

Intellectual Property advocacy in the fields of:

- IP Infrastructure
- IP Valuation
- IP Policy
- Technology Transfer
- Patent Law
- Licensing
- Copyright
- Collaborations
- M & A
- Innovation Research
- Data Management
- Balance for Rights & Obligations

JUL 2022

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Editorial

Congratulations to Dr. D. Srinivasa Reddy!

Dr. D. Srinivasa Reddy merits congratulations from all of us not only on his appointment by CSIR as the Director of IICT, Hyderabad (Indian Institute of Chemical Technology), but also for holding the simultaneous charge as Director of IIIM, Jammu (Indian Institute of Integrative Medicine) as well as the CDRI, Lucknow (Central Drug Research Institute).



While he is now elevated to the Chair at IICT, earlier held by Dr. S. Chandrasekhar who has become the Secretary, DST, Dr. Srinivasa Reddy was associated with NCL, National Chemical Laboratory, Pune from 2010 to 2020, lately a Senior Principal Scientist before he was appointed Director of IIIM, Jammu and now, Director of IICT, Hyderabad. It is also heartening to note that he was mentored by Prof. Gaverdhan Mehta, an ex-colleague of mine (Dr. Gopakumar Nair) at NCL, Pune.

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Congratulations to Shri Pankaj R. Patel!

We are elated that our illustrious colleague Shri Pankaj R. Patel has been appointed as Director in RBI (Reserve Bank of India) Board for a period of four years. We congratulate Pankaj Bhai on this coveted elevation as a Director in the Central Board of RBI. While Shri Pankaj Patel is well-known as the Chairman of Zydus Lifesciences Limited, he is also on the Board of Governor of IIIM, Ahmedabad as well as IIM, Udaipur. He is also a member of Invest India, Mission Steering Group (MSG) and the DTAB (Drugs Technical Advisory Board), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.



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A brief CV of Dr. Srinivasa Reddy is worth perusing.

Dr. Srinivasa Reddy has more than 20 years of research experience in the synthesis of natural products/medicinal chemistry/drug discovery. Dr. Reddy is best known for his application oriented organic synthesis towards human wellbeing. He is also known for the application of “Silicon-switch approach” in medicinal chemistry. In addition, the work carried out by his group on crop protection is worth highlighting. He is an author of ~120 publications and an inventor in ~35 patents.

- Accomplished total synthesis of ~50 natural products of biological importance.
- One of the molecules (Licogliflozin) discovered by his team in industry is currently in human clinical trials (Phase-II), where he was a project leader.
- Has experience in coordinating multi-disciplinary teams as a PL.
- Acquired skills in designing novel small molecules and lead optimization.
- Experienced in planning and execution of projects (Govt. and Industry).
- Discovered an anti-diabetic lead molecule (along with Shantani Pvt Ltd, Pune).
- Out-licensed patent/technology (two nos.) developed by team at CSIR-NCL
- Identified Silinezolid with high brain:plasma ratio with a potential to treat brain infections.
- Identified of an antibiotic lead compound for treating food infections.
- Identified novel Insect Repellents – Further work is in progress.
- Developed a method to access enantiopure pheromones towards crop protection.
- Identified of novel Cladologs towards potent anti-malarial drug discovery.

Dr. Reddy received several recognitions including the prestigious Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Award (SSB) in Chemical Sciences and J. C. Bose National Fellowship by DST-SERB, Govt of India. He is also an editor of Bioorganic & Medicinal Chemistry Letters (BMCL), an Elsevier journal.

Awards/Recognitions

- J. C. Bose National Fellowship by SERB, DST, Govt. of India
- Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize in chemical sciences
- Fellow of the Indian Academy of Sciences, India (FASc)
- Fellow of the National Academy of Sciences, India (FNASc)
- NASI-Reliance Industries Platinum Jubilee Award in the field of physical sciences

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- Sun Pharma Research (Ranbaxy) Award in the field of pharmaceutical sciences
- OPPI (Organization of Pharmaceutical Producers of India) Scientist Award for contributions in pharmaceutical sciences
- Nominated member of the scientific body of Indian Pharmacopoeia, Govt. of India
- CRSI Bronze Medal in chemical science
- CDRI Award for Excellence in drug discovery research - chemical sciences
- Editor of Bioorganic & Medicinal Chemistry Letters (BMCL), an Elsevier journal

