovery, and inventor of Bhu-Parikshak a handheld soil sensing tool.



Sh Sunil Zokarkar

*Deputy Executive Director (Finance & Administration)-I
Indian National Science Academy, New Delhi
INSA Co-ordinator LEADS-2024*

Sunil Zokarkar is currently serving as Deputy Executive Director - I (Finance & Administration) and Appellate Authority in the Indian National Science Academy, New Delhi. He has done a master's in business administration with a specialization in finance and a master's in commerce with specialization in accounts and taxation. He started his career in the banking sector and served various organisations namely M.P. Agro Morarji Fertilizers, Continental Aviation and Optel Telecommunications Limited (a joint venture of M.P. State Electronics Development Corporation & Fujitsu Ltd, Japan). He joined INSA in 2002 and has been looking after the financial, administrative and estate matters of the academy. He can be reached through sunilzokarkar@gmail.com or cell no. 9868065182.



Dr. Gazala Hasan

Assistant Professor

National Centre for Good Governance

NCGG Co-ordinator LEADS-2024

Dr. Gazala Hasan is an accomplished Assistant Professor at the National Centre for Good Governance (NCGG) since 2005. With extensive experience in the social sector, she has contributed significantly to various research studies, trainings, and management development programmes.

Dr. Hasan holds a Master's degree in Commerce (M.Com.) and a Ph.D. in Commerce, from Jamia Millia Islamia University in New Delhi. Her academic background provides her with a strong foundation in the field of commerce and its application to public policy and governance. Additionally, she has completed a Direct Trainer Skills (DTS) course from LBSNAA (Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration) in Mussoorie, enhancing her skills as an effective trainer and facilitator.

As the coordinator of the NCGG Internship Programme, Dr. Hasan plays a crucial role in providing aspiring individuals with valuable work experience and professional development opportunities in the field of public policy and governance. This programme aims to groom the next generation of leaders by exposing them to practical aspects of governance and policy-making.

Furthermore, Dr. Hasan serves as the nodal officer of the National Good Governance Webinar Series 2022-23. These webinars focus on showcasing the Prime Minister's Award Winning Initiatives, aiming to broaden skills, disseminate best practices, and promote the replication of successful governance models. Her role as a nodal officer involves organizing and coordinating these webinars to ensure their effectiveness and impact.

Dr. Gazala Hasan serves as the Course Coordinator for the Leadership Development Programme in Science and Technology (LEADS), representing the National Centre for Good Governance (NCGG). She plays a pivotal part in facilitating the development of future leaders in the scientific community, working closely with the Indian National Science Academy (INSA). With her expertise and dedication, Dr. Hasan spearheads initiatives aimed at preparing scientists for leadership roles and challenges within the Indian science ecosystem. Her collaborative approach brings together eminent speakers, scientists, and industry leaders to share insights, best practices, and guidance for the advancement of science and technology leadership in the country.

Dr. Gazala Hasan's multifaceted expertise in the social sector, research, training, and programme coordination makes her a valuable asset to the National Centre for Good Governance. Her commitment to advancing good governance practices and her dedication to fostering professional development among aspiring individuals exemplify her contributions to the field of public policy and governance.



