

Brief CV



Prof. Rajiv K. Saxena

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Rajiv Krishna Saxena (born 1951 in Delhi) was selected a National Science Talent Scholar in 1967 and pursued his studies in Delhi University (BSc Hons Chemistry, 1970) and the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi (MSc Biochemistry 1973, and PhD 1977). He won numerous awards for brilliant academic performance, including Prof. TR Sheshadri award for topping the university merit list in Chemistry (Hons). He did his postdoctoral research work in the field of Immunology at the National Institutes of Health in USA and returned to India in 1984 to join the National Institute of Immunology as a core scientist. He later moved to the School of Life Sciences (SLS), Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) as an Associate Professor. He was appointed Professor (1992), Dean of the School of Life Sciences (2001) and Rector (Pro-vice chancellor / Vice-president) of JNU (2002-2005). In 1995 he was awarded the NII Senior Scientist oration and Gold Medal. Prof. Saxena spent 2 years as a Visiting Professor at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine (1990-1992), and was later awarded the prestigious Senior Fellowship of the US National Research Council (NRC) to work at NIOSH, Centre of Disease Control, USA (1998-2000). Later he spent 2 years (2005-2007) as a senior NRC fellow at the US Environmental Protection Agency, North Carolina. Prof. Saxena was elected fellow of Indian Science Academy, Bangalore (1992), National Academy of Science (1996) and the Indian National Science Academy (2002). He was awarded the prestigious JC Bose National Research Fellowship in 2013. He has been the recipient of about 22 national and international research grants and heads an active research group at the Faculty of Life Sciences and Biotechnology (FLSB), SAU. Currently he has focused his research on understanding the interactions of nano-particles with cells and tissues, in delineating the mechanism of erythrocyte loss in a variety of anemic conditions and in understanding the effect of air-borne particulate pollutants on lung immunity and susceptibility to diseases. He has so far published 150 research papers in national and international journals and guided 22 Ph.D. students. As an OSD, Academics and Planning in the South Asian University (SAU) Project Office, (2008-2011) he helped prepare the Rules, Regulations, Academic Structure and Business Plan of SAU till the approval of the documents by the SAARC Summit in Bhutan (2010). He was invited to join the Faculty of Life Sciences and Biotechnology (FLSB) of SAU as a Professor and Dean in June 2011, and was appointed first Vice President (VP) of SAU in Dec. 2011. He gave up the positions of Dean, FLSB and VP, SAU in Feb 2016 and currently serves as Professor Emeritus in FLSB, SAU.