

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Sanjai, academic and researcher with two decades of experience in bio-tech research and innovations cum technopreneur with a pursuit to address the ever-arising unanswered agricultural and pharmaceutical sector needs. His focus has been on exploring and exploiting novel biomolecules drawn from biological systems and their interactions in nature, particularly plant-microbe interactions. Dr. Saxena currently is Professor in Biotechnology at Thapar Institute of Engineering and Technology (TIET), Patiala. Prof. Saxena holds in his credits Indian and US patent for developing bio pesticides and novel bioactive compounds derived from plants and microbes; several peer reviewed research publications, articles, book and research reports etc. Driven with the motto, "*Minor Observations lead to Major Research Discoveries*", his applied-research and innovation journey helped him achieve of Bharat Jyoti Award (2012), Eminent Microbiologist Award (2014), Challenge for Change 2018 (Innovation award, Govt. of Rajasthan); DST-Lockheed Martin-Tata Trusts – India Innovation Growth Program 2.0 award (2018). Previously held administrative positions such as Deputy Coordinator of STEP (Science & Technology Entrepreneurs Park), TIET and Coordinator TIFAC- Centre of Relevance and Excellence (CORE) in Agro and Industrial Biotechnology, additionally empowered him to come-up with a start-up, AGPHARM BIOINNOVATIONS LLP.

APPOINTMENTS AND EXPERIENCE

- 2018-present **Founder & CEO, AGPHARM BIOINNOVATIONS LLP**, incubatee at STEP-TIET, Patiala, Punjab India.
- 2015-present **Professor**, Department of Biotechnology, TIET (Deemed to be University), Patiala, Punjab, India
- 2013-2017 **Coordinator (HEAD)**, TIFAC-CORE, TIET, Patiala, Punjab, India
- 2009-2015 **Associate Professor**, Department of Biotechnology, TIET, Patiala, Punjab, India
- 2006-2007 **Deputy Coordinator**, Science and Technology Entrepreneurs Park (STEP), TIET, Patiala
- 2006-2009 **Assistant Professor**, Department of Biotechnology & Environmental Sciences, TIET, Patiala, Punjab, India
- 2002-2006 **Lecturer**, Department of Biotechnology & Environmental Sciences, TIET, Patiala Punjab, India
- 2000-2002 **Research Scientist**, Thapar Centre for Industrial Research and Development (TCIRD), Patiala

RESEARCH ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- **03 PATENTS (01 USA; 02 INDIAN)**
- Completed **sponsored research projects worth 10.1 million INR** (1.01 crores rupees) from govt. agencies..
- Leading an independent research group in the area of Bioprospecting for natural products
- Scientific contribution includes
 - **>60 peer reviewed publications** in indexed journals (SCI/ SCIE/ SCOPUS/INDEX COPERNICUS)
 - **6 Book chapters**;
 - one book entitled "**Applied Microbiology**" by **Springer India**
 - Research networking is being done with Tel Aviv University, Israel; Pontifical Catholic University, Brazil.
 - **Guided> 65 postgraduate dissertations** (M.Sc. Biotechnology/ M.Tech. Biotechnology/ M.Sc. Microbiology)
 - **Guided/ Supervised >8 doctoral dissertations; 03 ongoing.**
 - **Intota Expert** in providing consultancy in the area of Anti-microbial drugs and Clinical Microbiology (Expert 728374)
 - **07 best poster paper presentations** in national/ international conferences
 - Life member of 05 Scientific societies; Councillor of Mycological Society of India
 - **Reviewer of over 18 peer reviewed indexed Journals**
 - **25 invited lectures at different forum**

EXPERT FOR OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

- 2019** Expert Member, **Rajasthan Public Service Commission, Rajasthan Govt.**
- 2016-18** Expert Member, **BioCARE Projects, DBT, Ministry of S&T, GoI**
- 2014** Expert Reviewer, **SERB Projects, DST, GoI**
- 2013** Expert Member, **DBT-NER Twining Projects (Aromatic & Medicinal Plants), MoST, GoI**
- 2009** Expert Member, **Central Ayurvedic Pharmaceutical Testing Reference Laboratory, Patiala**
- 2007** Expert Member, **Defence Research & Development Organization (DRDO)**

Professional Preparation

Ph. D. Biological Sciences spl. Fungal biotechnology* (2000); Rani Durgavati University, MP (India)

M.Sc. Biological Sciences spl. Biotechnology** (1996); Rani Durgavati University, MP (India)

B.Sc. (Hons.) Botany (1992); University of Delhi, Delhi (India)

* Thesis - Efficacy of microbial secondary metabolites to enhance the mycoherbicidal potential of some fungi for the management of *Lantana camara* L., Rani Durgavati University, India
 **- First class first position, Gold Medalist

CONTACT (S)*Current Position:*

Founder & CEO
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 University Campus, Bhadson Road,
 Patiala, Punjab 147001 India

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 Entrepreneurs Park (STEP), STEP
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 Engineering & Technology (TIET),
 (Deemed University), Patiala,
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 Email:
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Concurrent Position:

Professor (Biotechnology)
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 Technology (TIET), Patiala, Punjab
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