



CSIR IN Media

A Daily News Bulletin

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Dhanbad Lab to test Coal quality

CSIR-CIMFR

The Centre has assigned a Dhanbad-based government laboratory the task of scrutinising the quality of India's domestic coal in a bid to curb disputes between coal suppliers and thermal power plants across the country.

The Central Institute of Mining and Fuel Research (CIMFR) under the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) will serve as an independent third-party assessor of coal quality under a tripartite pact signed by representatives of coal suppliers and companies that use coal to generate power.

"We've been discussing the need for a robust mechanism for sampling, testing, and reporting the quality of coal," Piyush Goyal, the Union minister for power, coal, and new and renewable energy, said at a joint media conference with the Union science and technology minister Harsh Vardhan.

The pacts, he said, are expected to provide quality-assured coal to thermal power plants across India. The independent assessment by the CSIR-CIFMR will help minimise disputes on the quality of coal between coal suppliers and coal users, senior officials familiar with the initiative said.

"In recent years, some (thermal) power plants had noticed significant slippages in quality, they were being invoiced for high grade coal but supplied lower grade coal," said Ashok Khurana, director general of the Association of Power Producers.

The differences in perceptions about the coal supplied and coal received had led to a large number of disputes, a CSIR-CIMFR official said. Under the pact, the laboratory and its branches in Bilaspur, Nagpur, and Ranchi would screen samples of coal before they are shipped to power plants.

"This could have a huge positive financial impact on power companies," Khurana told The Telegraph. Various thermal power plants had been reporting up to 30 per cent of grade slippages, implying they were unhappy with the quality of coal they had received.

The quality of coal is determined by various parameters such as its calorific value (energy-yielding potential), ash content, and moisture content. Domestic coal is classified under 17 categories, with Grade 1 being the best coal with the highest calorific value, the lowest ash and moisture content, and Grade 17 being the worst coal with the lowest calorific value and the highest ash and moisture content, a senior CSIR-CIMFR official said.

"We've used a combination of physical and chemical technologies to develop an automated and reliable coal assessment system," said Pradeep Singh, director of the CSIR-CIMFR. Under the agreement, the laboratory estimates that samples representing about 300 million tonnes of coal would be analysed every year. The cost of testing itself is about Rs 8.50 per metric tonne which, Singh said, will not significantly add to the power bill.

But for the CSIR, the contract is expected to generate an annual revenue of about Rs 250 crore.

http://www.telegraphindia.com/1160629/jsp/frontpage/story_93852.jsp#.V30I1Oh96UI

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT | June 28, 2016

Piyush Goyal to seek soft loans for clean energy projects from World Bank chief

CSIR-CIMFR

Power Minister Piyush Goyal said on Tuesday he will seek low-cost and long-term finance for clean energy projects in his meeting with World Bank chief Jim Yong Kim on Wednesday.

The meeting is significant against the backdrop of US \$250 billion funding requirements towards India's ambitious target of 175 GW power capacity addition from by 2022. "I am meeting the World Bank chief tomorrow... With the World Bank, I am sure would be talking about how we can engage particularly for renewable energy to get low-cost long tenure funding... there could be many other issues that can come up. Cost of funds could be an issue," he told said in New Delhi.

"World Bank funding these days is quite expensive relative to other funding available, so I will probably flag off cost of funds also," he said.

He was speaking on the sidelines of signing of a tripartite MoU between CSIR-CIMFR (Central Institute of Mining and Fuel Research), NTPC and Coal India. "A committee that has been constituted between NTPC, Coal India and other members has drawn up a complete mechanism on how coal sampling will be done, the procedure for testing the sample, reporting the findings and the necessary impact it will have on the billing, particularly at the loading end," he said.

He further said that in the last two years, there has been a significant improvement in the quality of coal being supplied to consumers.

