# CSIR IN WEDLA



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# Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh calls for linking StartUps with Industry right from the beginning as equal stakeholders in order to ensure sustainable Start-Ups

CSIR

10<sup>th</sup> September, 2022





Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology; Minister of State (Independent Charge) Earth Sciences; MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh today called for linking StartUps with Industry right from the beginning as equal stakeholders in order to ensure sustainable StartUps.

While chairing the Leadership session of Ministers from different States on the first day of the 2-day "Centre-State Science Conclave" at Science City in Ahmedabad, Dr Jitendra Singh said, his Ministry is proactively reaching out to Start-Ups across the country and providing seed funds for incubation and quality research with 50-50 investment mechanism from the DST and the Start-Ups.

Earlier, the 2-day 'Centre-State Science Conclave' was formally inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi at Science City, Ahmedabad. Referring to Prime Minister Modi's launch of StartUp India from the ramparts of Red Fort in 2015, Dr Jitendra Singh said, India in its 75th year of Independence is now home to more than 75,000 Start-Ups taking a huge leap from 300 odd start-ups a few years ago. He said, India ranks globally 3rd in Start-Up ecosystem and



also in terms of number of Unicorns. Dr Jitendra Singh informed that a special session with the CEOs of over 100 Start-Ups and industry at the Centre-State Science Conclave' in Ahmedabad will try to explore state specific solutions for unique problems faced by individual states. The Minister promised all support from all the 6 Science Departments to the potential start-ups willing to work with state governments with funding from all stakeholders.

Science and Technology Ministers of Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Assam, Uttarakhand, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Haryana and Chief Secretaries and Science and Technology Secretaries of other States and UTs gave brief presentations about the STI policy and other achievements in scientific endeavours and Start-ups in their respective states.

Dr Jitendra Singh said, integration of Research, Start-ups, Academia and Industry is no longer an option but a dire necessity to attract young innovators in the country, particularly in the States to come out with cutting-edge and globally competitive products and solutions. He said, "Doubling Private Sector investment in R&D by 2030" and supplementing the country's and State's overall economy is a key agenda of the Conclave in tune with Atma Nirbhar goal of Modi Government.

Bowing to the will of State Ministers for proactive engagementsbetween Centre and Statesin S&T and creating a mechanism to facilitate the flow of STI information and data between Centre and States, Dr Jitendra Singh said, after two days manthan, small joint committees will be formed between the Centre and different cluster of states for taking forward the STI policy to its logical conclusion. The Minister said, Capacity Building of Scientists, technologists and professionals from States will be the key focus area and added that Centre and States will work together to promote Private sector participation in the State R&D and will try to put in position a robust and long term "Centre-State coordination and monitoring Mechanism in STI at the highest level. Taking a cue from Prime Minister's address at the conclave to open more Innovation Labs in the higher education institutes of the States, Dr Jitendra Singh promised that Department of Science and Technology at the Centre will provide all support including



monetary support for establishing niche innovation centres in the States. Dr Jitendra Singh informed that in tune with Prime Minister's relentless efforts to facilitate innovation and entrepreneurship in the country, the first-of-its-kind Conclave will strengthen Centre-State coordination and collaboration mechanisms in the spirit of cooperative federalism to build a robust science, technology & innovation (STI) ecosystem across the country.

Referring to the theme of Leadership Session "Anusandhan se Samadhan", Dr Jitendra Singh informed that important plenary sessions with State S&T Ministers are being organized during the two-day summit on issues like Agriculture, Innovation for producing portable drinking water including application of technologies like Desalination, Heli borne methods developed by DST, Clean Energy for All including S&T role in Hydrogen mission, Deep Sea Mission of MoES and its relevance for Coastal States/UT, Digital healthcare for All and Synergizing Science with National Education Policy.

Earlier, delivering the welcome address at the 'Centre-State Science Conclave', Dr Jitendra Singh lauded the vision and bold initiative of Modi for unlocking the Space Sector for private participation and now we are looking forward to Gaganyaan Mission. Similarly, joint ventures in Department of Atomic Energy is leading to establishment of new institutes and new research initiatives. The Minister said, the Deep Sea Mission along with manned submersible will also have an Integrated Mining System for mining Polymetallic Nodules from 6000 m depth in the central Indian Ocean along 7,500 kms of coastal length in the country.

