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25 August 2023

**To
Committee for Sun Pharma Science Foundation
Research Awards and Scholar Awards**

Dear Committee members

I hereby certify that the research work provided by the applicant, Mr Abhishek Sharma who is a joint student with Prof Sudhir Krishna, has actually been carried out in my laboratory in NCBS.

Abhishek has analysed the evolutionary drifts of dengue virus, through multiple years. He had chosen one of the non-structural proteins for this detailed study to show that simultaneous mutations confer a stability advantage to the protein, whereas single mutations are observed to be less stable through computational studies. This work has been published in *Molecular Biology and Evolution* where he is the first author.

Abhishek has also participated in a timely project on drug discovery during COVID times, starting from NS1 of the virus as the target protein. This virtual screening work was pursued by searching in previously FDA-approved drugs and small molecules of known origin. He is the first author in this publication.

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

With best regards

Sincerely Yours

R. Sowdhamini

Prof Ramanathan Sowdhamini