State-owned NTPC has reported reduction of nearly 20% in the cost of coal, largely by reducing imports of fossil fuel, the minister said, adding that there is an annual savings of around Rs 8,000 crore by the power PSU only in consumption of coal.

Goyal gave some firm assurances on the power availability front, saying there is enough electricity for the next 10 years. "Even if we have no hydro power projects, India will have sufficient power," he added.

Among public sector banks, SBI will be financing the largest capacities of 15,000 mw with an outlay of Rs 75,000 crore followed by IDBI Bank (3,000 mw).

Speaking on the occasion, Science and Technology minister Harsh Vardhan said energy has always been a top priority for Prime Minister Narendra Modi and this MoU marks "a historic moment". Goyal also said Coal Controller of India has started the process of revisiting coal grades of each coal mine, and 22 mines have been verified till date.

As a part of this MoU, CSIR-CIMFR will make use of its knowledge based support in maintaining quality of coal at national level for the entire power sector. It is estimated that about 300 mt of coal samples will be analysed for quality per year. The contract value of the project is around Rs 250 crore per annum at minimum.

This project is expected to result in improvement in performance of power plants, besides providing benefits to consumers.

CSIR lab to monitor quality of coal supplied to power plants

CSIR-CIMFR

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The move is expected to improve performance of power plants and reduce emission as efficient power generation will result in less pollutants at generation stage. It will also help the coal-based thermal power plants to adhere to strict emission norms, notified last year by the environment ministry, to deal with air pollution.

The CSIR's laboratory - Central Institute of Mining and Fuel Research (CIMFR), Dhanbad, Jharkhand - on Tuesday signed an MoU with the Coal India Limited, Singareni Collieries Company Limited and power utilities for quality monitoring of coals in the presence of science & technology minister Harsh Vardhand and power minister Piyush Goyal.

Under this MoU, the CSIR-CIMFR will make use of its knowledge base support in maintaining the quality of coal at national level for the entire power sector. It is estimated that about 300 million metric tons of coal samples would be analysed for quality per year. The contract value of the project is minimum around Rs 250 crore per annum.

"A committee that has been constituted between NTPC, Coal India and other members has drawn up a complete mechanism on how coal sampling will be done, the procedure for testing the sample, reporting the findings and the necessary impact it will have on the billing, particularly at the loading end," Goyal said.

He said there has been a significant improvement in the quality of coal being supplied to consumers in the last two years.

The power minister also gave some firm assurances on the power availability front, saying there is enough electricity for the next 10 years. "Even if we have no hydro power projects, India will have sufficient power," he said.

Speaking on the occasion, Harsh Vardhan - who had recently visited the Dhanbad-based institution to verify its capacity and functioning - said energy has always been a top priority for Prime Minister Narendra Modi and this MoU marks "a historic moment".

The CSIR-CIMFR provides knowledge support to entire coal-based energy chain encompassing exploration, mining, exploitation and environment. It is also engaged in exploitation of other mineral deposits and excavation for hydro-electric projects, tunnels and railways.

<http://energy.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/coal/csir-lab-to-monitor-quality-of-coal-supplied-to-power-plants/52965332>

Vishwa Mohan | TNN | Jun 29, 2016

CSIR-CIMFR asked to perform coal quality check

CSIR-CIMFR

The CSIR-Central Institute of Mining and Fuel Research (CIMFR) has been selected by the government for quality analysis and sampling of coal supplied to power utilities at the unloading end. A memorandum of understanding giving CSIR-CIMFR the mandate was signed on Tuesday.

“In the last two years, by and large, we have seen a significant improvement in the quality of coal that is being supplied to customers. In fact, NTPC has reported a reduction of nearly 20 per cent in the cost of coal, largely by reducing imports and equally importantly, the quality of coal that is being supplied by the coal companies,” said Piyush Goyal, Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Power, Coal and New & Renewable Energy.

The Minister elaborated that the savings on consumption of coal due to reduced imports and better quality for NTPC is around ₹ 8,000 crore annually.

