

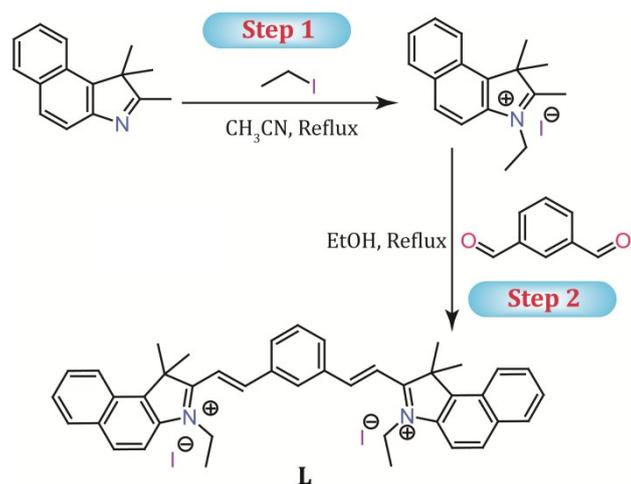
## **Electronic Supporting Information**

# **Ratiometric Fluorogenic Probe for Real-time Detection of $\text{SO}_3^{2-}$ in Aqueous Medium: Application in Cellulose Paper Based Device and Potential to Sense in Mitochondria**

