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### **Enriching single-ion magnetism: Importance of symmetry**

The current frenzy in the field of SMMs is driven by better understanding of the effects of crystal field (CF) and molecular symmetry on the magnetic properties, especially in the case of mononuclear paramagnetic complexes, apart from other controlling factors. This has led to the advent of highly anisotropic single-ion magnets (SIMs) with magnetic blocking temperatures and anisotropic energy barriers. This talk would summarize our recent research in the light of the emergence of the importance of CF and symmetry in 4f ion based single-ion magnets (SIMs), especially in the context of SIMs with D<sub>5h</sub> symmetry, apart from commenting on the synthetic efforts adopted to place these metal ions in unusual coordination geometries.

**Keywords:** molecular magnets, crystal field, axiality, lanthanide complexes, ambient stability, high blocking temperature

**Ramaswamy Murugavel** received his B.Sc. and M.Sc. degrees from University of Madras and Ph.D. from IISc. He carried out postdoctoral work at the University of Göttingen and joined the chemistry faculty of IIT Bombay in December 1997, where he is currently Biswas Palepu Distinguished Chair Professor and J C Bose National Fellow. He is a fellow of the Indian Academy of Sciences, the Indian National Science Academy, and the Royal Society of Chemistry. He has been conferred with J. C. Bose National Fellowship, Swarnajayanti Fellowship, Alexander von Humboldt Fellowship, DAE-SRC Outstanding Investigator Award, DFG Mercator Professorship, C. N. R. Rao National Prize in Chemical Sciences, S. C. Bhattacharya Award for Excellence in Research in Basic Sciences, SASTRA-CNR Rao Prize, DAE Young Scientist Award, CRSI Bronze Medal, MRSI Medal, and J. C. Ghosh Medal. His research work has been published in the form of 200+ publications.