Goyal also said that the Coal Controller of India has started the process of revisiting the coal grades of each mine and so far 22 mines have been verified till date.

“Reassessing coal grades does not mean that there has been a slippage. Having been to several mines in the last few weeks, what I have come to realise is within one seam, several grades can emerge. This is just our endeavour to improve the coal quality,” said Goyal.

As a part of this MoU, CSIR-CIMFR would make use of its knowledge based support in maintaining the quality of coal at national level for the entire power sector, a statement added.

It is estimated that about 300 million tons of coal samples would be analysed for quality every year. The contract value of the project is around ₹ 250 crore per annum at the minimum.

<http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/csircimfr-asked-to-perform-coal-quality-check/article8784370.ece>

June 28, 2016

Govt to offer coal use flexibility to private companies in 3-4 months

CSIR-CIMFR

Government is planning to offer private companies the flexibility to use domestic coal to bring down cost of electricity generation in the next 3-4 months, Power Minister Piyush Goyal today said

Government is planning to offer private companies the flexibility to use domestic coal to bring down cost of electricity generation in the next 3-4 months, Power Minister Piyush Goyal today said.

“We have proposed to do it for private companies as well in 3-4 months after doing it for states,” Goyal replied when asked about timeline for the government to relax norms for using domestic coal by private firms.

“We have mentioned it in the Cabinet proposal that first, we will do it for states. Thereafter, we will do it for private companies.”

Last month, the government had relaxed norms for utilisation of domestic coal by states with an aim to reduce cost of power generation by 40-50 paise per unit.

It was estimated that this measure would eventually lead to yearly savings of up to Rs 30,000 crore in the next 4-5 years.

The government has allowed all coal linkages to plants of state and central utilities like NTPC to be combined.



The state and central utilities are also given freedom to utilise that coal in most efficient and effective manner for reducing the cost of power generation.

Under the arrangement, all coal linkages to a central public sector undertaking are treated as one.

This helps these state-run plants to find the most effective way of utilising it so that the modern and new plants run at a higher plant load factor. This reduces cost of power which is ultimately passed on to the consumer.

<http://www.financialexpress.com/article/industry/companies/govt-to-offer-coal-use-flexibility-to-private-companies-in-3-4-months/299964/>

PTI | New Delhi | June 28, 2016

MoU Signed for Coal Quality Analysis

CSIR-CIMFR

Centre Institute of Mining and Fuel Research (CSIR-CIMFR) signed a Memorandum of Understanding here today with Coal Supplying companies and Power Utilities for quality analysis of coal being supplied to power utilities by coal companies. The MoU was signed in presence of Dr. Harshvardhan, Union Minister of Science & Technology and Earth Sciences and Shri Piyush Goyal, Union Minister of State (IC) for Power, Coal and New & Renewable Energy. The collaboration will enhance energy efficient use of coal by power sector.

While addressing the audience, Dr. Harshvardhan said that Energy has always been a top priority for Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and this MoU embarks a historic moment for the energy production chapter of the country. He further said that CSIR CIMFR has been assigned a very crucial task and I assure you to deliver best possible results in a transparent environment for quality maintenance in coal sector of the country.

Speaking on the occasion, Shri Goyal said that it is a very important day, reflecting the team India spirit where three ministries are working together as one to serve the people of India. He added, I am sure that this initiative will help consumers of India significantly by giving them cheaper more affordable power in the years to come". The Minister further said that we have been talking about a robust mechanism to have an inspection and proper grading of coal for several months now and I am delighted that committee consisting of NTPC, CIL and others have drawn out a complete mechanism of coal quality testing.

Emphasizing the importance of maintaining coal quality, Shri Goyal said, In last two years, by and large we have seen a significant improvement in the quality of coal that is being supplied to the consumers. Infact, NTPC has reported a reduction of nearly 20% in the cost of coal, largely by reducing the imports of coal and equally important- the quality of coal, that is supplied by the coal companies." The Minister also informed that Coal Controller of India has started the process of revisiting the coal grades of each coal mine and 22 mines have been verified till date.