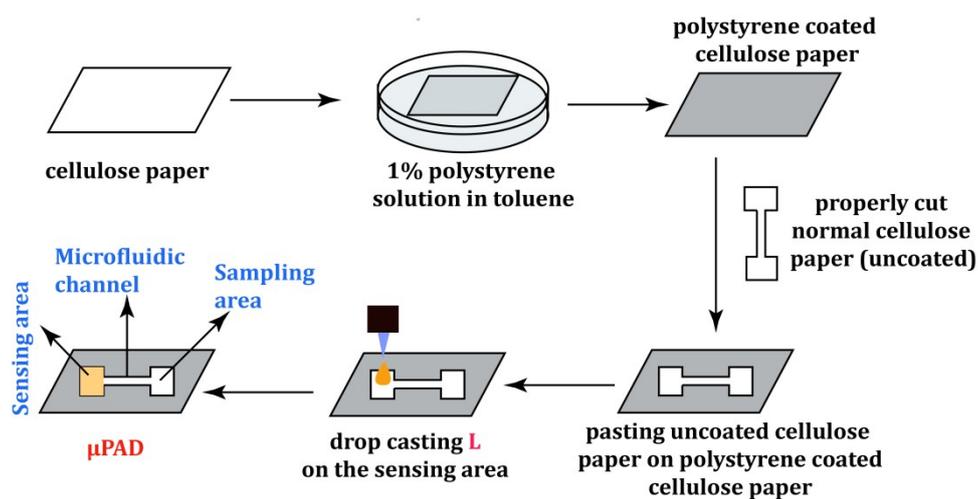
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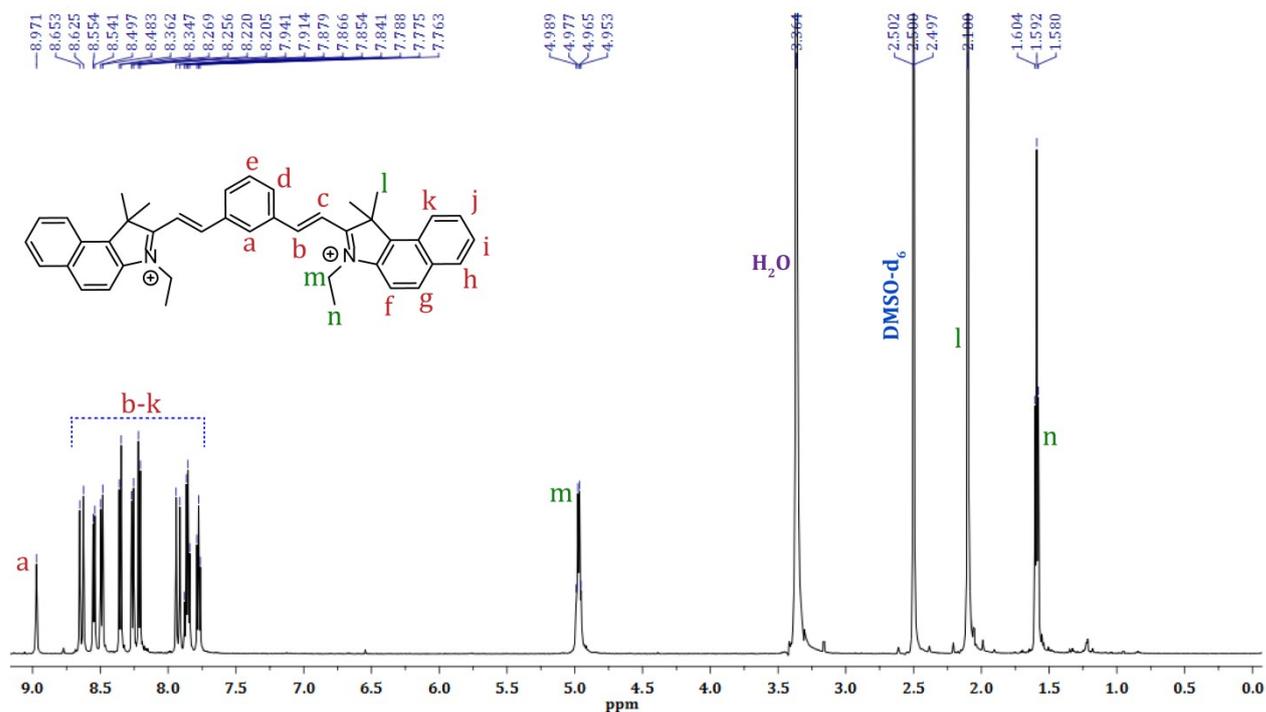
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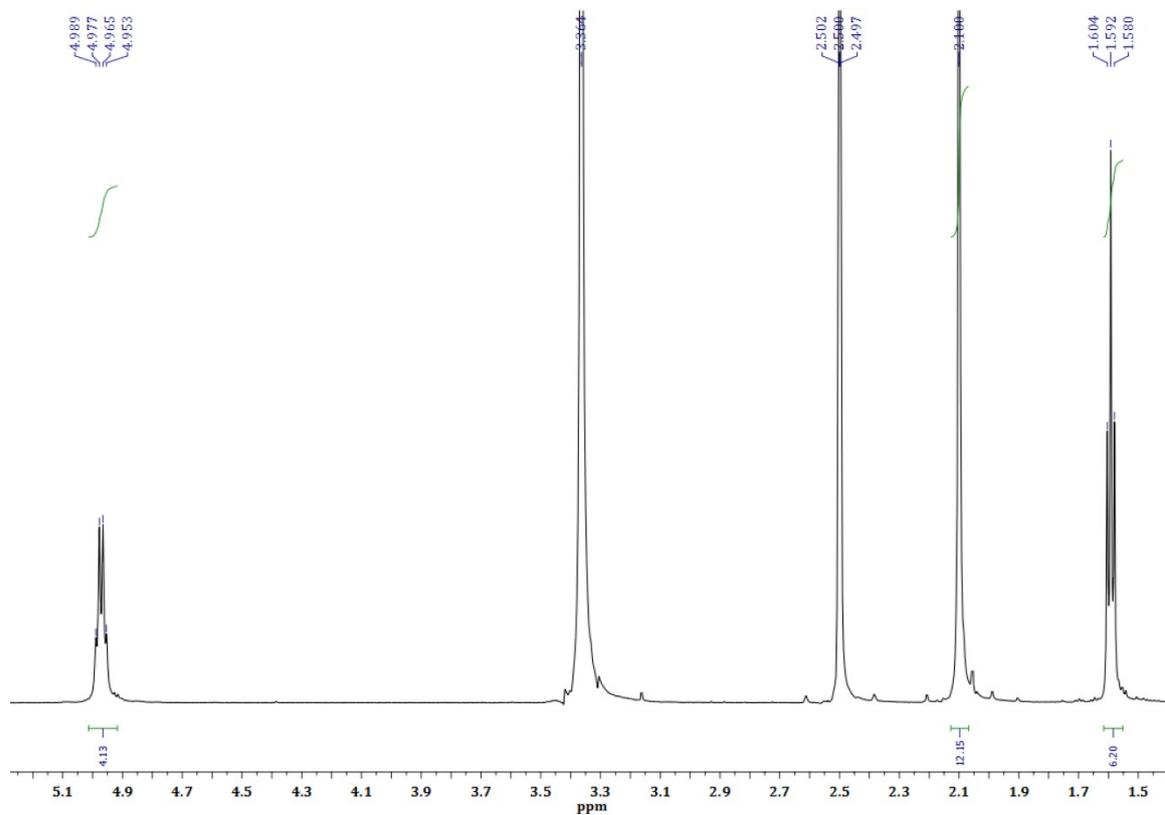
**Scheme S1:** Synthesis of the probe **L**.



