

Prof. (Dr.) Rajender Singh Sangwan had his Masters (Biochemistry) & Ph.D. (Biochemistry) from Haryana Agricultural University (India) and carried out his Post Doctoral Research at Queens' University, Kingston (Canada). He also obtained a diploma in Bioinformatics from University of Singapore, with distinction and a Certificate in Yoga from University of Lucknow with first division score.

He has served (1986-2011) as a Scientist in CSIR-Central Institute of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants (Lucknow, India). While his work on fundamental phytochemical biology of medicinal plants includes several conceptual contributions, he has developed two *Chemotype Signature Ashwagandha Varieties* (first of its kind) that were released from Vigyan Bhawan on CSIR Foundation Day in 2009 and 2015. His work on secondary metabolism in medicinal plants, particularly Ashwagandha is globally acclaimed.

He has served in the scale of Secretary, Govt. of India, for more than 10 years (May 2012 to August 2022) as head of national academic/research institutions.

Besides, a scientist of national and international repute, he is an Institution Builder. **He established two new national R&D institutes and a university level academic institution under central government.** These include: DBT-Center of Innovative and Applied Bioprocessing (CIAB) as its founder CEO; DBT-National Agri-Food Biotechnology Institute (NABI) as its founding phase Executive Director; Academy of Scientific and Innovative Research (AcSIR), *an Institution of National Importance for higher education in science and engineering on the platform of CSIR's scientific prowess and research infrastructure* as its first Director/Vice Chancellor.

Through CIAB, he created and established a functional mission on Secondary Agriculture Bioprocessing (SAB) in the country in an institutional mode in India. This has led to many integrated secondary agriculture technologies and bioproducts with IPR and technology transfer to industry.

During his tenure of leadership at AcSIR, he developed AcSIR to be the largest institute of India with respect to the number of Ph.D. students on rolls (~6000) in science, technology, engineering and mathematical sciences (STEM). Also, he led AcSIR to achieve NIRF rank from none (in 2017) to 12th (in 2022) under research category,

establish several joint Ph.D. programmes with universities abroad, expanded number of academic centres from 40 to about 50 in more than 30 cities across the nation, associating R&D institutions beyond CSIR like R&D institutions under DST, ICMR, MoHFW, MoEF & state Governments.

He has more than 150 research publications in leading international journals, and 40 patents to his credit in the areas of phytochemical biology, secondary agriculture, nutraceuticals, functional foods and nutrient-fortified products. **Several of his technologies/patens have been transferred to industry.**

He has served/continue to serve as member several university Academic Councils/Planning Boards, Scientific Task Forces of central government R&D missions/programs as well as Institutional Scientific Advisory Committees and Governing Bodies.

He has been awarded **CSIR Young Scientist Award** (1993), **Indian Science Congress Award** (1998), **CSIR Technology Award** (2015). He is a Fellow of **Indian National Science Academy** (INSA), **National Academy of Science** (NASI) & **National Academy of Agricultural Sciences** (NAAS).

He has served as the Member of Subject Expert Committee (Agricultural Sciences) for the Govt. of India Science Awards, *Rashtriya Vigyan Puraskar viz. Vigyan Ratna, Vigyan Shree, Vigyan Yuva & Vigyan Team.*

He also holds honorary positions of Distinguished Visiting Professor at Maharshi Dayanand University (Rohtak) and Adjunct Professor, Guru Jambheshwar University of Science & Technology.

With effect from January 01, 2025, he has assumed the responsibility of leading the Raffles University as its Vice Chancellor/President.