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NEWS BULLETIN
26 TO 31 DECEMBER 2022

Compiled by Science Communication and Dissemination Directorate (SCDD), CSIR, Anusandhan Bhawan, New Delhi

Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh inaugurates “Incubation Centre” at National Research Development Corporation (NRDC) Headquarters in Delhi to provide multi-dimensional support to Start-Ups

CSIR-NAL, IMMT

31st December, 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 inaugurated “Incubation Centre” at National Research Development Corporation (NRDC), Delhi to provide multi-prong support to StartUps.

Chairman and Managing Director NRDC,Commodore(Retd) Amit Rastogi and his entire team welcomed DrJitendra Singh and pointed out that he was the first ever Minister for Science and Technology who was visiting the NRDC headquarters at Delhi, since its inception in 1953.

Dr Jitendra Singh was glad to note that after the Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s announcement of 'StartUp India, Stand-up India" from the ramparts of the Red fort on 15th August, 2015, NRDC had reoriented itself to become the only National level PSU, which is providing its services for taking the lab scale technologies developed by Public Funded Research Institutes (PFRI) to Industry. Dr Jitendra Singh pointed out that the Corporation is providing support to start-ups through its various activities like IP Filing support to StartUps, Incubation Support for nurturing Start-Ups through its incubators at NRDC HQ,

CSIR-NAL and CSIR-IMMT, Technology Development fund, Seed Funding to early stage start-up, Association with DPIIT for recognising start-ups and finally Association with IOCL for mentoring & monitoring of start-ups.

Dr Jitendra Singh urged the Team NRDC to take a wholesome approach to establish a National level facility which should provide one-stop solution to all the needs of the ever growing Start-Ups ecosystem of the country. He said, it must house facilities like TRL assessment, IP exchange, Design clinic, Model Incubation facility etc.In order to find World market for Indian Technologies, NRDC should aim to provide technology transfer services through hub and spoke model, specially to African and Asian Countries, the Minister added.

Dr Jitendra Singh said, as PSU under DSIR, NRDC is focussed on securing and translating the IPR through various value addition activities carried out like Technology Evaluation, Basic Engineering, Market Surveys, etc. and providing its bit to make India truly "Atmanirbhar".

Commodore(Retd) Amit Rastogi, in his presentation before the Minister informed that Uniphore, an Indian Unicorn and The Leader in Conversational AI & Automation received Funding of Rs 30 lakh and Technology support from NRDC in 2008. Shri Rastogi promised to DrJitendra Singh that he and his team will strive hard to make the Corporation one of the world's best and leading organization for Technology Transfer.

NRDC has created the facilities for incubating start-ups and is also promoting beneficial schemes to provide support in terms of funding, mentoring, IP assistance and other allied services to the Start-ups. In the last one year, the Corporation has established three Incubation Centres and one Outreach Centre. Another Outreach Centre is planned for inauguration in January 2023 at Guwahati to promote start-ups in North East. 10,000 Start-ups have received support in respect of IP filing, Incubation and start-up registration so far.

NRDC has further forayed into the domain of defence and nuclear technologies for civilian

application. With an aim to support Made-in-India, NRDC has established Foreign collaboration with USPTO, AARDO etc. for exploring world market for Indian Technologies. Further, NRDC is proving to be a catalyst between R&D Institute & Industry and has signed MoU with 220 R&D Institute & Universities in last five years. NRDC has also proved its credentials and its Vizag unit was awarded “Best Technology" and “Innovation Support Centre” in 2021. With an aim to set-up National Technology Transfer Organization to provide one stop shop to StartUps and with setting up of International Marketing Division, NRDC is poised for grand scale up in future.

Published in:

Pib

Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh visits Indian Institute of Chemical Biology (IICB) in Kolkata and urged the Director and urged the Director and senior scientists to carry out preventive healthcare research

CSIR-IICB

30th December, 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 visited premier Kolkata institute founded in 1935, the Indian Institute of Chemical Biology (IICB) and urged the Director and senior scientists to carry out preventive healthcare research, with special focus on prevention of Metabolic Disorders like Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus in the young so that India's youth energy could be optimally channelised for nation building instead of letting go under-utilised on account of health issues.

Dr Jitendra Singh said that Healthcare has been one of the key focus areas of the Modi government since 2014, and he has taken several measures in the last 8 and half years to make Indian Healthcare future-ready. Dr Jitendra Singh underlined that there is a Paradigm Shift in approach as far Healthcare is concerned as the government is focusing on health as well as wellness, by eliminating the factors responsible for illness and making treatment of diseases inclusive.