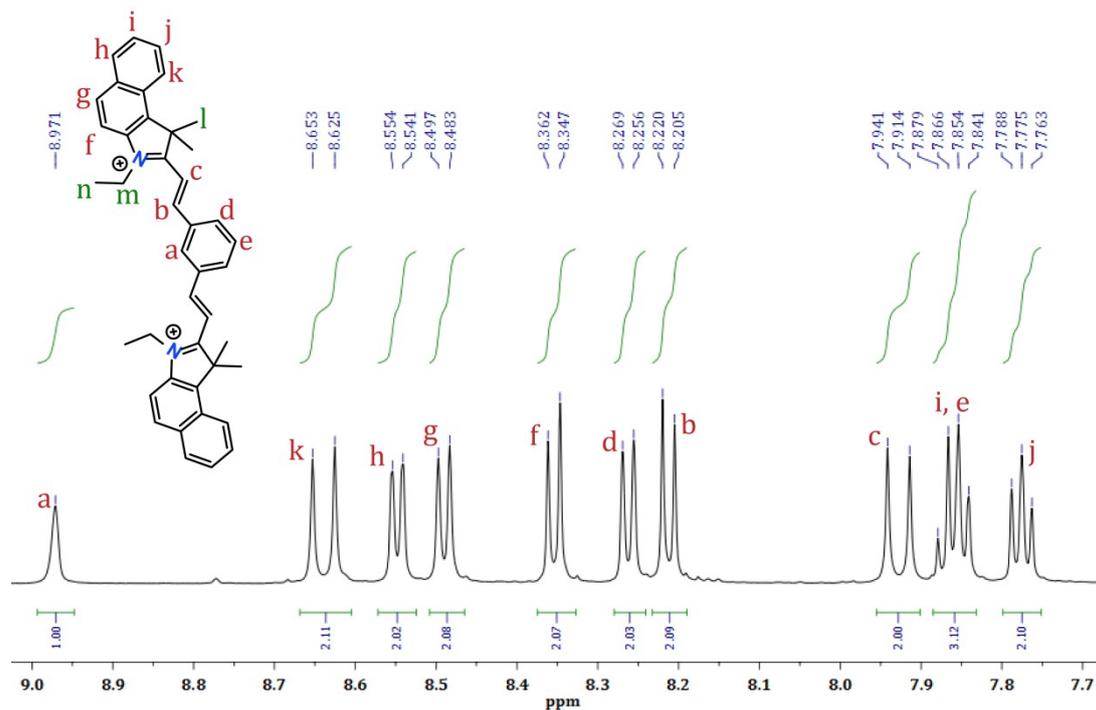
**Scheme S2:** Graphical representation of microfluidic device ( $\mu\text{PADs}$ ) fabrication.



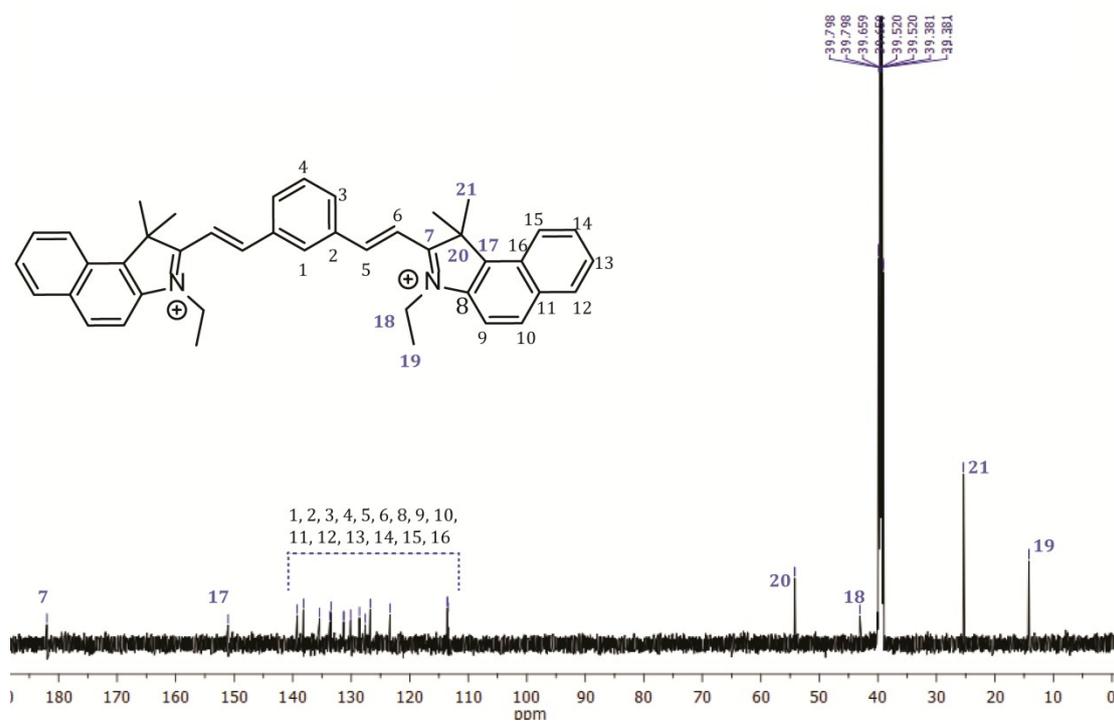
**Figure S1:**  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  spectra of **L** in  $\text{DMSO-d}_6$ .



