

**Ms. Shailya Verma** is an Integrated PhD student who has just completed five years at NCBS. The Integrated PhD programme at NCBS is highly competitive, with a rigorous three-round selection process that typically selects 1 in every 1000 applicants. These students all share the potential to not only excel in research, but also to make significant contributions to science nationally and internationally. Shailya was one such student, and she has not only met but exceeded the high expectations we have for our IntPhD students.

Under the guidance of Prof Sowdhamini of our Centre, Shailya has become an expert in different areas of computation biology. Not only has she become the go-to person for sequence searches, phylogeny, homology modelling, protein-protein docking, she has established powerful pipelines to perform large scale virtual screening. In NCBS, we provide an open atmosphere to nurture the creativity and talent of our PhD and IPhD students. Sure enough, Shailya has wisely exploited this environment to supplement her computational skills with wet-lab methodology such as protein expression, purification, site-directed mutagenesis, cell-based function-validation assays and NMR experiments as well. In each of these areas, she has effectively collaborated and learnt the techniques. In most of these projects, she has been the primary driver. These are demonstrated by high-quality publications in International Journals such as *Biology Direct*, *Computational Structural Biotechnology Journal* and *Current Research in Structural Biology*.

Overall, I am entirely convinced of Shailya's potential and whole-heartedly support her application for the **Sun Pharma Science Foundation Science Scholar Awards** under the Category of *Pharmaceutical Sciences*.

Please feel free to write to me if you have any queries.

With best regards

Sincerely You



Prof. Rajesh K Ladher  
Dean of Academics

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