

C I T A T I O N

For the Conferment of the Degree of Doctor of
Science (*Honoris Causa*)

on

Prof. Sukh Dev



Professor Sukh Dev is a scientist of international repute, well-recognised for his contributions in the area of Organic Chemistry, especially Chemistry of Natural Products. Quite early in his professional career, he was successful in establishing a strong school of organic chemistry which flourished for over forty years and his students occupied / are occupying important positions in academia and industry, both in India and abroad. Professor Sukh Dev firmly believes that one should explore science not only for curiosity sake but also use it as a tool for economic development of the country. Thus much of his research efforts were directed at exploring chemistry of indigenous raw materials to result in several important commercial products.

Sukh Dev (b. June 1924, Chakwal, undivided India) started his career in chemistry by securing first class first in B. Sc. Hons. (1944) and M.Sc (1945) from Panjab University, Lahore. He earned his Doctorate Degrees (Ph. D., 1950, D. Sc., 1960) from Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore which he also served as a Research Associate (1948-53) and Lecturer (1953-1959). He also worked as a Research Associate at the University of Illinois, Urbana, USA (1957) before taking over as Head of the Division of Organic Chemistry (Natural Products) at National Chemical Laboratory, Pune, in 1960. He has been a Visiting Professor at several US universities, notably the

Stevens Institute of Technology, Hoboken, University of Georgia, Athens and University of Oklahoma, Norman during 1968-1971. He moved to the newly created Malti-Chem Research Centre, Nandesari, Vadodara, as its Research Director in 1974, the position he retained till his retirement in 1988. He was awarded the coveted INSA (S.N. Bose) Research Professorship at Indian Institute of Technology Delhi, New Delhi (1988-93). Currently, he is a Visiting Professor at Dr. B. R. Ambedkar Centre for Biomedical Research, University of Delhi.

Professor Sukh Dev's wide-ranging researches resulted in significant contributions to our knowledge of organic chemistry by uncovering scores of novel, complex, plant secondary metabolites, development of new techniques and processes and concepts. His work on Indian economic raw materials, such as lac, Indian turpentine oil, *devadaaru*, Indian medicinal plants, led to results of economic value. His investigations into *guggulu* led to the development of guggulsterones as valuable therapeutic agents. His research in different areas has resulted in more than 390 scientific research publications, 55 patents and 92 Ph.D. dissertations. Professor Sukh Dev is the author/co-author of ten books. His latest book, Prime Ayurvedic Plant Drugs' published in 2006 is aimed at exploration of ancient-modern concordance of Ayurveda.

Throughout his research career in India and abroad, Professor Sukh Dev has received many honours and awards for outstanding achievements in science. Some of these awards include Sudborough Medal of Indian Institute of Science (1949), S. S. Bhatnagar Award of CSIR (1964), Acharya P. C. Ray Award of Indian Chemical Society (1970), Vishwakarma Medal of Indian National Science Academy (1979), Ernest Guenther Award of American Chemical Society (1980), Distinguished Alumni Award of I. I. Sc. (1980), VASVIK Award for outstanding contributions in Chemical Sciences and Technology (1980), FICCI Award for Technology and its interaction with Industry (Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry, 1980), Professor T.R. Seshadri Seventieth Birthday

Commemoration Medal of Indian National Science Academy (1981), Meghnad Saha Medal (INSA, 1987), Third World Academy of Sciences Award in chemistry (1988), Srinivasan Ramanujan Birth Centenary Award of Indian Science Congress Association (1992), Lifetime Achievement Award in Chemical Research and Education (Indian Chemical Society, 1999), and Lifetime Achievement Award in Chemistry (Chemical Research Society of India, 2000). Professor Sukhdev has also been awarded the coveted Padma Bhushan by Government of India (2008).

He has been an invited speaker at numerous International Symposia / Universities / Institutes in several countries of the world.