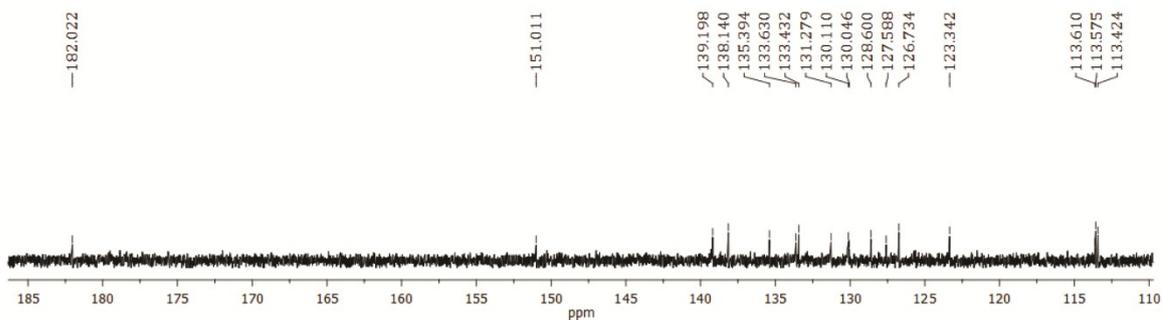
**Figure S2:** Expanded (aliphatic region)  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  spectra of **L** in  $\text{DMSO-d}_6$ .



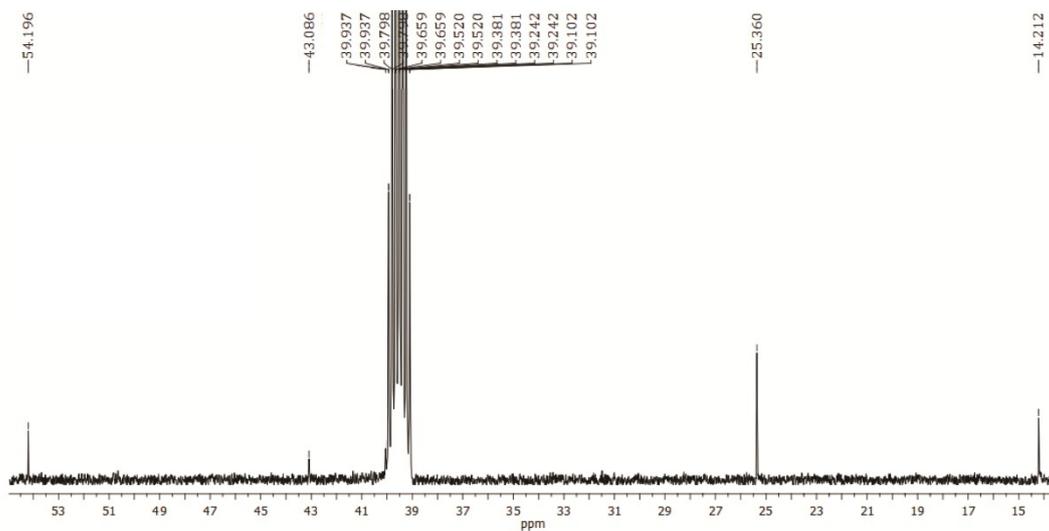
**Figure S3:** Expanded (aromatic region)  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  spectra of **L** in  $\text{DMSO-d}_6$ .



