

सीसीएमबी CSIR CCMB

कोशिकीय एवं आणविक जीवविज्ञान केन्द्र
(वैज्ञानिक तथा औद्योगिक अनुसंधान परिषद)
उप्पल रोड, हैदराबाद - 500007, भारत.



डॉ. विनय कुमार नंदिकूरी
निदेशक

CENTRE FOR CELLULAR AND MOLECULAR BIOLOGY
(Council of Scientific & Industrial Research)
Uppal Road, Hyderabad - 500007, India

Dr. Vinay Kumar Nandicoori
Director

Letter of Justification

18.08.2023

It gives me immense pleasure to nominate **Dr. Sangita Mukhopadhyay** for 'The Sun Pharma Science Foundation Research Awards, 2023 in Medical Sciences-Basic Research'. She has made significant original scientific contributions towards understanding the host's response to *M. tuberculosis* infection and designing of immunomodulators which has lots of implications in human health. She has published more than 70 research papers in high impact peer reviewed International Journals. Her laboratory is well funded by Grants from various agencies like TWAS (Italy), DBT, DST-SERB, CSIR and ICMR and guided several PDF and PhD students.

Based on her research publications and my personal assessment, currently Dr Mukhopadhyay is one of the most successful and creative scientists in the areas of immunology and infection biology (Tuberculosis [TB]) research in India. She has several publications in high impact and prestigious international journals like *Journal of Immunology*, *EMBO Molecular Medicine*, *Blood*, *PLoS Pathogens*, *Journal of Biological Chemistry*, *Immunology*, *Immunobiology*, *European Journal of Immunology* etc. Her excellent training and strong background combined with her perseverance and expertise makes her a valuable asset for the scientific community. Not only Dr. Mukhopadhyay's research has led to several high-impact publications but many National and International patents. I am very much impressed with her work on host-directed immunotherapy which is a very promising area for development of effective therapeutics against TB because since the discovery of INH in the 1940s, no effective anti-mycobacterial drugs has been commercially available making the tuberculosis a huge public burden especially with the emergence of MDR/XDR strains. To desist convergent adaptive evolution of the pathogen, host-directed therapy appears to be a futuristic and an attractive alternative to drug-based therapeutic strategy to control tuberculosis. She is also recipient of prestigious Fellowships like **TATA Innovation Fellowship and J C Bose Fellowship** as well as many **National and International** awards. She is an elected Fellow of the National Academy of Sciences, Indian National Science Academy and Indian Academy of Sciences. Also, her recent publication of identification of a novel biologic anti-inflammatory molecule that inhibits mast cells is effective to treat inflammation and tissue injury which is recently being explored by BCIL and NC TRAC for commercialization. Her research has been highlighted in the Hindu and Vigyanprasar Government Web portal (<https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/health/novel-mechanism-may-lead-to-better-tb-control/article6764393.ece> and <http://vigyanprasar.gov.in/isw/A-new-boost-to-anti-tb-crusade.html>)

During her tenure at CDFD, Dr. Mukhopadhyay consistently demonstrated outstanding leadership skills, strategic thinking, and an unwavering commitment to achieving Institutional goals. She consistently proves to be excellent leader and a team worker. Furthermore, Dr. Mukhopadhyay is an exceptional communicator, adept at building strong relationships with co-workers at all levels. Her interpersonal skills, coupled with her ability to motivate and inspire teams, create a positive and collaborative work environment that fosters creativity and drives results and this is well reflected in several inter-institutional collaborative projects bringing in diverse expertise for successful execution of the projects.

Based on her seminal contributions in Pharmaceutical Science Research, I am delighted to endorse her nomination for the prestigious 'The Sun Pharma Science Foundation Research Awards, 2023 in Medical Sciences-Basic Research'.

[Vinay Nandicoori]
Dr. Vinay Kumar Nandicoori डॉ. विनय कुमार नंदिकूरी
Director निदेशक

फोन Phone : (का) (Off) : + 91-40-27160789
CSIR - Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology
सोएसआईआर, कोशिकीय एवं आणविक जीवविज्ञान केन्द्र
Uppal Road, Habsiguda, Hyderabad-500007
उप्पल रोड, हब्सीगुडा, हैदराबाद-500007

फैक्स Fax : + 91-40-27160252
27160591, 27160311

ई-मेल E-mail : director@ccmb.res.in
वेब साइट Website : <https://www.ccmb.res.in>