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**Educational Qualification:** M. Sc

**Year of Registration:** 2018

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**Research Abstract:** Vitamin D is a pivotal compound for the development, growth and maintenance of health throughout lifecycle. It is synthesized cutaneously by the body on exposure to sunlight. Despite abundant sunshine in India, vitamin D deficiency (VDD) is prevalent in infants, school children, pregnant, lactating women and elderly people predominantly in low socioeconomic status and people living in high altitude regions. People habituated living in high altitude (2240 mts above mean sea level) and solar zenith angle (72-84°) regions in the Western Ghats (WGs) have limited exposure to sunlight and that result in little cutaneous synthesis of pre-vitamin D<sub>3</sub>. However, the scientific assessments of vitamin D status in children living in high altitude regions of WGs remain largely elusive. Thus, my project aims to assess the vitamin D status in children of high altitude regions of WGs with a development of a novel non-invasive assessment method.

**Fellowships: Govt/Non-Govt:** DBT- BioCare (*In Review*)

**Awards & Scholarships:** To be obtained.

**Road ahead:** I look forward to excel my career in functional food and micronutrients analysis and product development.