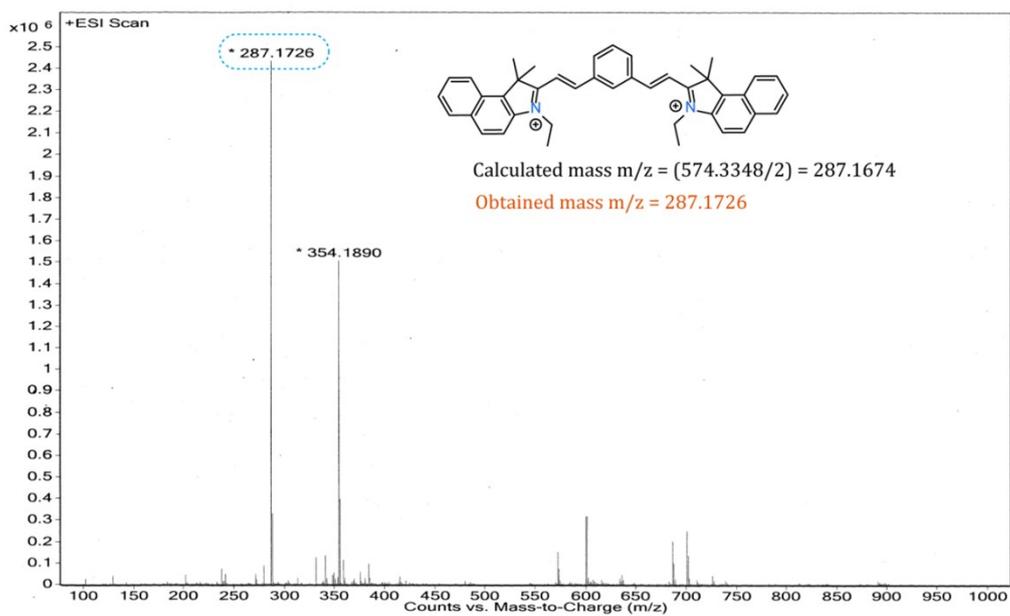
**Figure S4:**  $^{13}\text{C-NMR}$  spectra of **L** in  $\text{DMSO-d}_6$ .



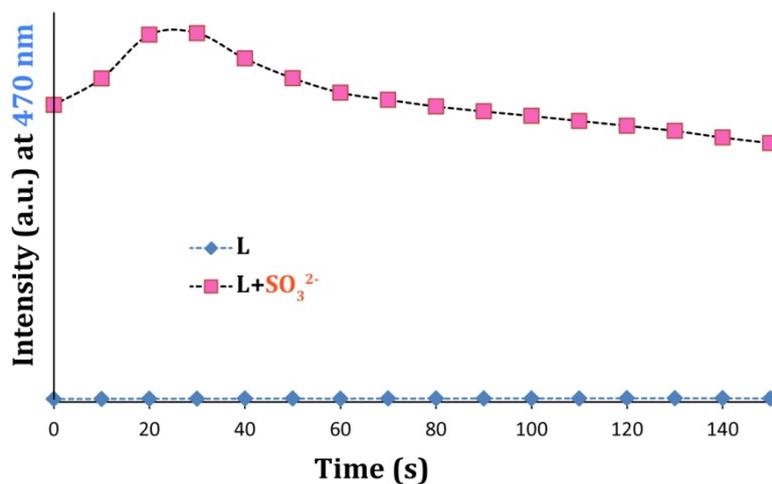
**Figure S5:** Expanded (aromatic region)  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR spectra of **L** in  $\text{DMSO-d}_6$ .



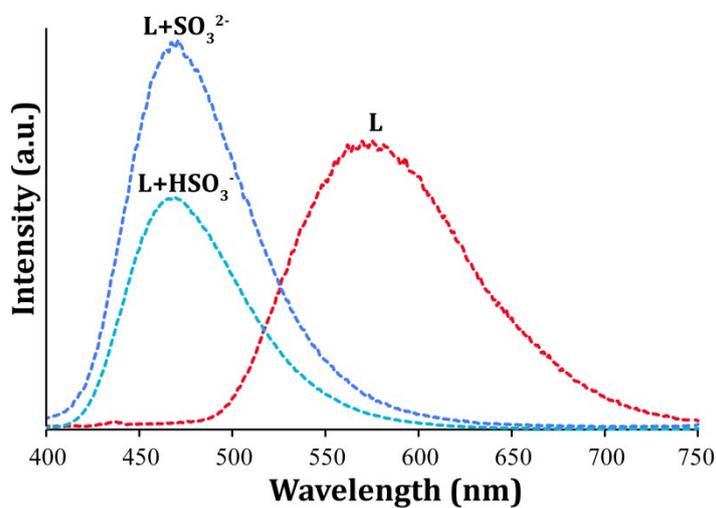
**Figure S6:** Expanded (aliphatic region)  $^{13}\text{C}$ -NMR spectra of **L** in  $\text{DMSO-d}_6$ .



