



**Society for Plant Biochemistry and Biotechnology
&
Springer Nature India Pvt. Ltd.**

is pleased to confer

Excellence Award

2020

to

Prof. Jitendra Paul Khurana

for his exemplary contributions in the field of

Research and Teaching

(Plant Biochemistry and Biotechnology)

during the Dr. N.B. Das Memorial Lecture Session of



**National Virtual Conference on
"Current Trends and Challenges in Plant Biochemistry
and Biotechnology"**

held on

November 21st, 2020

SPBB-Springer Excellence Award (2020)

Research and Teaching

(21st November, 2020)



Prof. Jitendra Paul Khurana

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Professor Jitendra Paul Khurana obtained Ph.D. in Botany from the University of Delhi in 1982 and did Post-doctoral work at the Smithsonian Institution, Washington DC (1985-1986) and the Michigan State University, USA (1986-1988). He was a founder faculty member of the Department of Plant Molecular Biology, South Campus, and served there for 31 years (from 1988 to 2019) before he superannuated. He made short visits to USDA, Beltsville, in 1996 and 1998, and to the Waksman Institute of Microbiology, Rutgers University, USA, in 2001, as Visiting Professor.

Professor Khurana has contributed immensely to the sequencing of rice, tomato and wheat genomes, and identified and characterized several genes in rice that are crucial for regulating plant development. He has made seminal contributions in the area of light signaling by identifying and characterizing sensory photoreceptors and signaling components. The functional validation of cryptochrome encoding genes in mustard and rice transgenics has provided evidence that these blue light photoreceptors can be exploited for manipulating traits like early flowering and even semi-dwarfism, a trait that was critical for ushering in green revolution. He has published nearly 160 research articles in refereed international journals, including 'Nature' and 'Science'. Professor Khurana has mentored 30 Ph.D. students and a large number of M.Phil. and Master's students, besides many Post-doctoral fellows.

Professor Khurana is Fellow of all the National Science Academies (INSA, IASc, NASI and NAAS) and The World Academy of Sciences (TWAS), Trieste, Italy. He has been bestowed with many awards and honors, including 'Tata Innovation Fellowship' (2010 to 2013) by the DBT, 'J.C. Bose National Fellowship' by DST-SERB (2013 onwards), Birbal Sahni Medal by the Indian Botanical Society (2011), 'Goyal Prize' in Life Sciences (2017) by the Goyal Foundation, Shri Om Prakash Bhasin Award in Biotechnology (2017), to name a few.

Professor Khurana has been a Life Member of the Society of Plant Biochemistry and Biotechnology since its inception in 1991 and has been a member of the Editorial Board of Society's journal and has enthusiastically participated in various activities of the Society.

Professor Jitendra Paul Khurana was Pro-Vice Chancellor (Interim), University of Delhi, and Director, University of Delhi South Campus, for over 3 years (2016 to 2019). Currently, Prof. Khurana is J.C. Bose National Fellow of SERB at the University of Delhi South Campus and is also Vice-President of the Indian National Science Academy (INSA) for International Affairs.

About the Society

The Society for Plant Biochemistry and Biotechnology (SPBB) was established in the year 1991 with its Headquarter at Division of Biochemistry, ICAR-IARI, Pusa Campus, New Delhi. It provides a unique platform to the scientists/students/research scholars working in the field of plant biochemistry and biotechnology to share their research achievements. Since its establishment, it has played a major role in bringing together Plant Biochemists and Biotechnologist for strengthening research and promoting it at national and international level. For this purpose, the Society ventured in bringing out the Journal of Plant Biochemistry and Biotechnology jointly publishing by Springer Nature India Pvt. Ltd. with Impact factor 0.773 (2019).

For more details visit our site: www.spbbindia.org

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