



# जीव विज्ञान संस्थान INSTITUTE OF LIFE SCIENCES

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

**Dr. B. Ravindran**

Professor Emeritus  
(Former Director)

**Citation on the outstanding research work done by Dr Bidyut K Das**

## **SCB Medical College, Cuttack**

*Excellence in clinical research amongst clinicians who spend significant time in patient care in government medical schools (particularly those under state governments) has been suboptimal in India. It is in this context I rate the research contributions of Dr Bidyut Das from SCB Medical College, Cuttack as exemplary. Unlike most Physicians who pursue DM for advancing their clinical skill sets after completing MD, Dr Das chose to specialise in basic science by doing a PhD in Immunology. This training has allowed him to make significant contributions in the field of autoimmune diseases and clinical Immunology. A developing country like India is known for its very high prevalence of infectious diseases that contribute dominantly to disease burden. A closer scrutiny of his research publications clearly brings out the parallel strength of Dr Bidyut Das in basic immunology as well as in clinical aspects of autoimmune diseases. For Dr Das, a physician in a state medical college to be at the forefront of clinical immunology research and generate several extra mural grants from National and International agencies including taking part in a consortium of rheumatologists in India are clearly noteworthy. He has been working on parasitic diseases like filariasis and malaria for close 25 years. His publications indicate his depth of involvement in understanding various facets of two important public health problems which are endemic in the state of Odisha: facets regarding clinical manifestations, immunological parameters and genetic mutations in the pathogenesis of plasmodium malaria and lymphatic filariasis. He subsequently developed keen interest in autoimmune diseases, notably lupus, on which he worked extensively in the last 10 yrs. His numerous publications in international journals bears testimony to his productivity. One of his significant contributions on Lupus has been his demonstration of factors like pathogenic infections and Vit D3 deficiency are in the pathogenesis of autoimmune disorders and their relevance in tropical countries. Blending immunological understanding about infectious diseases, such as malaria and filariasis, in the context of autoimmune diseases such as rheumatoid arthritis and systemic lupus erythematosus has allowed Dr Das to investigate and offer insights into the paradigm of 'Hygiene Hypothesis' in the Indian population. Dr Das has been reviewing manuscripts for nearly 23 prominent International clinical journals like Lancet and Lupus as well as basic science journals such as Gene, Human Immunology, Blood etc., which stands testimony to his outstanding research contributions being recognised by the global science community. He has received numerous awards from across the country for his contribution in the field of parasitic and autoimmune disorders.*

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