

# SHORT BIOGRAPHY

**Prof. Dr. SABU THOMAS** *PhD, FRSC (UK), DSc (UL,France), DSc(UBS,France)*

**Vice Chancellor,**

Mahatma Gandhi University,  
Priyadarshini Hills, Kottayam, Kerala, India -686 560

Director, School of Energy Materilas &

Former Director,School of Chemical Sciences&Founder Director,  
International and Inter University Centre for Nanoscience and  
Nanotechnology, Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam, Kerala,  
India -686 560

**Tel: +91 - 481 - 2590357 (Res) +91 - 9447223452 (Mob)**

**Skype: sabu.thomas48**



**Professor Sabu Thomas** is currently the **Vice Chancellor of Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam, Kerala, India**. He is also the Director of School of Energy Materials and the Founder Director and Professor of the International and Interuniversity Centre for Nanoscience and Nanotechnology and former Director of School of Chemical Sciences.

Prof. Sabu Thomas is one of India's most renowned scientists known for his contributions in polymer science and nanotechnology. He is an outstanding researcher, administrator and an excellent teacher who has students all over the world. He had his bachelor's degree from Cochin University of Science and Technology in 1983 and Ph.D in 1987 from the Indian Institute of Technology, Kharagpur, India under the guidance of Prof. S K De and Prof. BR Gupta.

After short stint in a multinational company, Bayer India Ltd, Prof. Thomas joined Mahatma Gandhi University as a Lecturer in 1987. Later he became Reader in the same University and a full Professor in 1997. Prof. Thomas is now an outstanding leader with sustained international acclaims for his work in polymer science, polymer nanocomposites, elastomers, polymer blends, interpenetrating polymer networks, polymer membranes, nanoscience, nanomedicine and green nanotechnology. Prof. Thomas has established a state of the art laboratory in the area of polymer science and nanoscience by securing mega grants from a large number of funding agencies in India and abroad which include DST India, CSIR India, DBT India, ISRO India, BRNS India, Dept of Electronics India, UGC India, AICTE India, DRDO India, MRF Tyres India, Apollo Tyres, India, TWAS Italy, Du Pont USA and General Cables USA. Prof. Thomas had several international collaboration which include DST/DAAD, DST/South Africa, DST/Italy, DST/Croatia, DST/KBN Poland, India/Sweden and India/France under PICS. Very recently under the leadership of Prof. Thomas, his research group bagged 4 multimillion SPARC (Scheme for the Promotion of Academic Research Collaboration) projects to collaborate with France, Israel, UK, USA and Singapore. Dr. Thomas's ground breaking inventions in polymer science, polymer nanocomposites, polymer blends, green bio-nano-technological and nano-biomedical sciences, have made transformative differences in the development of new materials for automotive, space, housing, EMI shielding and biomedical fields. In collaboration with India's premier tyre company, Apollo Tyres, Professor Thomas's group invented new high performance barrier rubber nanocomposite membranes for inner tubes and inner liners for tyres.

Professor Thomas has received a number of national and international awards which include: Fellowship of the Royal Society of Chemistry, London FRSC, Distinguished Professorship from

Josef Stefan Institute, Slovenia, MRSI medal, Nano Tech Medal, CRSI medal, Distinguished Faculty Award, Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam Award for Scientific Excellence – 2016, Mahatma Gandhi University- Award for Outstanding Contribution –Nov. 2016, Lifetime Achievement Award of the Malaysian Polymer Group, Indian Nano Biologists award 2017 and Sukumar Maithy Award for the best polymer researcher in the country. He is in the list of most productive researchers in India and holds a position of No.5. Because of the outstanding contributions to the field of nanoscience and polymer science and engineering, Prof. Thomas has been conferred Honoris Causa (D.Sc) Doctorate by the University of South Brittany, Lorient, France and University of Lorraine, Nancy, France. Very recently, Prof. Thomas has been awarded Senior Fulbright Fellowship to visit 20 Universities in the US and he received the most productive faculty award in the domain Materials Sciences. He was also awarded with National Education Leadership Award – 2017 for Excellence in Education. Prof Thomas also won 6th contest of "mega-grants" in the grant competition of the Government of the Russian Federation (Ministry of Education and Science of the Russian Federation) designed to support research projects implemented under the supervision of the world's leading scientists. He has been honoured with Faculty Research Award of India's brightest minds in the field of academic research in May 2018. Professor Thomas was awarded with Trila – Academician of The Year in June 2018 acknowledging his contribution to tyre industry. In 2019 Professor Thomas has been selected as a member of Prestigious European Academy of Sciences. Last year he was honoured with C.N.R Rao Award Prize Lecture in Advanced Materials" by Materials Research Society of India (MRSI). He was also selected as the Fellow of International Academy of Physical Sciences and was honoured with Life Time Achievement award from Indian Association of Solid-State Chemists and Allied Scientists (ISCAS). Last year he was selected for the DST Nano mission award and was selected for the "Honoured Professor of Siberian Federal University, Russia". This is his third Honoris Causa from a foreign University. Very recently he was honoured with Fellow of the International Association of Advanced Materials (FIAAM) Sweden. This year he was awarded with Bailey Medal Award 2021 and Kairali Lifetime Research Award 2021 by Kerala Government. Prof. Thomas has excellent publication track record. Professor Thomas has published over 1200 peer reviewed research papers, reviews and book chapters. He has co-edited 150 books published by Royal Society, Wiley, Wood head, Elsevier, CRC Press, Springer, and Nova etc. He is the inventor of 15 patents. The H index of Prof. Thomas is 115 and has more than 62,000 citations. Prof. Thomas has delivered over 350 Plenary/Inaugural and Invited lectures in national/international meetings over 30 countries. Prof. Thomas has been ranked by the Sandford University, USA last year among the top researchers in the field of Polymer Science.

Prof. Thomas is a great educationist, institution builder and a man of conviction. He is the founder Director of School of Technology and Applied Sciences, International and Inter University Centre for Nanoscience and Nanotechnology and School of Energy Materials. Being a part of the academic system for more than 33 years, Prof. Thomas, with his competence and ability, along with the academic and administrative team members has transformed Mahatma Gandhi University into a top University in the country, where excellent outcome-based education (teaching, research, extension) is imparted to the students for their holistic development. He has also developed inter disciplinary and multi-disciplinary approach in teaching and research so that the progress in every field can support directly or indirectly the growth and development of all disciplines. He possesses exceptional organizational leadership and has a strong operational approach that ensures the successful implementation of new strategies and always alert to new developments in education and promotes high level academic standards. Under his leadership, now the University has been ranked 713 in the world University ranking and 154 in the Asian Ranking by TIMES.