Dr Jitendra Singh concluded that the two-day Science Conclave will focus on the inherent capacities and innovative spirit of Indian Youth to make India a global centre of research and innovation in this Amrit Kaal to fulfil Prime Minister's dream of making India a frontline country in the world in its 100 year of Independence.

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### We still need to find answers to many scientific questions on Covid-19: CCMB Director

CSIR-CCMB

10<sup>th</sup> September, 2022

Nature of long Covid, nature of clinical response variations, microbiota, and correlation with nutrition yet to be studied There is still a need to find answers to many key scientific questions pertaining to the Covid-19 pandemic, which have not been addressed so far, according to Vinay K Nandicoori, Director, CSIR-Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB).



"Significant and rapid progress has been made primarily driven by our quest and need to tackle the pandemic. However, many unanswered scientific questions need to be investigated in depth," Nandicoori told BusinessLine.

He added that areas such as the nature of long Covid, nature of clinical response variations, microbiota, and its correlation with nutrition, among others, are yet to be studied. These are required to deepen our understanding.

"Science is not going to stop its work. HIV had come long ago; we still have research papers coming. Likewise, work on Covid needs to continue. Sequencing has become a huge tool in which India has done great work," the CCMB Director said.

About the continuation of Covid, the scientist said India still seems to be in the Omicron phase, and there is "nothing alarming" as of now as most Indians appear to have developed hybrid immunity.



However, the immune system will not constantly produce antibodies- he added that there is a need for periodic booster doses.

### CCMB's Contribution

The CCMB has been contributing to the battle against the pandemic since its onset in 2020. It developed diagnostic tools and tested about 70 to 80 molecules besides developing an mRNA vaccine.

"We have done a lot of work on Covid, and we actually proved along with other CSIR Institutes that it can spread through aerosolic particles. We have sequenced a good number of samples. We continue to participate in sequencing efforts," Nandicoori said.

The premier research body is also engaged in key research beyond Covid.

"There is much to be done on other diseases like Tuberculosis (TB) and its pathogen, other viral diseases, the parasite that causes malaria, and antimicrobial resistance (AMR)," the Director added.

In addition, CCMB continues to work on many other areas such as animal and plant conservation, structural, plant, genome, and infectious disease biology.

A team of scientists from the Centre had recently found eight novel genes which can impact male fertility.

### Published in:

### The Hindu Business Line



### Venture Center unveils MeitY SAMRIDH Accelerator for digital technology-based startups

CSIR-NCL

10<sup>th</sup> September, 2022

Pune-based Venture Center, a not-for-profit technology business incubator hosted by CSIR-National Chemical Laboratory (NCL), has announced the launch of the "SAMRIDH Accelerator @ Venture Center" by Jitendra Vijay, CEO, MeitY Startup Hub, MeitY, Govt. of India.

The accelerator programme will run for 6 months under two tracks (Track 1: Digitech Launchpad and Track 2: Investor Readiness Program) with a highly selective cohort of eleven participants across both tracks.

Selected candidates will receive in-depth and tailored hand holding from the very experienced mentors at Venture Center. Other benefits include an opportunity to pitch to a curated group of investors, for investments in range of Rs 50-400 lakhs. The cohort participants will also benefit from our high quality master classes on fund-raising and a professionally designed and developed pitch deck.

The SAMRIDH Accelerator at Venture Center brings on board a powerful investor network to accelerate and scale digital technology-based startups working on solutions that solve India's problems while creating positive social impact. Our investor partners include Social Alpha, TiE Pune, 1Crowd, Indian Angel Network, Inflexor Ventures, Pentathlon Ventures, Lavni Ventures, Enzia, BioAngels, Keiretsu Forum, and more.