The fact that Dr. Srinivasa Reddy is currently leading three leading CSIR Research Laboratories, IICT, IIIM and CDRI speaks volumes about his lone status in India's "Research Horizon" as a "Lodestar", shining above all, but also serves us a cautionary note that there is acute dearth of exemplary research talent in India. We need to revamp our Science education curriculum to make it more attractive to the next generation. More and more talents are opting for the short-term goal of IT/ Software route for early employment rather than the long and (apparently) tedious rigorous route of Doctoral Research of 3 to 5 years, or more.

Indian Patent Office Public notice in respect of filing of sequence listing of nucleotides/amino acids compliant with WIPO Standard ST.26

Public notice in respect of filing of sequence listing of nucleotides/amino acids compliant with WIPO Standard ST.26

Office of CGPDTM, Mumbai
Govt. of India

17th June 2022

PUBLIC NOTICE
WIPO Standard ST.26

All Sequence Listings that are part of an international application filed on and after 1st July 2022 under the Patent Cooperation Treaty must be compliant with WIPO Standard ST.26.

"WIPO Sequence" is a free global software tool that enables patent applicants to prepare amino acid and nucleotide sequence listings compliant with WIPO Standard ST.26. For using this tool, please visit <https://www.wipo.int/standards/en/sequence/index.html>

It is further clarified that sequence listings compliant with WIPO ST.26 will be accepted by the Indian Patent Office in respect of national applications as well from 1st July 2022.

For any queries please write to sequencelisting-ipo@gov.in

Sd/-

Controller General of Patents, Designs & Trademarks

Source: <https://ipindia.gov.in/newsdetail.htm?802> and <https://www.wipo.int/standards/en/sequence/faq.html>

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Kerala High Court seeks Centre's response to invoke compulsory licensing of Covid vaccines

A Division Bench of the Kerala High Court on Tuesday asked the Centre to respond to a plea for invoking the compulsory licensing to allow other capable vaccine manufacturers to produce Covid vaccines.

The petition said that the scarcity of vaccines was mainly due to the inability of manufacturers of the vaccines to ramp up their production. All capable Indian companies could be allowed to produce Covid-19 vaccines by invoking the compulsory licensing system. This had been approved by the World Trade Organisation (WTO). The petition also pointed out that section 92 of the Act empowered the Central government to issue compulsory licenses subject to three conditions; a) there must be a national emergency; b) the requirement must be extremely urgent; c) it must be for public non-commercial use. A deadly virus, killing 4,000-plus Indians a day did qualify for all three conditions. So, India could invoke the section to issue compulsory licensing. India could even override patents on Pfizer and AstraZeneca and other vaccines.

Source: <https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/national/kerala-high-court-seeks-centres-response-to-invoke-compulsory-licensing-of-covid-vaccines/article34534257.ece>

The outcomes of the WTO Ministerial and impact on developing countries

The 12th Ministerial Conference (MC12) of the World Trade Organization (WTO) ended on 17 June 2022, with an outcome that included several multilaterally negotiated decisions on a series of key trade initiatives. The "Geneva package" adopted by the members includes a package on WTO response to emergencies including food security, pandemic, IPR, e-commerce and fisheries, among others.

In response to the pandemic and future such emergencies, the members adopted a ministerial declaration which includes a waiver of certain requirements under the WTO Agreement on Trade Related Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) regarding use of compulsory licenses to produce Covid 19 vaccines. It was agreed to temporarily waive Intellectual Property (IP) patents on Covid 19 vaccines without the consent of the patent holder for 5 years, so that they can more easily manufacture them domestically. It is a watered-down version of the original proposal made in 2000 by India and South Africa, who had wanted broader IP waivers on vaccines, treatments, and tests. By the end of 2022, WTO will take a call on whether to extend the waiver to production and supply of Covid 19 diagnostics and therapeutics.

Source: <https://www.financialexpress.com/defence/the-outcomes-of-the-wto-ministerial-and-impact-on-developing-countries/2576752/>