

Upendra Sharma, PhD (Organic Chemistry), FRSC, Professor (AcSIR)

C-H Activation & Phytochemistry Laboratory

Chemical Technology Division

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RESEARCH FOCUS

Phytochemical Investigation of Medicinal Plants: Our group mainly focuses on scientific validation of traditional knowledge on plants where we isolate marker compounds, use them as standards for quality control, and evaluate the respective biological activities. Developing innovative approaches, including a) Replacing traditionally used organic solvents for targeted extraction with eco-friendly and reusable **Natural Deep Eutectic Solvents (NADES)**; b) Developing a **Chemomatrix** Data Base for quality assurance of medicinal plants & c) **Biochemomatrix** Approach for the identification of putative marker compounds, to achieve these targets is the main goal.

Synthesis of Bioactive Molecules via C-H Activation: One of the aims of our group is to develop green and efficient catalytic methods for synthesizing bioactive molecules *via* C-H activation/functionalization. Mainly we focus on the functionalization of *N*-heterocycles by employing novel catalytic techniques with an in-depth study of the reaction mechanism. Recently we have initiated work on atroposelective C-H activation.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

September 2021 to present	Principal Scientist, CSIR-IHBT, Palampur, India
September 2017 to August 2021	Senior Scientist, CSIR-IHBT, Palampur, India
September 2014 to August 2017	Scientist, CSIR-IHBT, Palampur, India
March 2014 to August 2014	Postdoc Fellow, KAIST, South Korea
May 2013 to March 2014	Young Scientist-DST Fast Track, IIT Bombay, India
November 2012 to May 2013	Research Assistant, IIT Bombay, India

EDUCATION

2012	Ph.D. (Organic Chemistry)	Awarded	GNDU, Amritsar/CSIR-IHBT, Palampur
2005	MSc. (Chemistry)	1 st Division	DAV Collage Jalandhar, GNDU, Amritsar
2002	B.Sc. (Non-Medical)	1 st Division	Himachal Pradesh University

AWARDS/FELLOWSHIPS/RECOGNITION

- NABL Assessor, ISO17025:2017 for testing (2024-)
- Involved in establishing and getting NABL accreditation of Chemical Technology Lab, CSIR-IHBT as per ISO17025:2017 for testing under Ayush Drug group (2025-2029)
- Master Trainer for Rastrya Karoyogi Jan Seva Programme (2025-)
- Member, Sports Promotion Board (SPB), CSIR (2025-)
- Fellow of Royal Society Chemistry (FRSC), London, UK.
- Life member of the Chemical Society of India
- Life Member of the Catalysis Society of India
- Life member of the Analytical Society of Analytical Scientists
- One Year Advance Promotion *i.e.*, Merit Promotion from Scientist to Senior Scientist
- Member, Early Career Advisory Board, *Science of Synthesis* (2021-2024)
- Member, Early Career Advisory Board, *Asian Journal of Organic Chemistry* (2020-)
- Member, Editorial Board, *Scientific Reports* (2024-)
- Manjushree Pal Memorial Award from Ethanopharmacology Society of India, Kolkata (2017)
- Thieme Chemistry Journal Award (2016)

- D S Kothari Postdoc Fellowship (2012)
- Fast Track Young Scientist project for three years (2012)
- Postdoc Fellowship KAIST, South Korea (2014)
- CSIR Junior/Senior Research Fellowship (2007, 2009)

HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

20 students awarded PhD degrees and 02 submitted theses.

08 Postdoc/Research Associates, 26 project assistants, and 35 MSc/Mpharma trainees worked in the lab.

CSIR/INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- Member, Technical and Purchase Committee (2019-)
- Chairman, Students' Selection Committee in Chemical Sciences (2025-)
- Member, Publication Committee (2023-)
- DAC Member, Ph.D. students enrolled in AcSIR, Ghaziabad-201002, India
- Member, Students' selection committee in Chemical Sciences (2015-2023)
- Member, Lab Health, Safety and Environment Management Committee (2023-25)

PROJECT HANDLED: 30

Completed: 20

Current: 10

External Funded: 11

RESEARCH PUBLICATION: 217

Patents: 5

Citation: >7129

h-index: 42

i-10 index: 158

Book Edited: 01

Book Chapter: 12

Popular Hindi Article: 11

Invited/Oral Presentations: 42

REPRESENTATIVE PUBLICATIONS IN LAST THREE YEARS

Natural Product Chemistry	Organic Synthesis
Food Res Int. 2026, 225, 117931.	Chem Commun. 2025; 61: 17416.
Sep Purif Technol. 2025; 354: 128699.	Chem. Asian J. 2025; 20: e202401266.
Food Bioscience, 2025; 71: 107377.	Org. Biomol. Chem. 2025, 23: 2572.
Nat Prod Res. 2025; 39: 4006..	Coord Chem Rev. 2024; 499: 215453.
Nat Prod Res. 2024; 39: 5126..	Trends in Chem., 2024; 6: 705.
Microchem. J. 2025; 208: 112620.	Org Lett. 2024; 26: 8515.
Fitoterapia, 2025; 180, 106279.	J. Catal., 2024; 439: 115756.
Microchem. J. 2025; 208: 112137.	J Org Chem. 2024; 89: 15893.
Trends in Chem., 2024; 6: 277.	Org Lett. 2024; 26: 5027.
J Ethanopharmacol. 2024; 320: 117385.	Org Chem Front. 2024; 11: 4986.
Microchem. J. 2024; 205: 111210.	Chem Commun. 2024; 60: 5626.
Fitoterapia, 2024; 175: 105925.	J Org Chem. 2024; 89: 14880.
Microchem J. 2024, 199: 110129.	J. Catal., 2024; 438: 115673.
Nat Prod Res. 2024; 38: 440.	Mol. Catal. 2024; 568: 114395.
Phytochem Anal. 2024; 35: 1265.	Org. Biomol. Chem. 2024, 22: 6612.