Professor Chandra Shekhar Sharma

Associate Professor, IIT Hyderabad

Dr. Chandra Shekhar Sharma is an Associate Professor in the Department of Chemical Engineering at the Indian Institute of Technology, Hyderabad. His research interests are Carbon based hierarchical materials, Nature inspired polymer functional surfaces, Electrospun polymer and carbon nanofibers and Carbon-MEMS. He has received several awards, including the NASI Young Scientist Platinum Jubilee Award (2017), SERB Indo-U.S. Fellowship (2016), IEI Young Engineer Award (2016), DST Inspire Faculty Award (2015), DST Young Scientist Award (2015), INAE Innovative Project Award (2011), Gandhian Young Technological Innovation Award (2014 & 2015) and IITK Excellence Award for Social Service. Dr. Sharma has more than 60 peer-reviewed publications with more than 700 citations in reputed international journals, including Carbon, Langmuir, ACS Applied Materials and Interfaces, Small and Electrochimica Acta. He has filed 11 national and international patent applications and four book chapters to his credit. Dr. Sharma has guided 2 Ph.D. and 7 M.Tech. students as of now and presently supervising 12 Ph.D. students. Most of his research works including (i) electrospun nanofibers based sanitary napkins for feminine hygiene and (ii) candle soot derived carbon as anode material for powering electric vehicles lithium ion battery, (iii) Jamun seed derived activated carbon for fluoride removal from drinking water were recognized as important by Elsevier and received worldwide media attention. Dr. Sharma has also incubated a start-up company, M/s Restyro Technologies Pvt. Ltd. to commercialize some of the technologies developed in his lab including recycling of polystyrene waste using orange peel and nanofibers based feminine sanitary napkins. Both of these innovations has won several Gold Medals at International level.



Professor Rajendra Dhaka

*Associate Professor
IIT Delhi*

Rajendra S. Dhaka Department of Physics, Indian Institute of Technology Delhi
Biodata: Rajendra S. Dhaka is currently working as an Associate Professor at the physics department of Indian Institute of Technology Delhi, and Immediate past Chairperson of the Indian National Young Academy of Science (INYNAS). He has received M.Sc. and Ph. D. degrees in Physics from University of Rajasthan Jaipur, and UGC-DAE CSR Indore, respectively. He worked as postdoctoral research fellow at Max Planck Institute for Microstructure Physics, Halle, Germany and at the Ames Laboratory, US DOE, Iowa State University, Ames, USA. He then spent more than a year at Paul Scherrer Institut-Swiss Light Source, Villigen, Switzerland as scientific collaborator. In early 2014, he joined at the physics department of IIT Delhi and involved in teaching, research, and administrative duties. His research interests are in magnetic materials, complex oxides, quantum materials and sodium-ion batteries. He authored around 110 refereed journal papers having >3200 citations and 31 h-index. Dr. Dhaka is recipient of various awards and fellowships: INSA Medal for Young Scientists 2015 in Physics, DAE Young Achiever Award (YAA)-2018, Satya Murthy Memorial Award in Physics for young scientists-2020 by Indian Physics Association, “Veena Arora early career Faculty research award-2020” at IIT Delhi, SERB Early Career Research Award-2016, DAE Young Scientist Research Award (YSRA)-2015, Young Faculty Incentive Fellowship, at IIT Delhi (2014), Indo-Australia Early and Mid-career Researchers (EMCR) Fellowship-2017, INSA-DFG Fellowship-2019, under International Exchange of Scientists Programme. He is life member of the National Academy of Sciences India (NASI), Materials Research Society of India (MRSI), Neutron Scattering Society of India (NSSI), and Indian Physics Association. More details can be found at: <http://web.iitd.ac.in/~rsdhaka/>



Professor Bhabani K Satapathy

Professor, IIT Delhi

Dr. Bhabani K. Satapathy did his Ph.D. from IIT Delhi in the area of polymer composites and specifically on the tribological aspects of composites for automotive braking applications. He subsequently pursued his research career as a Postdoctoral fellow at Leibniz Institute of Polymer Research Dresden (IPF Dresden) and in Mechanics of Functional Materials (MfM) group of Institute of Material Science and Technology at Friedrich Schiller University Jena, Germany. He also has an M. Tech. degree in Polymer Science and Engineering from IIT Delhi. His main research interests are on phase behaviour, tribology and fracture mechanics of polymer based blends, composites, block copolymers and allied materials. He has more than 90 publications in international journals and about 40 contributions in seminars/conferences and workshops.

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About INSA

The Indian National Science Academy was established in January 1935 with the object of promoting science in India and harnessing scientific knowledge for the cause of humanity and national welfare. The foundation of the Academy, earlier known as the National Institute of Sciences of India (NISI), was the outcome of joint endeavours of several organizations and individuals and the Indian Science Congress Association (ISCA) playing a leading role in this regard.

