

**Professor Aniruddha B. Pandit**

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J.C. Bose National Fellow

UGC Research Scientist, Professor

Vice Chancellor

**JUSTIFICATION FOR NOMINATION**

October 21, 2021

I am delighted to nominate Prof. Padma V. Devarajan for the Sun Pharma Science Foundation Research Award in Pharmaceutical Sciences. She is a Professor in Pharmacy and currently Dean Research and Innovation and Head of the Incubation Centre at Institute of Chemical Technology (ICT) and also a Member of the Board of Governors at ICT. She was formerly Head of the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences and Technology at ICT. An academician with excellent leadership qualities, she excels as a Researcher and Innovator,

Over the past three decades she has made significant multi-dimensional contributions to both Human and Veterinary Healthcare, particularly in the field of Drug Delivery Systems and Point-of-Care diagnostics. Her directed efforts on seamless integration of Science with Technology to arrive at Innovative solutions of high societal relevance has resulted in many success stories. Her group was the first to demonstrate the role of nanoparticle shape in spleen targeted drug delivery, and based on this finding a technology is licensed for treating theileriosis, a splenic infection in cattle. Targeting oral nanocarriers to the lungs through lymph mediated delivery is yet another important contribution for tuberculosis and other lung afflictions. A technological breakthrough is the In-Situ Nanotechnology (ISN) which is radical, simple, scalable and affordable. She has demonstrated the ISN technology for anticancer drugs, malaria, HIV, TB as well as veterinary infections. The ISN technology is licensed to industry and product in advanced stage of development. Her foray into the less trodden area of Veterinary Healthcare is highly laudable and an antibiotic free plug forming teat dip for Dry cow mastitis is licensed and recently commercialized in India and Europe.

She also engages in scholarly writing and apart from peer reviewed publications in international journals of repute, has edited/authored two books on Targeted Drug Delivery. The global recognition which her scientific findings have received, substantiate the importance and relevance of her contributions. Importantly she needs to be acclaimed for the determination with which she is working on affordable yet highly innovative interventions for healthcare. She is probably among few academicians whose conversion ratio of patents filed to technologies licensed is very high. She has licensed over 6 IPR enabled technologies to the Pharmaceutical and Veterinary Industry.

She is a recipient not only of Research Awards (VASVIK, OPPI, APTI, AAIPS) but also National Awards for Innovation, including the Bengaluru Nano Award for the ISN technology and the IPA-ACG-Scitech Innovation Award, endorsing her Innovative capabilities. The recognition as Outstanding Woman Scientist Award of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, Government of India, for her valuable contributions in Veterinary healthcare demonstrate her diverse skills.

Prof. Devarajan is highly committed and passionate about any activity she undertakes. A great motivator she disseminates these traits to her students and has led her team to great heights in Research and Innovation. As a scientist she enables conversion of wealth into knowledge and as an Innovator conversion of knowledge into wealth, the perfect blend needed to take science to society.

I recommend Prof. Devarajan very strongly for the Sun Pharma Science Foundation Research Award, which she truly deserves.

Prof. A.B. Pandit

**VICE CHANCELLOR**  
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