

Dr. Saumen Kumar Maitra, Ph.D., FNASc



Professor & Former Head, Department of Zoology, Visva-Bharati University, Santiniketan, India;
Past President, Society for Reproductive Biology and Comparative Endocrinology (www.srbce.org)
Council Member & Former Secretary, Asia Oceania Society for Comparative Endocrinology.

Biographical Sketch:

M.Sc. (Gold Medalist) : Zoology, University of Burdwan, Burdwan, India (1972-1974)
Ph.D. : Zoology, University of Calcutta, Calcutta, India (1974-1981)
Post-Doctoral (DAAD) Fellow : University of Mainz, **Germany** (1984-1986; 1990)
Visiting Faculty : Norwegian University of Science & Technology (NTNU),
Trondheim, **Norway** (2010)

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| a. Total Research Experience (in India & Abroad) | : 40+ Years |
| b. Total Teaching Experience (in India & Abroad) | : 33+ years |
| c. Area of Research Specialization: Environmental Endocrinology | |
| d. Original Research Publications (including 5 international books): Total | : 141 |
| e. Number of Ph.D. Students supervised | : 15 |
| f. Number of Students currently under supervision for Ph.D. | : 3 |
| g. Number of Research Project Awards | Total : 11 |

(Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Govt. of India: 2; Department of Science & Technology (DST), Govt. of India: 2; Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, Govt. of India: 3; University Grants Commission (UGC), Govt. of India: 2; Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), Govt. of India: 1; Department of Science & Technology (WBDST), Govt. of WB: 1)

Honours and Awards:

- GMB (Global Meet of Biologists) Award - 2012
- Elected Fellow, National Academy of Science, India - 2008
- Elected Fellow, West Bengal Academy of Science and Technology, India - 2003
- Prof. P. Govindarajulu Gold Medal, SRBCE, India - 2001
- GtZ (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit) Award (Germany) - 1998
- Elected Fellow, Society of Reproductive Biology and Comparative Endocrinology - 1996
- SERC Visiting Fellowship, Department of Science and Technology, Govt. of India - 1995
- Senior DAAD Fellowship by the German Academic Exchange Service, Germany - 1990
- U. G. C. Career Award in Science Subjects (Govt. of India) - 1990
- Elected Fellow, Zoological Society (Cal.). - 1984
- DAAD Fellowship by the German Academic Exchange Service, Germany - 1984
- Young Scientist, Indian Science Congress Association, India. - 1981
- Dr. S. P. Basu Memorial Medal for Zoological Research, Zoological Society, India - 1981
- University Gold Medal, University of Burdwan, India - 1974

Major Research Contribution:

Professor Maitra and his co-workers made novel contribution in understanding the role of pineal and its hormone melatonin in photo-regulation of avian and piscine reproduction. He provided first evidence of extra-hypothalamic actions of melatonin on ovary by demonstrating melatonin receptors on oocytes in any fish species. Collectively, his research explained how photic cue as an important component of environment can play a critical regulatory role depending on its quantum of availability through photoreceptors and/or melatonin and how their enrichment in pineal could be vital for regulation of reproduction.