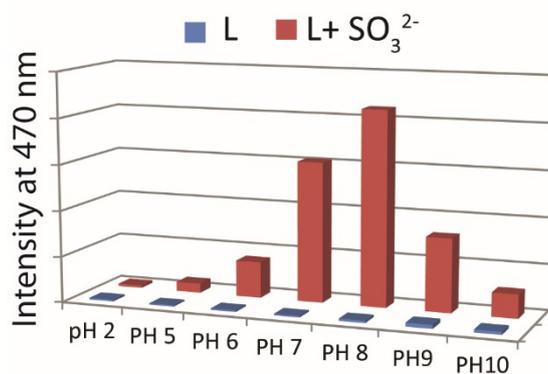
**Figure S7:** Mass spectrum of **L**.



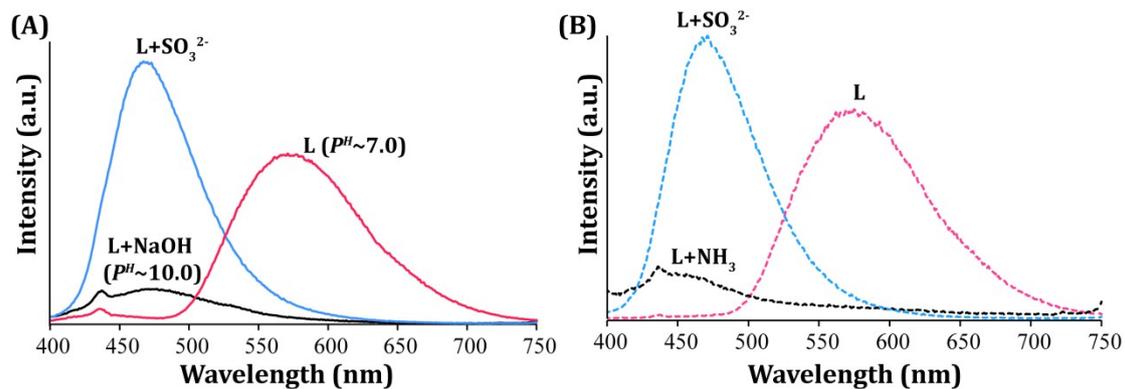
**Figure S8.** Changes in the emission intensity of L at 470 nm with time upon interaction with  $\text{SO}_3^{2-}$ ;  $\lambda_{\text{ex}}=380$  nm.



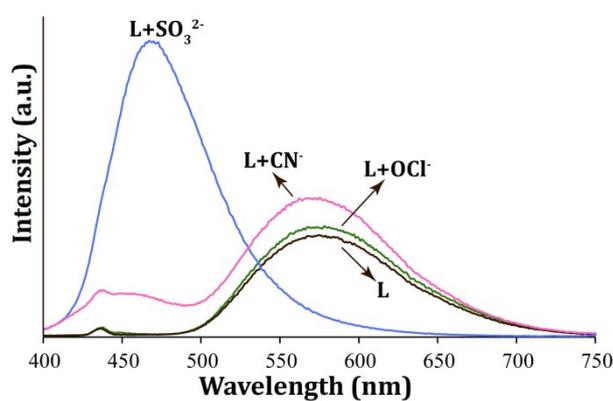
**Figure S9.** Fluorescence spectra of L in presence of  $\text{SO}_3^{2-}$  and  $\text{HSO}_3^-$  in ~100% aqueous buffer (PBS, pH 7.4);  $\lambda_{\text{ex}}=380$  nm.



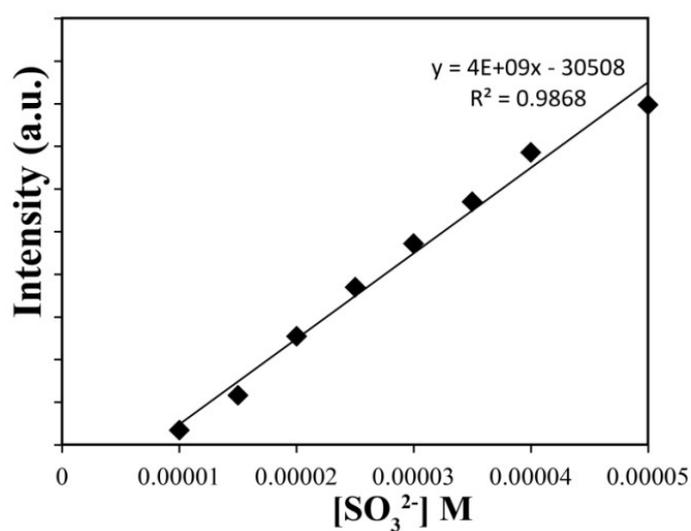
**Figure S10.** Changes in the emission intensity of L at 470 nm at different pH; with and without addition of  $\text{SO}_3^{2-}$ . Blue trace: L (10  $\mu\text{M}$ ) and Red trace: L with excess (20.0 equivalents) of  $\text{SO}_3^{2-}$ .



