

Immunology and Allied Research in India: *Foundations, Frontiers & Future*

100th Year of Vision | 39 Years of Legacy | One Celebration

39th Foundation Day of BRIC–NII

*Honouring the Trailblazing Achievements
of Prof G P Talwar*



Prof P Balaram

Foundation Day Lecture

*Evolutionary Inventions and Innovations
That Drove the Rise of Chemistry,
the Birth of Biology and Determined Human History*
6 Oct 2025 | 10:00 AM



Prof G P Talwar

Honourary Address & Felicitation

7 Oct 2025 | 5:00 PM

6–7 October 2025

BRIC–National Institute of Immunology | New Delhi

Details and program available at
<https://immunoscope.nii.res.in/news/39th-foundationday-bric-nii>

Immunology and Allied Research in India: Foundations, Frontiers, and Future

*Marking the 39th Foundation Day by celebrating
Prof. G.P. Talwar's trailblazing achievements in immunology and beyond*

Day 1, October 6, 2025
GP Talwar Auditorium, BRIC-NII

10:00 – 10:15 AM	Welcome Address	Dr Debasisa Mohanty <i>Director, BRIC-NII, New Delhi</i>
10:15 – 11:00 AM	Foundation Day Lecture	Evolutionary inventions and innovations that drove the rise of chemistry, the birth of biology and determined human history Prof P Balaram <i>Senior Visiting Professor, NCBS; Chairperson, ATREE; and Former Director, IISc, Bangalore</i>
11:00 – 11:30 AM	High Tea	
11:30 AM – 1:15 PM	<p>Session 1: Mycobacterial Diseases: Leprosy and Tuberculosis</p> <p>Session chairs: Dr VM Katoch <i>Former Secretary DHR (MoHFW, GOI) and DG ICMR</i></p> <p>Prof Javed N Agrewala <i>JC Bose Fellow, Department of Biomedical Engineering, IIT Ropar</i></p>	<p>11:30-11:50 AM Prof GP Talwar's National Institute of Immunology: A unique place for nurturing excellence in research and creating future leaders of science Prof Seyed Hasnain <i>Distinguished Professor, Sharda University, Noida</i></p> <p>11:50 AM -12:10 PM Experiences with the use of MIP as an adjunct immunomodulator for improving efficacy of treatment and prophylaxis against Leprosy and Tuberculosis Dr Kiran Katoch <i>Former Director NJIL & OMD, Agra</i></p> <p>12:10-12:25 PM <i>Mycobacterium indicus pranii</i> (MIP) in leprosy and tuberculosis Dr Rajni Rani <i>Senior Consultant, India TB Research Consortium, ICMR, Delhi</i></p> <p>12:25-12:40 PM The mycobacterial menace Prof Shripad A Patil <i>Professor & Dean NIMHANS, Bengaluru and Former Director, ICMR National JALMA Institute, Agra</i></p> <p>12:40-1:00 PM Mechanistic insights into the survival of Mycobacteria Dr Vinay Nandicoori <i>Director, CCMB, Hyderabad</i></p>

		<p>1:00-1:15 PM</p> <p>Lipid droplets as depots for shaping host defense in tuberculosis</p> <p>Dr Sheetal Gandotra</p> <p><i>Principal Scientist, CSIR-IGIB, New Delhi</i></p>
1:15 – 2:30 PM		Foundation Day Lunch
2:30 – 4:35 PM	<p>Session 2: The Biology of Infectious Disease and Autoimmunity</p> <p>Session chairs: Prof AN Malaviya <i>Former Professor and Chairman, Department of Medicine, AIIMS-Delhi</i></p> <p>Prof NK Mehra <i>Hon Emeritus Scientist, ICMR; Vice President (international affairs), INSA</i></p>	<p>2:30-2:50 PM</p> <p>Immunity to infection with aging: What goes wrong and what can be fixed?</p> <p>Prof Janko Nikolich <i>Director, Aegis Consortium for Pandemic-Free Future, University of Arizona College of Medicine- Phoenix</i></p> <p>2:50-3:10 PM</p> <p>Interferon-gamma-induced responses</p> <p>Prof Dipankar Nandi <i>Professor, IISc, Bangalore</i></p> <p>3:10-3:25 PM</p> <p>The “STING” in virus-induced neuroinflammation</p> <p>Prof Manjula Kalia <i>Professor, RCB, Faridabad</i></p> <p>3:25-3:45 PM</p> <p>Host lipid-sensing by pathogenic <i>Salmonella</i>: implications in immunity and infection</p> <p>Dr Ayub Qadri <i>Dean School of Health Sciences, IUST, Pulwama</i></p> <p>3:45-4:05 PM</p> <p>hCG: Fertility and beyond</p> <p>Dr Rahul Pal <i>Former Emeritus Scientist, BRIC-NII, New Delhi</i></p> <p>4:05-4:20 PM</p> <p>A glimpse into the RNA methylome of patient-derived <i>Plasmodium falciparum</i> and <i>Plasmodium vivax</i> isolates</p> <p>Dr Ashis Das <i>Senior Professor, BITS Pilani</i></p> <p>4:20-4:35 PM</p> <p>Gut-immune axis in shaping vaccine immunity</p> <p>Dr Nimesh Gupta <i>Staff Scientist V, BRIC-NII, New Delhi</i></p>

