Dr. Shreemanta K Parida
Chief Executive Officer, Vaccine Grand Challenge
ProgramDept of Biotechnology,
Ministry of Science & Technology, Government of India

Dr. Shreemanta K Parida is an infectious disease clinician from India with PhD in Immunology from National Institute of Immunology. His journey to be a globally recognised clinician scientist spans over a quarter century with extensive training in the field of molecular immunology, vaccinology, infectious diseases, molecular pathogenesis, epidemiology and clinical trials in many centres of excellence in Europe (WHO-Immunology Research Training Centre in Geneva, 1990-1995; University of Giessen, Germany, 1995-1998; Pasteur Institute of Brussels, 1999, University of Oxford,1999-2003; and Max Planck Institute for Infection Biology, 2006-2010) as well as experiences in India and Africa (Armaeur Hansen Research Institute, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 2003-2005). He led the Grand Challenges in Global Health Consortium on "Biomarkers of protective immunity against Tuberculosis (TB) in the context of HIV/AIDS in Africa" consisting of 15 leading partners in the field of TB research including 7 from Africa, 3 from America and 5 from Europe, at the Max-Planck Institute for infection Biology, Berlin which is a success story of the BMGF led Grand Challenges Movement.

He has served as expert in the field of global health, vaccines, translational medicine and Tuberculosis to industries, ECDC, WHO and European Union. He is passionate in translating research from the bench to the clinics at the community level to combat global health issues as well as an advocate for linking the research laboratories to the clinics (bench to bedside and bedside to the community) and a strong believer of reverse translation – connecting bedside to the bench.

Since May 30, 2011 he heads the Vaccine Grand Challenge Program of Dept of Biotechnology of Ministry of Science and Technology of Govt of India with a broad portfolio to accelerate development of affordable, effective vaccines, adjuvants, diagnostics for measuring immune response and vaccine delivery technologies and to facilitate clinical development consistent with highest ethical and regulatory standards with the mandate of positioning India in the global map of Vaccines in the coming decade by overcoming persistent bottlenecks in creating new tools that can radically improve vaccine R & D in India engaging creative minds across scientific disciplines.

In his early career, he conducted the hospital based Phase II trial and designed, executed the field based large scale Phase III leprosy vaccine trial using Mycobacterium w (M. indicus pranii) in Kanpur-Dehat which was licensed for use for leprosy and is currently a potential vaccine candidate for TB.