**Figure S11.** Fluorescence spectra of L in presence of excess (A) NaOH and (B)  $\text{NH}_3$ .



**Figure S12.** Fluorescence spectra of L in presence of  $\text{CN}^-$  and  $\text{OCl}^-$  in  $\sim 100\%$  aqueous buffer (PBS, pH 7.4);  $\lambda_{\text{ex}}=380$  nm.



**Figure S13.** Fluorescence intensity (at 470 nm) vs. concentration of  $\text{SO}_3^{2-}$  plot for determination of detection limit.

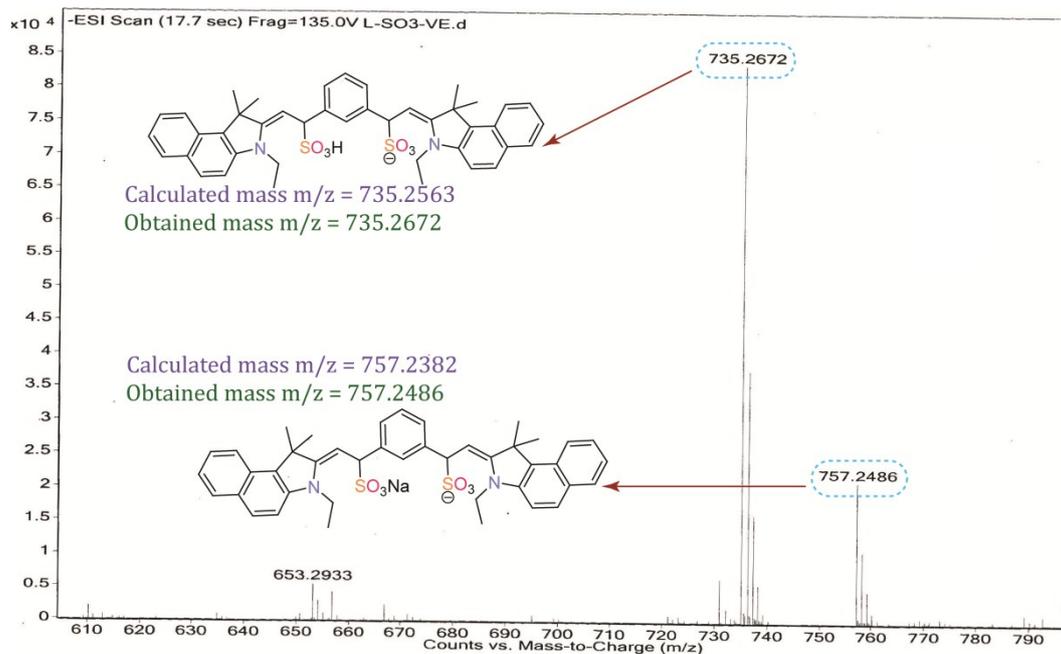


Figure S14. Mass spectrum of L in presence of  $\text{SO}_3^{2-}$ .