4:35 – 5:15 PM	High Tea	
5:15 – 6:15 PM	Panel Discussion: Frontiers to Policy: Translating Immunology Research into Public Health Strategies	<i>Dr Rajesh Gokhale, Secretary to the GOI, DBT</i> <i>Dr VK Paul, Member, NITI Aayog</i> <i>Prof K VijayRaghavan, Chair, Science Advisory Council, Ashoka University & Former Principal Scientific Advisor to GOI</i> <i>Prof NK Ganguly, Former DG, ICMR</i> <i>Dr Renu Swarup, Former Secretary to the GOI, DBT</i> <i>Dr Rajeev Raghuvanshi, Drugs Controller General of India, CDSCO</i> <i>Dr Gitanjali Yadav, Staff Scientist VI, BRIC-NIPGR (Moderator)</i>
7:00 – 8:00 PM	Santoor Recital: Pt. Abhay Sopori	
8:00 PM onwards	Foundation Day Dinner	
Day 2, October 7, 2025 GP Talwar Auditorium, BRIC-NII		
9:30 – 11:00 AM	Session 3: Cancer and Reproductive Immunology Session chairs: <i>Dr Shiv K Sarin</i> <i>Director, ILBS</i> <i>Dr Suveera Dhup</i> <i>CEO, ICGA</i>	<i>9:30-9:50 AM</i> Immunotherapy of Cancer: Current Status and Future Trends <i>Dr Amitabh Gaur</i> <i>President, Innovative Assay Solutions, San Diego</i> <i>9:50-10:05 AM</i> The oncofetal antigen, placental isozyme of alkaline phosphatase, as a target in different cancers <i>Prof Subrata Sinha</i> <i>National Science Chair, (SERB/ANRF), Department of Biochemistry, AIIMS-Delhi</i> <i>10:05-10:20 AM</i> Nanoscale artificial antigen-presenting cells as a therapeutic platform for inducing antigen-specific T- cell responses against solid tumors <i>Dr Santiswarup Singha</i> <i>Staff Scientist V, BRIC-NII, New Delhi</i> <i>10:20-10:40 AM</i> Contraceptive vaccine for population management of wildlife with special reference to dogs <i>Dr Satish K Gupta</i> <i>Former Deputy Director, BRIC-NII, New Delhi</i>

		<p>10:40-11:00 AM</p> <p>When cells choose to die: perspectives and mechanisms</p> <p>Prof Chandrima Shaha</p> <p><i>JC Bose Chair Distinguished Professor, IICB, Kolkata and Former Director, BRIC-NII, New Delhi</i></p>
11:00 – 11:15 AM	Tea	
11:15 AM – 12:15 PM	<p>Panel Discussion: Immunology Innovation Ecosystem: Academia– Industry–Policy Synergy</p>	<p>Dr AK Panda, Former Director, BRIC-NII, New Delhi and Associate Director, Panacea Biotech</p> <p>Dr Umesh Shaligram, Executive Director, Serum Institute of India</p> <p>Dr Bakulesh Khamar, Executive Director, Cadila Pharmaceuticals</p> <p>Dr Syed Khalid Ali, Chief Scientific Officer, Panacea Biotech</p> <p>Dr Leena A Kukreja, Science and Technology Counsellor, Embassy of Switzerland in India</p> <p>Dr Parul Ganju, Founder, Ahammune Biosciences (Moderator)</p>
12:15 – 2:00 PM	Lunch	
2:00 – 3:30 PM	Crossroads: Alumni–Student Meet	
3:30 – 5:00 PM	Reflections & Reminiscences: In Honor of Prof GP Talwar	
5:00 – 6:00 PM	Honorary Address	<p>End-to-end mission-oriented research</p> <p>Prof GP Talwar</p> <p><i>Founder Director, NII, New Delhi</i></p>
6:00 – 6:03 PM	Vote of thanks	
6:03 – 6:30 PM	High Tea	
6:30 – 8:00 PM	Cultural Program by BRIC-NII Scholars	
8:00 PM Onwards	Dinner	