As a part of this MoU, CSIR-CIMFR would make use of its knowledge based support in maintaining the quality of coal at national level for the entire power sector. It is estimated that about 300 million metric tons of coal samples would be analyzed for quality per year. The contract value of the project is around Rs 250 crore per annum at minimum. It is also expected that this project will result in improvement in performance of power plants besides leveraging benefits to the consumer in particular and society as a whole. The endeavor would help the nation in sustainable energy supply and security planning for future as it may reduce import of thermal coal.

Shri Anil Swarup, Secretary, Ministry of Coal, Shri Pradeep Kumar Pujari, Secretary, Ministry of Power, Dr. Girish Sahni, DG, CSIR and Secreatry DSIR and senior officers of Coal, Power ministries and CSIR were also present on the occasion.

http://www.business-standard.com/article/government-press-release/mou-signed-for-coal-quality-analysis-116062800925_1.html

Delhi | Jun 28, 2016

CSIR to analyse coal quality for affordable power generation

CSIR-CIMFR

To ensure that quality coal reaches the power generation companies, the CSIR on Tuesday signed an MoU with Coal India and NTPC to analyse the quality of coal reaching from source to user.

"This is a huge step which will ensure cheaper and more affordable power for the country," Union Power Minister Piyush Goyal said here. He added that the procedure of analysis is optional for the coal producers and users.

As per the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)-Central Institute of Mining and Fuel Research (CIMFR) will monitor the quality of coal reaching NTPC, being supplied by Coal India or other suppliers.

"The efforts through this project would minimise the disagreements on quality issues between coal producers and end users," said a government statement.

Due to several reasons including adulteration, quality of coal deteriorates by the time it reaches the user end. The project however does not talk about looking into the causes of drop in the coal quality.

About 300 million tonnes of coal will be annually analysed under this project at the cost of Rs 250 crore per annum.

"It will not have any impact on climate change but only on the cost of power, because a better quality of coal would be assured by enhancing efficiency of coal used by power generation," Goyal said.

He added that NTPC had saved Rs 8,000 crore recently by monitoring the coal quality and taking other measures.

Minister of Science and Technology Harsh Vardhan said that energy sector is a matter of passion for the Prime Minister and his department would ensure all the scientific aid.

http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ians/csir-to-analyse-coal-quality-for-affordable-power-generation-116062801230_1.html

IANS | New Delhi | Jun 28, 2016

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<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/home/environment/pollution/CSIR-lab-to-monitor-quality-of-coal-supplied-to-power-plants/articleshow/52959992.cms>

Vishwa Mohan | TNN | Jun 28, 2016

CSIR जाँचेगा कोयले की गुणवत्ता

CSIR-CIMFR

कोयला खनन कंपनियों कोल इंडिया लिमिटेड तथा सिंगारेनी कोलियरीज कंपनी लिमिटेड और बिजली उत्पादक कंपनियों ने आपूर्ति किये जाने वाले कोयले की गुणवत्ता तय करने के लिए सीएसआईआर के केंद्रीय खनन एवं ईंधन अनुसंधान संस्थान (सीआईएमएफआर) के साथ करार किया है।

केंद्रीय विज्ञान एवं प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्री डॉ. हर्षवर्द्धन तथा केंद्रीय ऊर्जा मंत्री पीयूष गोयल की मौजूदगी में आज तीनों पक्षों के वरिष्ठ अधिकारियों ने 10 साल के समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किये। समझौते के तहत परियोजना की लागत सालाना न्यूनतम 250 करोड़ रुपये होगी। यह खर्च कोयला उत्पादक कंपनियाँ तथा इसका इस्तेमाल करने वाली बिजली कंपनियाँ आधा-आधा वहन करेंगी। इसके तहत हर साल कोयले के 30 करोड़ टन नमूनों की जाँच का अनुमान है।

