



# जीव विज्ञान संस्थान INSTITUTE OF LIFE SCIENCES

(An Autonomous Institute of the Department of Biotechnology, Govt. of India)



## JUSTIFICATION FOR NOMINATION (Sun Pharma Research Award)

I believe that Dr. Chauhan has very impressive professional accomplishments to be considered favorably for this award. I know that his training, intellect, his passion, and achievements are exceptional and make him an ideal candidate for this award. I provide below some of the glimpses of his career to justify my nomination.

Dr. Chauhan has an excellent track record in publishing during his Ph.D., postdoc, and independent faculty career. To date, Dr. Chauhan has published 38 articles in high-profile journals including Molecular Cell, Cancer Research, Developmental Cell, Nature Communications, and EMBO journal. The total number of citations for his work is 10239 with an i10-index of 30 and an h-index of 23. One more notable asset of Dr. Chauhan is the implication of his research contributions to various research fields, including cell biology, microbiology, infectious diseases, and cancer biology.

In 2015, he joined the Institute of Life Sciences, Bhubaneswar, India as a Scientist-D. He got qualified for three prestigious fellowships, Ramanujan Fellowship, Ramalingaswami Fellowship, and Wellcome-DBT India Alliance. Dr. Chauhan has demonstrated excellent leadership skills and created a platform for interaction of autophagy biologists in India, now formerly called "Autophagy India Network." Recently, he is selected as one of the first EMBO global investigators by EMBO, Germany. In last few years, he has conducted several international and national conference to propagate and popularize science in India including two EMBO conferences.

His lab has produced highly mechanistic translationally oriented groundbreaking studies published in the journal of very high reputation. He has found new mechanisms of cancer progression and identified newer targets for cancer therapy (EMBO J, 2018; Cancer Research, 2021). Also, his lab is in forefront of understanding infectious and inflammatory diseases. They identified novel mechanisms of the genesis of autoimmune diseases (Molecular Cell, 2019; EMBO Reports, 2020) and also discovered a new therapeutic target that could be effective against multiple viruses including SARS-CoV2, ZIKA, JEV, and CHIKV (EMBO Reports, 2021). All of these studies have immense translational values.



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Thus, I believe he is a strong candidate for Sun Pharma Research Award.

As a young scientist, for his outstanding contribution to science, he is recently awarded the prestigious R National Bioscience Award for Career Development from DBT. In the year 2020, he was elected as a fellow of the National Academy of Sciences (NASI).

Dr. Chauhan is also an outstanding mentor. Currently, he is guiding 6 Ph.D. and 6 postdoc students and several research scholars. His student's outstanding accomplishments were also well recognized. His Students are awarded Sun Pharma Scholar Award, NASI-Young Scientist award, INSA-Young Scientist award, Cell-Press TNQ award among several others.

In summary, Dr. Chauhan has a superb track record in biomedical research coupled with a pleasing personality and collegiality. He has a stellar motivation and passion for research and education. With all stated accomplishments, he has emerged as one the scientific leaders in the field. Therefore, I strongly recommend Dr. Chauhan's application for this award.

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