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### Willingness among youths to earn key to economic liberty: MLA Karam Shyam

CSIR-NEIST

09<sup>th</sup> September, 2022

Langthabal assembly constituency MLA Karam Shyam on Friday said that expanding the will to earn a living among the youths is to the key to economic liberty, which is the force to push Manipur towards development. He was delivering his speech during a one-day awareness cum training programme on 'Medicinal and Aromatic Plant cum Spot Painting Competition' organised by the



Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)-North East Institute of Science and Technology (NEIST) and NG Mani College at CSIR-NEIST's Lamphelpat campus in Imphal West.

Shyam pointed out that development of a society is impossible without being economically sound and sustainable. He further called upon the people to appreciate the youths who are making sustainable sources of income through small capitals taken as loans from banks. He further apprised the banks to provide easy loans to youths who are striving for opening new business.

Those youths will surely pay back the loan punctually, and the bank will not face any inconvenience in collecting the debt amount, he added.

Coming to the Education sector, the MLA stressed on the need of teaching moral and social education to the students apart from the formal education. He appealed to the teachers to spare at least 10 minutes every day and give moral and social education to the students.



Shyam further pointed out that medicinal and aromatic plants have now become a good source of income generation and various such plants are vastly available in the state.

The youths of the state should not miss such an opportunity by using all information and technology available, he added.

The MLA lastly called upon all the youths to maintain punctuality, sincerity and discipline in every aspect for a successful future.

Meanwhile, Anjali Laichombam, Toijam Ganashyam and Tulajit were conferred the first, second and third prizes respectively in the spot painting competition held under the theme 'Greening of Earth through Cultivation of Medicinal and Aromatic Plants.'

The function was also attended by senior principal scientist of CSIR-NEIST H Birkumar; principal of NG Mani College W Jibankumar; dean of College of Food Technology CAU Ng Iboyaima; director of Manipur Science and Technology Council L Minaketen; deputy director of MSME Technology S Yoirentomba among others.



CSIR-CEERI

09<sup>th</sup> September, 2022

### हिंदी की प्रतिष्ठा और प्रचार-प्रसार में हिंदीतर भाषियों का भी बड़ा योगदान है : डॉ. पंचारिया

पंचारिया ने कहा कि हिंदी न केवल हमारी राजभाषा है अपित् पूरे देश की सर्वमान्य संपर्क भाषा भी है। विगत कुछ समय से देश-विदेश में हिंदी का उपयोग और प्रतिष्ठा बढ़ी है। जिस प्रकार हिंदी ने अन्य का संचालन करते हुए संयोजक रमेश स्थान प्राप्त किया। इसी प्रकार अस्थायी भारतीय भाषाओं के शब्दों को स्वीकार बौरा ने स्वागत किया। सत्र के अंत में सहकर्मी वर्ग में प्रीति पाल ने प्रथम, नवीन कर अपना प्रसार बढ़ाया है उसी प्रकार हमें भी जीवन में समावेशी बनते हुए धन्यवाद ज्ञापित किया। संस्थान में सात से तृतीय, सुरिभ बिदावत ने चतुर्थ स्थान निरंतर आगे बढ़ना चाहिए। संस्थान में 13 सितंबर तक हिंदी सप्ताह का आयोजन प्राप्त किया। निर्णायक मंडल के सदस्य प्रशासनिक कार्यों में हिंदी के उपयोग की किया जा रहा है। इस अवधि के दौरान डॉ. उदित नारायण पाल वरिष्ठ प्रधान सराहना करते हुए उन्होंने विज्ञान और सभी सहकर्मियों के लिए विभिन्न वैज्ञानिक, जय प्रकाश इंदौरा वित्त एवं तकनीक के क्षेत्र में भी हिंदी का उपयोग प्रतियोगिताओं का आयोजन किया जाएगा। लेखा नियंत्रक तथा जय शंकर शरण सप्ताह आयोजन समिति के अध्यक्ष डॉ. आशुभाषण प्रतियोगिता के नियमित सराहना की और विजेताओं को बधाई दी। पर्यंत आयोजित की जाने वाली मुरलीधर ने द्वितीय, महेंद्र सिंह एवं दीपिका अधिकारी ने किया।