गोयल ने बताया कि गुणवत्ता की जाँच की तकनीक धनबाद स्थित सीआईएमएफआर द्वारा विकसित की गई है। जाँच के बाद कोयले की ग्रेडिंग तय की जायेगी जिससे ग्राहक कंपनियों (बिजली कंपनियों) के लिए अपनी जरूरत के अनुसार सही गुणवत्ता वाले कोयले की खरीद आसान हो जायेगी। साथ ही इससे कोयला कंपनियों को भी गुणवत्ता के हिसाब से उनके उत्पाद का मूल्य मिलेगा।

<http://www.deshbandhu.co.in/newsdetail/286636/1/19#.V3OI0eh96U>

Jun 28, 2016

Affordable Ayurvedic drug to fight diabetes launched; priced at Rs. 5

CSIR-NBRI
CSIR-CIMAP

The modern diabetes drugs are known for side-effects and toxicity while BGR-34 works by controlling blood sugar.



Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) on Monday launched BGR-34 - an anti-diabetic ayurvedic drug designed for type 2 Diabetes mellitus.

BGR-34 is developed jointly by National Botanical Research Institute (NBRI) and Central Institute for Medicinal and Aromatic Plants (CIMAP), the research units of CSIR at Lucknow.

BGR-34 has been economically priced at Rs. 5 per tablet as compared to latest DPP4 inhibitors globally, a joint release by NBRI and CIMAP and the manufacturer AIMIL Pharmaceuticals (India) Ltd, said.

A K S Rawat, Sr Principal Scientist of CSIR-NBRI said six crore of the adult Indian population had been found to be diabetic and there is no effective solution for diabetes as yet.

"We are sure that eminent medical professionals will recommend it to their patients suffering from type 2 Diabetes mellitus for quicker and consistent response," he said.

He said CSIR's premier research institutions have developed and established the efficacy of BGR-34.

The modern diabetes drugs are known for side-effects and toxicity while BGR-34 works by controlling blood sugar and limiting the harmful effects of other drugs, he added.

The scientists of NBRI and CIMAP joined hands in developing the drug and they had in-depth study of over 500 renowned ancient herbs and finally identified the six best herbs listed in Ayurvedic ancient texts to develop an anti-diabetic formulation.

Daya Nandan Mani, Senior Scientist of CSIR-NBRI, said Pre-clinical studies of this anti-diabetic formulation revealed significant reduction in high blood sugar level in diabetes induced experimental subjects.

Anil Kumar Sharma, Vice President (Technical) of AIMIL Pharmaceuticals (India) Ltd, said, one of the critical ingredients inhibits DPP-4 and enhances insulin secretion.

The product passed several battery of tests and showed hypoglycaemic activity in experimental subjects, he said.

For the purpose of commercial production and extended distribution, Aimil Pharmaceuticals (India) Ltd has been transferred the rights and technical know-how to produce and market it for medical use, the release said.

<http://www.deccanchronicle.com/lifestyle/health-and-wellbeing/280616/affordable-ayurvedic-drug-to-fight-diabetes-launched-priced-at-rs-5.html>

PTI | June 28, 2016

CSIR launches ayurvedic anti-diabetic drug

CSIR-NBRI
CSIR-CIMAP



Bengaluru, June 27 (IANS) The Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) on Monday launched its ayurvedic anti-diabetic drug BGR-34.

Aimed at managing type 2 diabetes, BGR-34 has been jointly developed by National Botanical Research Institute (NBRI) and Central Institute for Medicinal and Aromatic Plants (CIMAP), both located in Lucknow.

"The modern diabetes drugs are known for side-effects and toxicity while BGR-34 works by controlling blood sugar and limiting the harmful effects of other drugs," said NBRI's Senior Principal Scientist A.K.S. Rawat.

