



הרצל 234, ת.ד. 26, רחובות 7610001, ישראל
234 Herzl St., P.O.B 26, Rehovot 7610001, Israel
www.weizmann.ac.il

טלפון +972-(0)8-934-3643
פקס +972-(0)8-934-4181
asaph.aharoni@weizmann.ac.il

מכון ויצמן למדע
WEIZMANN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE

פרופ' אסף אהרונים
ראש המחלקה למדעי הצמח והסביבה
Prof. Asaph Aharoni
Head, Dept. of Plant & Environmental Sciences

17th February 2023

Mr. Ranjit Barbole
(Passport: M1180610)
UGC-Senior Research Fellow
Division of Biochemical Sciences
CSIR-National Chemical Laboratory (CSIR-NCL)
Pune, MS 411008
India

Dear Mr. Barbole,

This letter is to officially invite you to visit my lab at the Department of Plant and environmental Sciences of the Weizmann Institute of Science, Rehovot, Israel. This visit is continuation of work you started under the highly prestigious VATAT program of Weizmann, Institute of Science in 2019. Your present visit will be for one year starting from the 1st of April 2023. I will be happy to support your visit which will include a monthly fellowship and accommodation in the Weizmann Institute PhD scholars' hostel. During your visit you will employ various molecular, analytical, genomics and functional biology tools to unravel the function of candidate-plant specialized metabolites. More specifically, you already developed transgenic tobacco and tomato lines by heterologous expression of genes essential for the production of the candidate metabolites. Thus, your stay will be an excellent way for continuing your work and the collaboration between my laboratory at the WIS and the lab of Dr. Giri at CSIR-NCL. Your earlier contribution in other projects was also fruitful in the form of one publication (*New Phytologist* 2022; 234, 1394-1410) and another is under revision to *Nature Communications*. Your visit is also expected to bring more high impact publication(s) on these important metabolites that has significance in global agriculture in the area of crop protection. Furthermore, you will be able to learn and implement various cutting-edge methodologies in analytical chemistry, metabolomics and plant genetic engineering.

I am thus convinced that following your stay in my lab you will be able to integrate these new methodologies at CSIR-NCL. Dr. Giri and I have already collaborated very successfully in the past and your visit is expected to result in large achievements as well.

Looking forward to your visit,

Sincerely yours,

Prof. Asaph Aharoni