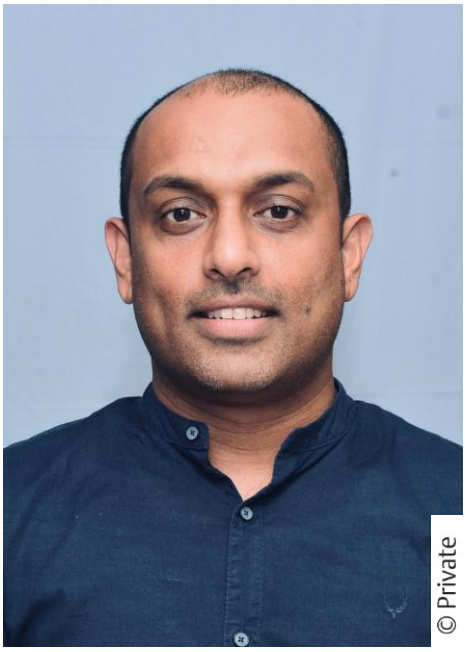
Meet Dr. Jubi John, Thieme Chemistry Journals Awardee 2025!



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Dr. Jubi John *is a Principal Scientist at the Chemical Sciences and Technology Division of CSIR-NIIST, Kerala, India. He earned his Bachelor's degree in chemistry from Christian College, Chengannur, India (2002) and his Master's degree from St. Berchmans College, Changanacherry, India (2004). He obtained his PhD in chemistry from the University of Kerala, India, in March 2010. Following his doctoral studies, Dr. John conducted research at CEA-Saclay, France (2010–2011) and worked at TU Braunschweig, Germany (2011–2013). In 2013, he joined Katholieke Universiteit Leuven (Belgium) until 2015 when he returned to India. He initially joined CSIR-NIIST, holding various research positions before being appointed as a Senior Scientist in 2019 and subsequently promoted to Principal Scientist in 2023.*

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

Dr. John: Our group has continued interest in devising new methodologies for accessing functionalized heterocycles. In this line we work on developing methods for synthesizing multiring fused heterocycles (heteroacenes), substituted furanones and quinoline derivatives.

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

Dr. John: We are currently looking at the applications of the developed methodologies for generating functionalized heteroacenes as materials for devices for photodetectors, dye-sensitized cell, and OLED applications.

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

Dr. John: Organic chemistry remains at the heart of scientific and technological progress. Its future lies in increasing efficiency, sustainability, and integration with digital and biological sciences.

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

Dr. John: The main difficulties faced by young upcoming organic chemists are limited job opportunities, high competition in academia, and funding constraints for synthetic organic chemistry proposals.

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

Dr. John: My most important scientific achievement (to date) is the development of a multicomponent reaction for synthesizing fused indole heterocycles such as pyrrolo- and indoloindoles which appeared in 2017 (*Org. Lett.* **2017**, *19*, 2458–2461). This report laid the foundation of our research on tapping the reactivity of electrophilic benzannulated heterocycles, which has resulted in several material application oriented collaborations and highly followed publications.

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

Dr. John: Travelling with family and spending time in nature.