NBRI and CIMAP scientists studied nearly 500 ancient herbs listed in ayurvedic texts to zero in on daruharidra (*Berberis aristata*), giloy (*Tinospora cordifolia*), vijaysar (*Pterocarpus marsupium*), gudmar (*Gymnema sylvestre*), majeeth (*Rubia cordifolia*) and methika (*Trigonella foenum-graecum*) to make the anti-diabetic formulation.

Ayurvedic pharma compnay AIMIL Pharmaceuticals will commercially produce and distribute BGR- 34, which has been priced at Rs 5 and will be available widely across Karnataka and neighbouring states.

"BGR-34 is a unique product that manages the lives of human suffering diabetics. The product passed several battery of tests and showed hypoglycaemic activity in experimental subjects," said AIMIL Pharmaceuticals vice president Anil Kumar Sharma.

http://ianslive.in/index.php?param=news/CSIR_launches_ayurvedic_anti_diabetic_drug-515402/HEALTH%20AND%20TRAVEL/35

IANS | June 28, 2016

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BGR-34 has been economically priced at Rs. 5 per tablet as compared to latest DPP4 inhibitors globally, a joint release by NBRI and CIMAP and the manufacturer AIMIL Pharmaceuticals (India) Ltd, said.

A K S Rawat, Sr Principal Scientist of CSIR-NBRI said six crore of the adult Indian population had been found to be diabetic and there is no effective solution for diabetes as yet.

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The scientists of NBRI and CIMAP joined hands in developing the drug and they had in-depth study of over 500 renowned ancient herbs and finally identified the six best herbs listed in Ayurvedic ancient texts to develop an anti-diabetic formulation.

Daya Nandan Mani, Senior Scientist of CSIR-NBRI, said Pre-clinical studies of this anti-diabetic formulation revealed significant reduction in high blood sugar level in diabetes induced experimental subjects.

Anil Kumar Sharma, Vice President (Technical) of AIMIL Pharmaceuticals (India) Ltd, said, one of the critical ingredients inhibits DPP-4 and enhances insulin secretion.

The product passed several battery of tests and showed hypoglycaemic activity in experimental subjects, he said. For the purpose of commercial production and extended distribution, Aimil Pharmaceuticals (India) Ltd has been transferred the rights and technical know-how to produce and market it for medical use, the release said.

<http://www.asianage.com/life-and-style/affordable-ayurvedic-drug-fight-diabetes-launched-priced-rs-5-357>

Press Trust of India | Jun 28, 2016

CSIR launches anti-diabetic ayurvedic capsule

CSIR-NGRI
CSIR-CIMAP

The Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), backed by the Ministry of Science and Technology, has launched an anti-diabetic ayurvedic capsule.

Called BGR-34, shortened name for Blood Glucose Regulator, it is designed for type 2 diabetes.

Talking to BusinessLine, Doctor Anil Kumar Sharma, Vice-President, AIMIL Pharmaceuticals, said it has been scientifically validated for its efficacy and safety. AIMIL will manufacture this drug and market it.

BGR-34 is developed jointly by the National Botanical Research Institute (NBRI) and the Central Institute for Medicinal and Aromatic Plants (CIMAP), the research units of CSIR, he added.

Further, BGR-34 has been priced at Rs. 5 per tablet and can be taken as prescribed by the doctor. It is estimated that six crore Indians are affected by diabetes.

A K S Rawat, Senior Principal Scientist of CSIR-NBRI, said: “Modern diabetes drugs are known for side-effects and toxicity, while BGR-34 works by controlling blood sugar and limiting the harmful effects of other drugs.”

The drug consists of Daruharidra (*Berberis aristata*), Giloy (*Tinospora cordifolia*), Vijaysar (*Pterocarpus marsupium*), Gudmar (*Gymnema Sylvestre*), Majeeth (*Rubia cordifolia*) and Methika (*Trigonella foenum-graecum*), company executives said.