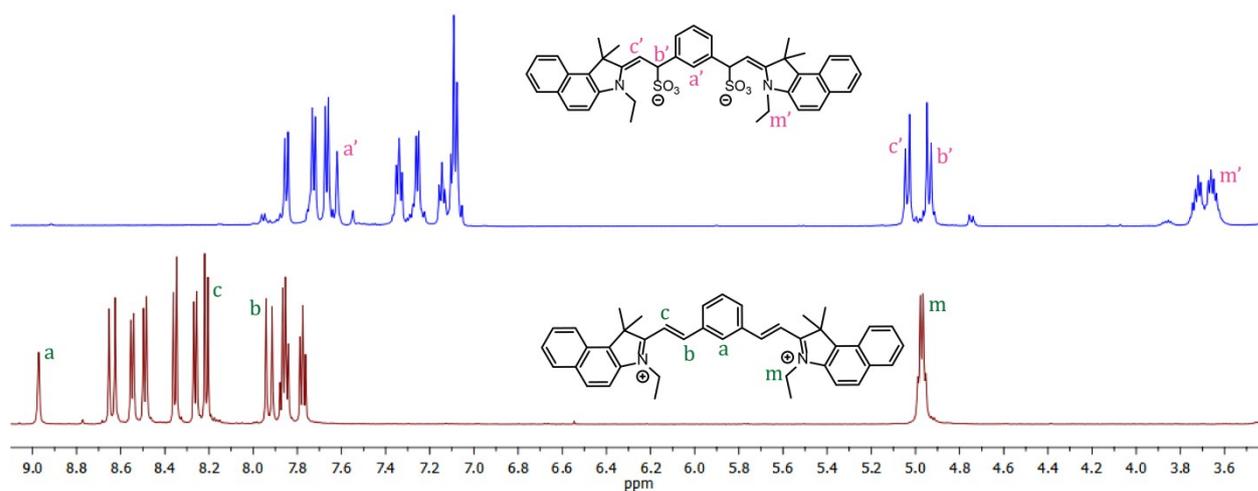
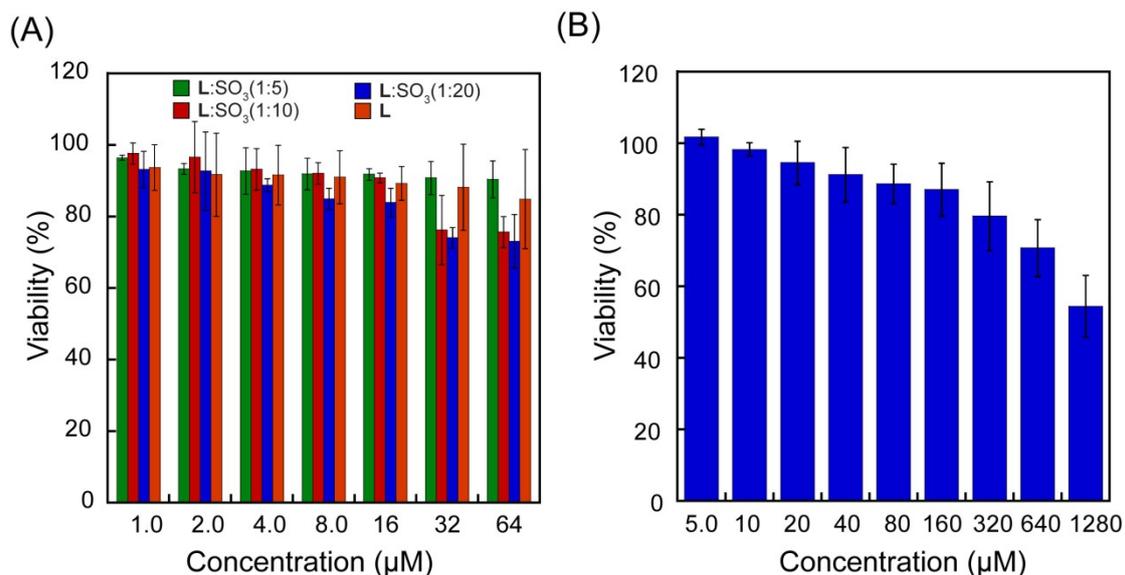


Figure S15.  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  spectra of L and  $\text{L-SO}_3^{2-}$  adduct in  $\text{DMSO-d}_6$ .



**Figure S16.** MTT assay to ascertain the cytotoxic effect of (A) varying concentrations of **L** and **L-SO<sub>3</sub><sup>2-</sup>** adduct in varying ratios and (B) varying concentrations of **Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>3</sub>** on HeLa cells.

**Table S1.** Crystal parameters and refinement data.

Code name	<b>L</b>
Empirical formula	C <sub>42</sub> H <sub>42</sub> I <sub>2</sub> N <sub>2</sub>
Formula weight	828.58
Crystal system	Hexagonal
a (Å)	15.6598(11)
b (Å)	15.6598(11)
c (Å)	34.080(2)
α (degree)	90
β (degree)	90
γ (degree)	120
V (Å <sup>3</sup> )	7237.7(13)
Space group	<i>P</i> 61 2 2
Z value	6
ρ (cal)(g/cm <sup>3</sup> )	1.141
μ (Mo Kα)(mm <sup>-1</sup> )	1.327
T(K)	298(2)
R <sub>1</sub> ; wR2 (I > 2 σ(I))	0.1231; 0.3163
R <sub>1</sub> ; wR2(all)	0.1956; 0.3489
Good-of-fit	1.000
Reflection measured	5814
Unique reflns	2029
Reflection parameters	212
CCDC No.	1534470