

From the Director's Desk,....



It gives me immense pleasure to present the Annual report of CSIR-Indian Institute of Toxicology Research, Lucknow, which has been making untiring efforts to safeguard the environment, health of industrial workers and provide service to the nation since its inception in 1965.

Research endeavours of this premium toxicology institute are focussed in the five broad areas i.e. Systems Toxicology & Health Risk Assessment; Food Drug & Chemical Toxicology; Environmental Toxicology; Nanotherapeutics & Nanomaterial Toxicology and Regulatory Toxicology. The collective research efforts of the enthusiastic scientists and supporting staff of CSIR-IITR and their achievements are presented in this report for the year 2012-13.

Many new chemicals especially in their nanotized form are being introduced in gadgets, medical devices, slow release drugs, water filtration units, anti-wrinkle clothes, food packaging and many more items of daily use. Assessment of the hazard posed by them needs new innovative approaches taking into consideration international norms and local exposure level. CSIR-IITR is a NABL accredited lab for biological and chemical testing since 2000. To further strengthen this service to the nation, a new step in this direction has been taken to make it a GLP certified facility.

Creation of trained human resource for carrying out high quality research is one of the high priority mandates of CSIR-IITR. We enrolled 32 Ph.D. students for the Biological sciences and Chemical sciences courses in 2012 under the Academy of Scientific and Innovative Research (AcSIR). To facilitate scientists in carrying out research in niche areas of the cutting edge science, several new facilities have been created and all labs re-furbished.

CSIR-IITR scientists published 121 research papers in peer reviewed journals with an average impact factor of 3.248; the highest being in a journal with IF: 7.844. This speaks volumes about the quest to do cutting edge science in new emerging areas. It is encouraging to note that average IF in the last five years has risen from 2.011 to 3.248. This has been possible due to collective thinking, proper planning and timely execution of research projects. The scientists continued to contribute to CSIR Network Projects NanoSHE and INDEPTH, besides 15 other CSIR Projects of 12th plan, several grant-in-aid and sponsored projects. This year a number of scientists received national and international recognition; served on editorial board of peer reviewed high impact journals as well as expert members of important committees.

CSIR-IITR family acknowledges the support extended by Prof. S.K. Brahmachari, Director-General, Council of Scientific & Industrial Research for the significant progress made by the organization. The guidance and motivation provided by Prof. R. Kumar, Chairman, and other members of the Research Council, in tackling new scientific challenges and unfolding the toxic events at cellular, organelle and molecular level is also humbly acknowledged. The institute is committed to upward growth and improvising its research approaches taking into consideration the toxicological problems at hand. We collectively strive hard to maintain the identity of being a unique organization of toxicological sciences and never tire of serving the nation.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'K.C. Gupta', with a long horizontal stroke underneath.

[K.C. Gupta]