Daya Nandan Mani, Senior Scientist of CSIR-NBRI, added that pre-clinical studies of this anti-diabetic formulation revealed significant reduction in high blood sugar level in diabetes induced experimental subjects, with the activity being comparable with the reference standards laid down by an anti-diabetic allopathic drug.

BGR-34 is available on all major medical stores in Karnataka and adjoining states.

<http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/csir-launches-antidiabetic-ayurvedic-capsule/article8783957.ece>

Bengaluru | Jun 28, 2016

India launches an Ayurvedic anti-diabetes pill priced at Rs. 5

CSIR-NBRI
CSIR-CIMAP

An anti-diabetes pill priced at Rs. 5 may just be what India — the diabetes capital of the world — needs. Bengaluru-based Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) on Monday launched an Ayurvedic anti-diabetes pill called BGR-34, used for the management of type-2 diabetes (which is the most common one), which has been priced at Rs. 5.

The pill has been claimed to be cheaper than some other similar medications available worldwide. BGR-34 has been jointly developed by National Botanical Research Institute and the Central Institute for Medicinal and Aromatic Plants, the research units of CSIR at Lucknow. An official release quoted by the Press Trust of India said that BGR-34 has been economically priced at Rs. 5 per tablet as compared to latest DPP4 inhibitors globally.

DPP4 are Dipeptidyl peptidase inhibitors, which are used for the treatment of diabetes worldwide.

Scientists have brought together six herbs from those listed in Ayurvedic text books after studying at least 500 herbs, to formulate this drug, which is claimed to have no side-effects, unlike other diabetes medications. Besides, the drug has shown positive results during clinical trials in reducing the blood sugar levels by increasing the secretion of the insulin hormone, the researchers said.

One of the critical ingredients in it inhibits DPP-4 and enhances insulin secretion, Anil Kumar Sharma, the Vice President (Technical) of AIMIL Pharmaceuticals (India) Ltd., which has been given the rights of marketing and distributing the drug, told the news agency. "The product passed several battery of tests and showed hypoglycaemic activity in experimental subjects," he said.

The scientists are hopeful of a positive response from medical professionals and patients. "We are sure that eminent medical professionals will recommend it to their patients suffering from type 2 Diabetes mellitus for quicker and consistent response," AKS Rawat, Sr Principal Scientist of CSIR-NBRI, was quoted by PTI as saying.

India had nearly 6.4 crore diabetic patients in 2014 and nearly 3 percent of deaths occurring annually in the country are due to diabetes. Recent studies suggest that non-communicable diseases such as diabetes are on the rise in the country.

<http://www.ibtimes.co.in/india-launches-ayurvedic-anti-diabetes-pill-priced-rs-5-684703>

Bismah Malik | Jun 28, 2016

CSIR launches ayurvedic anti-diabetic drug BGR-34

CSIR-NBRI
CSIR-CIMAP

The Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) on Monday launched its ayurvedic anti-diabetic drug BGR-34.

Aimed at managing type 2 diabetes, BGR-34 has been jointly developed by National Botanical Research Institute (NBRI) and Central Institute for Medicinal and Aromatic Plants (CIMAP), both located in Lucknow.

"The modern diabetes drugs are known for side-effects and toxicity while BGR-34 works by controlling blood sugar and limiting the harmful effects of other drugs," said NBRI's Senior Principal Scientist A.K.S. Rawat.

NBRI and CIMAP scientists studied nearly 500 ancient herbs listed in ayurvedic texts to zero in on daruharidra (*Berberis aristata*), giloy (*Tinospora cordifolia*), vijaysar (*Pterocarpus marsupium*), gudmar (*Gymnema sylvestre*), majeeth (*Rubia cordifolia*) and methika (*Trigonella foenum-graecum*) to make the anti-diabetic formulation.

