



**Bio Brief of Dr Kalarical Janardhanan Sreeram  
Director, CSIR-CLRI**

Dr Kalarical Janardhanan Sreeram, a fellow of the Royal Society of Chemistry, UK and Society of Leather Technologists and Chemists, UK is the Director of the CSIR-Central Leather Research Institute since December 2019. Prior to this, he was the head of the testing facilities of the institute, where his contributions towards development of test methods for leather and allied products and achieving the ISO 17025:2017 standards were highly acclaimed.

Dr Sreeram has made important contributions to the Green Chemistry of Chromium, that has opened up new paths for better industrial management of this metal ion at the global level. These contributions have led to his becoming the first researcher with a degree in leather technology from Anna University to receive the CSIR Young Scientist Award in 2004.

Dr Sreeram has also contributed immensely to the development of environmentally benign and cool pigments from rare earth metal ions, as a replacement to the pigments based on toxic metal ions such as chromium, lead, mercury etc. He is also credited with commercially successful technologies for the avoidance of formaldehyde in tanning agents. During the last five years, in order to exploit the advantages of nanoscience for developing materials with unique applications, Dr Sreeram has developed a range of functionalized metal and metal oxide nanoparticles with potential applications in crosslinking of proteins, a work which led his being recognized by the International Union of Leather Technologists and Chemists Societies, with the International Union of Research Award.

Dr Sreeram has an impressive publication record, with 102 papers in national and international journals, 1666 citations and h-index of 21, He also has 19 patents filed to his credit, with several technology transfers/ consultancy activities. The success of Dr Sreeram's contributions stems from his fundamental understanding of the chemistry of metal ions with which he has worked.

Dr Sreeram has also been involved in science communication, specifically in the area of sustainable manufacturing. He is honorary faculty of the Anna University and has guided 6 students for their doctoral dissertation in chemistry at the University of Madras/ Anna University. The ability to lead teams for achieving high goals is his strength.

In his role as the Director of CSIR-CLRI, he is also the Chairman of the CHD-17 of the Bureau of Indian Standards and member of the Council of Administration, SITRA Coimbatore and the Governing Council of FDDI.

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