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Retraction: Tri-s-triazine (s-heptazine), a novel electron-deficient core for soft self-assembled supramolecular structures

Richard Kelly

Retraction of 'Tri-s-triazine (s-heptazine), a novel electron-deficient core for soft self-assembled supramolecular structures' by Irla Siva Kumar *et al.*, *Chem. Commun.*, 2017, **53**, 11445–11448.

The Royal Society of Chemistry wholly retracts this *Chemical Communications* article following a misconduct investigation carried out by the Raman Research Institute.

Content from an unpublished version of a paper published in *Liquid Crystals* by Sayed *et al.*¹ may have subsequently been published in this *Chemical Communications* paper. It has been confirmed that one of the authors was a reviewer of the *Liquid Crystals* paper and after failing to disclose a conflict of interest, may have taken advantage of privileged knowledge of the then unpublished paper of Sayed *et al.* during the peer review process.

The investigation committee informed us that the *Chemical Communications* authors could not produce any credible evidence of having performed the synthesis or the physical measurements related to their work before the unpublished paper of Sayed *et al.* was received for peer review.

As it cannot be ruled out that the content of the paper published in *Chemical Communications* was not obtained by credible means, this article is being retracted to protect the integrity and accuracy of the scientific record.

Sandeep Kumar does not agree with the outcome of the institutional investigation and opposes this retraction.

Signed: Richard Kelly, Executive Editor, *Chemical Communications*

Date: 18th March 2020

References

- 1 S. M. Sayed, L.-L. Deng, B.-P. Lin and H. Yang, *Liq. Cryst.*, 2017, **44**, 2175–2183.