Ayurvedic pharma company AIMIL Pharmaceuticals will commercially produce and distribute BGR-34, which has been priced at Rs 5 and will be available widely across Karnataka and neighbouring states.

BGR-34 is a unique product that manages the lives of human suffering diabetics. The product passed several battery of tests and showed hypoglycaemic activity in experimental subjects," said AIMIL Pharmaceuticals vice president Anil Kumar Sharma.

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/healthcare/biotech/csir-launches-ayurvedic-anti-diabetic-drug-bgr-34/articleshow/52942895.cms>

Jun 28, 2016

Go easy on salt, sugar: CFTRI chief

CSIR-CFTRI

Central Food Technological Research Institute director Ram Rajasekharan has said that excess intake of salt and sugar affects health.

Speaking after inaugurating a seminar on 'Yoga, food and health' jointly organized by Prajapita Brahmakumari Ishwariya Vishwa Vidyalaya Association of Food Scientists and Technologists, DFRL and CFTRI, the director said: "Processed food is best in the present-day scenario. CFTRI has been manufacturing ready-to-eat/drink products."

"In ancient times, yogis were healthy because they were consuming only healthy food. Practising yoga is crucial for one to be healthy," he said.

B K Lakshmi, chief coordinator of Brahma Kumaris (Mysuru zone), said that yoga is a way to access spiritual knowledge. Brahma Kumaris organization has been spreading awareness about yoga and its spiritual and physical benefits among people.

University of Mysore department of food and nutrition chairperson Asna Urooj made a presentation on 'Fractured foods'. NTPC Sail Power Company Pvt Ltd deputy general manager Arun K Sahoo and DFRL director Rakesh Kumar Sharma also spoke.

Over 100 scientists attached to CFTRI, DFRL and prime research establishments of the city attended the seminar.



<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/mysuru/Go-easy-on-salt-sugar-CFTRI-chief/articleshow/52950462.cms>

TNN | June 28, 2016

Catalysis research vital for growth of country

CSIR-IICT

A two-and-a-half day national workshop on the Challenges in Catalysis Science and Technology was inaugurated by former director of Indian Institute of Petroleum Dr T S R Prasada Rao at Indian Institute of Chemical Technology (IICT) in Hyderabad.

The workshop is being jointly organised by Catalysis Society of India along with CSIR-IICT. The response for the workshop was overwhelming with the attendance of more than 250 scientists and researchers from government institutions and private R&D laboratories in India.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr Rao emphasised the theme of workshop to address the present day scientific challenges and technological demands of the chemical industry in the country.

In the opening remarks, Reliance Industries Limited, Vadodara, senior vice-president, Dr R V Jasra appraised the need of innovative catalysts for sustainable and eco-friendly production of diverse chemicals used today.



He said around 90 per cent of chemical transformations in the industry use catalysts and the total value of global chemicals production depending on catalysts were estimated to be around 2 trillion US dollars. Convener of the workshop and head of Inorganic and Physical Chemistry, IICT, Dr B Mahipal Reddy explained the genesis of catalysis workshop at IICT and welcomed the participants.

He said that this division was actively engaged in catalysis research over the years with more than 100 PhD students and well trained 25 senior scientists. He said all state-of-the art research facilities were available within the department to carry out any challenging research on catalyst development. Some of the technologies developed in the department were in commercial practice in India, he added.

Chief scientist Dr U S N Murthy welcomed the gathering to the workshop and highlighted the role of catalysis research in day-to-day life. Co-convener of the workshop and principal scientist Dr N Lingaiah appreciated the participation of a good number of industry experts and principal scientist Dr K Rajender Reddy proposed vote of thanks.

High profile industries like SABIC, HPCL, Hindustan Platinum, Reliance Industries, Sud-Chemie and others gave an excellent opportunity to the young researchers to interact with them.

<http://www.thehansindia.com/posts/index/Telangana/2016-06-29/Catalysis-research-vital-for-growth-of-country/238286>

The Hans India | June 28, 2016