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Prof. S. Sankararaman (born in 1957) completed B.Sc at the MDT Hindu College (affiliated to Madurai-Kamaraj University), Tirunelveli, Tamil Nadu in 1979 and M.Sc from IIT Madras in 1981. He completed his doctoral thesis in 1985 at the University of Victoria, BC, Canada under the supervision of Prof. Alfred Fischer. After five years of postdoctoral research at the University of Houston, USA with Prof. J. K. Kochi, he returned to India in 1991 to take up a faculty position at the Indian Institute of Technology Madras, where he is currently a Institute Chair Professor. He has been a recipient of fellowships from DAAD, DFG-INSA and the Alexander von Humboldt Stiftung, Germany and the bronze medal of the CRSI. He is also an elected fellow of the Indian Academy of Sciences and Indian National Science Academy. His research interests are in the areas of synthetic acetylene and alkene chemistry, weak molecular interactions such as $\pi-\pi$ and H-bonding, asymmetric organocatalysis, abnormal *N*-heterocyclic carbene complexes, photochemistry and reaction mechanism. He has authored 78 research publications, three book chapters and a book titled Pericyclic Reactions-A Textbook (published by Wiley-VCH in 2005).