Towards the end of 1930, the then Government of India wrote to various State (then provincial) Governments, Scientific Departments, Learned Societies, Universities and the ISCA seeking their opinion on the desirability of forming a National Research Council which would adhere to and cooperate with the International Research Council and its affiliated Unions. This period witnessed the visit of Sir Richard Gregor, the Editor of Nature for discussions with the Editor of Current Science for the promotion of an Indian Academy of Sciences. The proposal was considered by various eminent scientists whose views regarding the composition and functioning of such a national council were put up in the form of resolution to the ISCA during its Pune Session. A special meeting of ISCA was held in Mumbai in January 1934 to consider the scheme. In response to the plea made by the President of the ISCA, Professor MN Saha in support of an Indian Academy of Sciences on the model of the Royal Society, London, the General Committee of the ISCA unanimously accepted the proposal for the formation of a national scientific society. The Committee formed an 'Academy Committee', which was requested to submit a detailed report for consideration at the next session of the ISCA. The committee submitted the report in January 1935 incorporating (i) the aims and objects of the national scientific society to be formed; (ii) draft constitution; (iii) names of 125 Foundation Fellows selected by a Special Committee of Specialists; and (iv) names of 25 scientists as members of the provisional Council of Academy. The report of the Academy Committee was placed by Dr LL Fermor (President, 22nd Session, ISCA) before a Special Meeting of the Joint Committee on January 3, 1935. The recommendations of the Academy Committee were accepted by unanimous resolution by the ISCA and the foundation of the National Institute of Sciences of India as an all India body of scientists was thus laid. An inaugural meeting of the National Institute of Sciences of India (NISI) was held on January 7, 1935 under the Chairmanship of Dr JH Hutton (President, 23rd Session, ISCA) in Calcutta, and the Inaugural Address was delivered by the first President of NISI, Dr LL Fermor. The Institute, thus, started functioning with its Headquarters at the Asiatic Society of Bengal, 1 Park Street, Calcutta, from that day.

The issue of the Government recognizing the NISI as the representative body of the scientists was taken up after ten years of its foundation. After due deliberations and discussions, it decided to recognise the National Institute as the premier scientific society representing all branches of science in India in October 1945. The Headquarters

moved over to Delhi in May 1946, and the Government commenced providing increased grants to meet expenses on travel, publications, research fellowships, and for allocating grants-in-aid to other scientific societies for bringing out their publications. A capital grant for the Headquarters building was also sanctioned in 1948 by the Government. The foundation stone of the building was laid by Pt Jawaharlal Nehru, the then Prime Minister of India, on April 19, 1948. The Office of the NISI moved to its present premises on Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg, New Delhi in 1951. It was designated as the adhering organization in India to the International Council for Science (ICSU) on behalf of the Government of India in January 1968.

The name of the National Institute of Sciences of India was changed to the Indian National Science Academy (INSA) in February 1970 and now it is a professional body under the Department of Science and Technology (DST).

OBJECTIVES

- (a) Promotion of scientific knowledge in India including its practical application to problems of national welfare.
- (b) Coordination among Scientific Academies, Societies, Institutions, Government Scientific Departments and Services.
- (c) To act as a body of scientists of eminence for the promotion and safeguarding of the interests of scientists in India and to present internationally the scientific work done in the country.
- (d) To act through properly constituted National Committees, in which other learned academies and societies may be associated, for undertaking scientific work of national and international importance which the Academy may be called upon to perform by the public and by the Government.
- (e) To publish such proceedings, journals, memoirs and other publications as may be found desirable.
- (f) To promote and maintain liaison between Science and Humanities.
- (g) To secure and manage funds and endowments for the promotion of Science.
- (h) To perform all other acts that may assist in, or be necessary for the fulfillment of the above-mentioned objectives of the Academy.



