Meet Dr. Chandi C. Malakar, Thieme Chemistry Journals Awardee 2026!


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Dr. Chandi C. Malakar *obtained his PhD in 2011 from University of Hohenheim (Germany). After successive postdoctoral research experiences at University of Antwerp (Belgium), Ruprecht-Karls-Universität Heidelberg (Germany), and Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore (India), he started his career at National Institute of Technology Jalandhar (India) as an assistant professor (contractual) in July 2015. Later that same year, he moved to National Institute of Technology Manipur (India) where he is currently working as an associate professor.*

Thieme: Which field of organic chemistry are you interested in the most and why?

Dr. Malakar: I am mostly interested in method development for sustainable organic synthesis.

Thieme: Following that, what is the focus of your current research activity?

Dr. Malakar: My current research activity focuses on organocatalysis, transition-metal-free reactions, and the synthesis of novel biologically active heterocycles.

Thieme: What do you think about the modern role and prospects of organic chemistry?

Dr. Malakar: Organic chemistry is the backbone of drug discovery. Almost every medicine – from antibiotics to cancer therapies – is designed and synthesized using organic molecules. This domain of chemical sciences enables drug design and synthesis, drives personalized medicine and is a key toward building a sustainable future by offering biofuels and organic solar cells.

Thieme: Which difficulties are there for young upcoming chemists in your field? Do you have any tips?

Dr. Malakar: I feel that research in only organic synthesis may limit the scope in the upcoming days. The field may be shaped into an application-oriented research topic.

Thieme: What is your most important scientific achievement to date and why?

Dr. Malakar: All of my scientific achievements from a resource-constrained and turbulent environment in Manipur are very important scientific achievements to me.

Thieme: Could you tell us something about yourself outside the lab, such as your hobbies or extra-work interests?

Dr. Malakar: Outside of lab activities, my hobbies are playing cricket and badminton.