



Prof. Pushpito Kumar Ghosh

Dr. Pushpito Ghosh is a chemist by training. He was awarded the prestigious National Science Talent Search Scholarship in 1972, and the stipend over five years enabled him to pursue his B. Sc. (Hons.) and M. Sc. Degrees in Chemistry from St. Stephen's College, Delhi and IIT, Kanpur, respectively. He moved to Princeton University (USA) in 1976 on a Graduate fellowship and obtained his doctorate degree in Chemistry from there (Thomas Spiro lab) in 1980. This was followed by four years of postdoctoral research at Brookhaven National Laboratory (Norman Sutin lab) and the University of Texas at Austin (IBM Fellow, Allen Bard lab) prior to his return to India in 1984.

Dr. Ghosh was appointed by the Institute of Chemical Technology (ICT), Mumbai as K. V. Mariwala-J. B. Joshi Distinguished Professor in 2015, a position that he held until June last year. Prior to that, he served from 1999-2014 as the Director of CSIR-Central Salt & Marine Chemicals Research Institute (CSMCRI, Bhavnagar), and from 1985-1998 he held senior R&D positions in ICI India and ICI UK. He has also served for brief periods at the University of Hyderabad and IIT Bombay.

Dr. Ghosh has contributed valuably as a researcher, research director and teacher, and sparked many inventions cutting across diverse areas of chemical technology. One of his important contributions, while at ICT, was the introduction of a course entitled *Innovations in Chemical Technology* which he taught to final year undergraduates from 2015-2022. His publications, with H-index of 45, cover both basic and applied research. He is also the lead inventor in many patents, which includes 50 granted U.S. patents, taken mostly while at CSIR-CSMCRI. Several of the technologies conceived by him and his colleagues have been commercialized and some of the team's pioneering efforts have featured in Nature, New Scientist, and the New York Times. His contributions to societal mission activities while at CSIR-CSMCRI are also well known.

Dr. Ghosh has contributed valuably over three and a half decades in many important national committees cutting across diverse disciplines, e.g., Chairman, DST Program Advisory Committees in Inorganic Chemistry and Water Technology Initiative; Member, Research, Design & Development Appraisal Committee, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy; Member, Green Chemistry Task Force, Office of PSA to GoI; Coordinator, Bioresource-based energy, Indo-Brazil Science Council; Chairman, TIFAC Techvision 2035 (Water); Chairman, Chemical Division Council, BIS; Chairman of various Project Evaluation Committees of GITA-CII, etc. He has also been a Member on the Boards of IIM Ahmedabad and Barefoot College. He has also been a member of the Asian Paints Technology Council and consultant to several industries. Dr. Ghosh was invited to join the International Board to select the Henri Moissan Prize awardee last year.

Dr. Ghosh has received several prestigious awards over the years. To name a few: ICI Specialties (U. K.) Market Focus Award (1992); DaimlerChrysler Environmental Leadership Award (2005); Lifetime Achievement Award (Education & Research), Indian Chemical Council (2009); Lifetime Achievement Award, Indian Desalination Association (2015). He is a Fellow of the Indian Academy of Sciences.