गतिविधियों की जानकारी दी। कार्यक्रम शर्मा ने तृतीय तथा चांदनी दीक्षित ने चतुर्थ प्रशासन नियंत्रक जय शंकर शरण ने कुमार शर्मा ने द्वितीय, अखिलेश मिश्रा ने बढ़ाने पर बल दिया। इससे पूर्व हिंदी कल सायंकालीन सत्र में आयोजित प्रशासन नियंत्रक ने सभी प्रतिभागियों की अभिजीत कर्मांकर ने संस्थान में सप्ताह सहकर्मी वर्ग में गुरमेन्द्र सिंह ने प्रथम, संचालन जितेंद्र नाथ बाजपेई तकनीकी

### Published in:



### BHU, CSIR-CCMB team studying Ladakh biodiversity

### CSIR-CCMB

07<sup>th</sup> September, 2022

Varanasi: The Banaras Hindu University and Hyderabad-based CSIR-CCMB (Council of Scientific and Industrial Research- Centre for Cellular & Molecular Biology) have jointly launched a study into Ladakh's biodiversity. In this regard, a joint team of both the institutions recently visited Ladakh and met relevant experts and administrators.



The team, comprising 11 members from BHU and two from CSIR-CCMB, would search for the footprints of the first settlers and also identify and document the local genetic diseases and their causal mutations.

Prof Gyaneshwer Chaubey, a team member from Cytogenetics laboratory of the department of Zoology, Institute of Sciences, BHU, said that Ladakh is the highest inhabited region of India and has unique biodiversity. "With a population of nearly three lakh people, Ladakh is an example of long-term human occupation. Geographically, it is situated at the trinexus junction of three distinct geographic ancestries - South Asian, Central Asian and East Asian."

He said that the joint team visited various regions of Ladakh, mapped the settlements of the Changpa tribe, collected the samples of hot water streams and Pangong lake water, and visited the residential school for Nomadic children. "They met Prof SK Mehta, VC of Leh University, who expressed signing an MoU", he said, adding that the archaeologist Dr Sachin Tiwari studied the petroglyphs scattered in Ladakh and mapped the settlements of the Changpa tribe.

The other members included Dr Sachin Tiwari, Dr Chandana Basu, Dr Rahul Mishra, Urgyan



Chorol, Prajjval Pratap Singh, Anshika Shrivastava, Debashruti Das, Auddiditiya Bandopadhyay, Rudra Pandey, Vanya Singh, all from BHU; Prof. Vasant Shinde and Dr Nagarjuna from CSIR-CCMB, and local collaborators including Padma Shri Dr Tsering Norboo and directors of Himalayan Institute of Archaeology and Allied Sciences Dr Sonam Splanzin and Dr Stanzen.

### Published in:

Times of india



### U.P.: Radha Rangarajan takes charge as CSIR-CDRI director

### CSIR-CDRI, IICT, IIIM

06<sup>th</sup> September, 2022

Dr Radha Rangarajan took charge as the new director of CSIR-Central Drug Research Institute (CDRI), Lucknow, on Monday (September 5). She is the second woman to occupy the post since the institute came into existence. Dr Madhu Dixit was the first woman director of the institute between 2015 and 2017.



An eminent scientist, Rangarajan has been involved in translational research and product development in public health arena for the last two decades. Between 2003 and 2009, she worked in the drug discovery division of Reddy's Laboratories in Hyderabad. She served in multiple roles in therapeutic areas such as anti-infectives, diabetes and cardiovascular disease. She was selected for "Champions of Change" initiative of Prime Minister Narendra Modi recognising India's emerging entrepreneurs in 2017.

Rangarajan obtained her Bachelor of Science in Biology from Stanford University, Master of Science from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, and Ph.D. from Rockefeller University. She was a postdoctoral fellow at the Harvard School of Public Health.

While handing over the charge, Dr Srinivasa Reddy, director CSIR-IICT and director (additional charge) CSIR-CDRI and CSIR-IIIM Jammu said, "Dr Radha Rangarajan has the expertise in both pharma industry and academia. So, she will be an asset for the institute like CSIR-CDRI which is working for affordable healthcare for all."

### Published in:

Hindustan Times



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