Recent Awards & Honours earned by Scientists at the DBT’s NCCS, Pune

1. Dr. Arvind Sahu, scientist at the DBT's National Centre for Cell Science (DBT-NCCS), Pune in Pune, has been awarded the prestigious J.C. Bose National Fellowship, in recognition for his outstanding performance in the field of immunology.

Dr. Sahu’s research at the DBT-NCCS over two decades has been specially focused on complement biology. This award is given by the Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB) of the Department of Science and Technology (DST), Government of India.

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Scientist Awardee: Dr. Arvind Sahu (arvindsahu@nccs.res.in)
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Dr. Janesh Kumar and his group’s research, carried out at the DBT-National Centre for Cell Science (DBT-NCCS) in Pune, and published in the international journal, *Nature Structural and Molecular Biology* recently, is among the top 5% of all research outputs scored by Altmetric.

Using a technique called cryo-electron microscopy, Dr. Janesh Kumar and his group at NCCS captured the first three dimensional views of a protein called GluD1 receptor, thus successfully decoding its molecular structure. These findings were published in *Nature Structural and Molecular Biology*. These special receptors play crucial roles in motor coordination and motor learning, high-frequency hearing and are also key to many other brain functions. They are also linked to social and cognitive deficits and to neuronal disorders like schizophrenia and cocaine addiction. Given that this molecule plays a key role in many brain functions, this discovery could lead to novel insights into the mechanisms behind a wide range of nervous system disorders and diseases.

**Link:** [https://www.nature.com/articles/s41594-019-0359-y](https://www.nature.com/articles/s41594-019-0359-y)

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3. Dr. Jomon Joseph, scientist at the DBT’s National Centre for Cell Science (DBT-NCCS) in Pune, has been elected as a member of the prestigious ‘Guha Research Conference’ (GRC).

The GRC, which is named after Bires Chandra Guha, is a scientific society set up by Indian scholars to develop the field of Biochemistry. This professional assemblage of distinguished scientists meets annually for extensive scientific discussion of their work in a stimulating atmosphere. Dr. Joseph was elected to this prestigious society in recognition of his extensive research and expertise in the field of cell biology.

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