Dr Jitendra Singh was happy to note that the Indian Institute of Chemical Biology (IICB) was

established in 1935 as the first non-official centre in India for biomedical research and was included within the aegis of CSIR in 1956. He said, the institute continues to exploit its unique strength in Chemical biology for understanding various diseases to find out therapeutic solutions and the Process chemistry for generics is one of the priority areas in addition to novel drug development of various diseases.

Dr Jitendra Singh was happy to note that the institute has developed an oral vaccine for cholera, herbal products for controlling gastric ulcer, empirical treatment for vitiligo, diagnostic kits for malignancy and hormonal disorders and a device for early detection of Parkinson's disease. He said, although the strength of CSIR-IICB has always been basic biomedical research, during the last 8 years emphasis is being given on goal-oriented research directed towards commercial exploitability.

Dr Jitendra Singh also informed that although the CSIR-IICB was established to carry out research in infectious diseases like kala azar, cholera, malaria etc, but it has gradually transformed into a cutting age research institute in biomedical research with emphasis on basic understanding of the infectious diseases, immune system, cancer, metabolic diseases including cardiovascular diabetes and liver diseases.

Dr Jitendra Singh also lauded the role of IICB in joining the mission to fight Corona pandemic since the beginning of the crisis as it helped in covid testing, genome sequencing to convalescent plasma therapy trial. He said, IICB scientists are also taking a lead role in CSIR mission mode projects starting from drug development, drug repurposing to antiviral mission.

Dr Jitendra Singh said, CSIR-IICB today is engaged in research on diseases of national importance and biological problems of global interest, employing sophisticated state-of-the-art technology in keeping with the rapid and unprecedented momentum that life science research has gained globally over the last 50 years. The scientific staff has expertise in a variety of areas including chemistry, biochemistry, cell biology, molecular biology, neurobiology and immunology which promotes productive interdisciplinary interaction.

IICB started its journey from a small house in central Calcutta (41, Dharmatala Street) as Indian Institute of Medical Research (IIMR) in 1935. It was founded by Dr. J. C Ray and his young clinicians colleagues like H.N. Ghosh, A.C. Ukil and Nabajiban Banerjee. The aim of the institute was to conduct research on biomedical sciences both in basic and applied aspects. There was a need to investigate health problem of the country.

It was the first non-official medical research Institution in India with a very small budget coming from private donations. Institute got strong support of eminent personalities like Rabindranath Tagore, Madan Mohan Malaviya, Sir C.V. Raman, Acharya P. C. Roy, Dr. Nilratan Sarkar and Dr. Bidhan Chandra Roy.

Rabindranath Tagore appealed to the people "The establishment of such a well-conceived centre for medical research depends upon adequate donations and endowments received from the public. Let me entreat my fellow-countrymen for a ready response to this appeal for assistance for this institution that through their support they may make it a real success". Acharya P C Roy also requested wealthy people to generously respond and help the Institute.

Presently, CSIR-IICB has 2 campuses. The main campus is at Jadavpur and the second campus is situated at Salt Lake. The Salt Lake Campus was in February 2016.

Published in:
Pib

KRIBHCO launches new product, SIVARIKA, Seaweed bio-stimulant

CSIR-CSMCRI

30th December, 2022

Krishak Bharati Cooperative Limited (KRIBHCO) is one of the pioneer fertilizer organization of India having its manufacturing unit at Hazira, Surat. KRIBHCO is always at forefront to serve farmers with its innovative product line. On 26.12.2022, KRIBHCO launched another innovative and sustainable product, SIVARIKA, which is a Seaweed Bio-stimulant. The SIVARIKA granules are fortified with seaweed extract derived from red and brown algae. The SIVARIKA Seaweed technology provider CSIR-CSMCRI. The SIVARIKA Seaweed functions as a metabolic bio enhancer as it contains proteins, carbohydrates, inorganic salts and other inherent nutrients, vitamins, plant growth hormones like auxin, cytokinin and gibberllins, betaines and mannitol etc.

This product is cultivated and harvested from the Indian coast and is source of livelihood of many fisher-man families. The product was launched by RajanChowdhry, MD, KRIBHCO and it was attended by Director HR, Marketing Director, Finance Director, other senior officials and business partner M/s Pushpa J. Shah Directors at KRIBHCO Bhawan, Noida.

On this occasion, KRIBHCO's MD said, this farmer friendly product will boost the productivity of crops, facilitate in achieving higher yield and will also aid in improving the soil health. He also further added, that KRIBHCO will continue to work towards full filling needs of farmers and also uplifting their livelihood directly or indirectly.

