

Dr. Samir. K. Brahmachari, FNA, FASc, FNASc

Prof. Samir K. Brahmachari is Secretary, Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (DSIR), Govt. of India and Director General, Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, New Delhi—a chain of 37 laboratories across India.

Spearheading India's Functional Genomics Programme, Prof. Brahmachari has dovetailed the genetic diversity of the Indian population with the Indian core expertise in structural biology and computation to strategically position India on the global map of Genomics and he also leads the Indian Genome Variation Consortium project.

Prof. Brahmachari has initiated cutting edge developments in personal and predictive medicine and was the first to network a large number of clinicians and hospitals with CSIR to develop predictive medicine in India. He has undertaken major programmes in the area of Functional Genomics with special emphasis on Molecular Genetics of Neurological and Psychiatric Disorders; and Functional Genomics *in Silico*. His group has developed novel *in Silico* bioinformatics tools for genome analysis & annotation and to identify functional signature of hypothetical proteins and novel drug targets. It was the first to discover how human miRNA can target HIV genes and control virus replication, thus opening up new avenues of antiviral therapeutics. Prof. Brahmachari is closely associated with the Open Source Drug Discovery framework which will harness the collective minds of Indian scientists and initially focus on the Tuberculosis bacilli

Prof. Brahmachari's contribution to promoting industry-academia interactions through novel program of knowledge partnership is well recognized. He catalysed the setting up of *The Centre for Genomic Application*- a collaboration between a CSIR organization and IMM-The Chatterjee Group. TCGA is the first PPP in Life Sciences— a core - shared research facility that leverages diverse domain specializations and accesses competencies to provide high quality platform for research. He was the guiding spirit behind *Genomed*--- first-of-its-kind Indian alliance between a Government Institute and a

privately owned pharmaceutical company --dedicated to the study and new discoveries in the fields of Genomics, Pharmagenomics and Bioinformatics,

As an Advisor to Human Rights High Commission, Prof. Brahmachari has addressed issues of unethical exploitation of genetic resources of the Third World and championed the concept of benefit sharing by the populations that are part of the research endeavor as resources of genetic material. He has addressed issues of unethical exploitation of genetic resources of the Third World.

Dr. Brahmachari has over 130 publications in leading International Journals and has 5 patents and 10 software copyrights to his credit.

His academic brilliance and scientific leadership have been globally lauded. His many honours and awards include the INSA Young Scientists Award in 1979; Kani Medal (National Cancer Research Centre, Japan), 1981; Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Award (CSIR) 1990; FICCI Award, 1999; Millennium Medal (Indian Science Congress) 2000; Ranbaxy Award 2001; Prof. B.R. Ambedkar Centenary Award for Excellence in Biomedical Research (ICMR) 2005; J.C. Bose Medal (INSA) 2007; H. K. Firodia Awards For Excellence In Science and Technology (2007); Chemcon Award (2007); R. A. Mashelkar Medal (2007).

He is an elected member of the Human Genome Organization, (1991) and also an elected member of the HUGO Council, 2004. He has been elected to the fellowship of all the three National Academies in India. He is Member of various Task Force and Committees, of the Govt. of India and also abroad. He is Member, Expert Group on Human Rights and Biotechnology, United Nations; Council Member, FAOBMB, since 1997; and member Indo-European Commission S&T Steering Committee. He has been included in the Advisory Committee of the X-Prize in Genomics which consists of leading Genomics Scientists of the world.