Published in:

Freepressjournal

Fit India Freedom Run at CSIR-CFTRI

CSIR-CFTRI 29th December, 2022

On the occasion of India's 75 th Independence year completion, "Azadi ke 75 saal, fitness rahe bemissal" - a running event "Fit India Freedom Run 3.0" under the theme RUNNING: the human body's rawest form of FREEDOM" was organised on the premises of CSIR-Central Food Technological Research Institute (CFTRI) recently.

Deputy Commissioner K.V. Rajendra flagged off the "Fit India Freedom Run 3.0". Sridevi Annapurna Singh, Director, CSIR-CFTRI, presided over the event and also took part in the run. The Deputy Commissioner, in his address, emphasised the importance of everyone being active and having an exercise regime to make a person fit and that in turn could make a strong nation.

"Fit India Freedom run 3.0" under the Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav initiative said the citizens should make a resolve to inculcate 30 minutes of physical fitness in any form daily to remain fit, said a press release issued by CSIR-CFTRI on Thursday.

The event was conducted on the CSIR-CFTRI premises, covering a distance of about 3 km, and 200 participants, including staff and students of the institute, took part.

Published in:
The Hindu

CSIR-CSMCRI

29th December, 2022

सीएसएमसीआरआई की शोध छात्रा को 'सर्वश्रेष्ठ मौखिक प्रस्तुतिकरण पुरस्कार'

भावनगर

सीएसआईआर–केंद्रीय नमक व समुद्री रसायन अनुसंधान संस्थान (सीएस एमसीआरआई), भावनगर में सीनियर रिसर्च फेलो के रूप में कार्य कर रही शोध छात्रा पायल बोदार को ट्रॉपिकल प्लांट बायोमास के सतत उपयोग: बहु–विषयक परिप्रेक्ष्य विषय पर एक अंतरराष्ट्रीय सम्मेलन के दौरान सर्वश्रेष्ठ मौखिक प्रस्तुतिकरण पुरस्कार प्राप्त हुआ है। यह सम्मेलन कम्प्यूटेशनल बायोलॉजी और जैवसूचना विज्ञान विभाग, केरल विश्वविद्यालय द्वारा आयोजित किया गया था। पायल एप्लाइड फाइकोलॉजी और बायोटेक्नोलॉजी डिवीजन में डॉ. वैभव ए. मंत्री की देखरेख में एनएमआर के माध्यम से उल्वा पर अपना शोध कार्य कर रही हैं।

gujaratvaibhav.com

Published in:
Gujarat Vaibhav

CSIR-CDRI

27th December, 2022

Cure of deadliest breast cancer is here!

Mohita.Tewari@timesgroup.com

Lucknow: A team of scientists at CSIR-Central Drug Research Institute (CDRI) has found a new function of cancer drug, Tazemetostat, which can be used in treatment of Triple-Negative Breast Cancer (TNBC), the deadliest among all subtypes of breast cancer.

The team, led by senior principal scientist Prof Dipak Datta, set out to identify molecular processes responsible for the spread of TNBC. In the process, it discovered that in contrast to its classical role in suppressing gene expression, a protien coding gene, EZH2, can mediate the overexpression of specific genes and through it, dictates the spread of cancer from breast to liver and spleen in preclinical animal models of TNBC.

An article based on the findings of the research was recently published in a peer-reviewed international journal, 'Nature Communications'.

"Unlike other breast cancer subtypes, where three hormone receptors are targeted, TNBC is difficult to treat as it lacks these hormone receptors. Hence, commonly used anti-hormone therapies don't work in treatment of TNBC patients. However, our study paves new way for targeted therapy of TNBC," said Prof Datta. "TNBC patients have a higher level of EZH2. This gene is also involved in the spread of cancer. In our preclinical animal study, we found that hyperactivation of EZH2 is critical in the spread of the cancer from the breast to the liver and spleen," he said. "We also found that inhibition of EZH2 through Tazemetostat results in marked reduction in spreading of TNBC. Further clinical trials could prove to be a promising avenue for targeted therapy for TNBC," he added.

Prof Datta said that metastasis or tumor spread to the distant organs is responsible for 90% of patient mortality and morbidity. TNBC metastasis or spreads faster than other breast cancer subtypes resulting in a poor five-year survival rate, following diagnosis.

"A new targeted therapy is the need of the hour because conventional targeted therapies do not work on TNBC patients. Further, rather unfortunately, India is known to be TNBC capital of the world due to its highest incidence," he said.

Prof Dipak Datta and his team

Published in:

Times Of India

Tata Projects inks MoU with CSIR-IIP for green power

CSIR-IIP

26th December, 2022

Tata Projects has signed a memorandum of understanding with the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research - Indian Institute of Petroleum (CSIR-IIP) to collaborate and work together towards clean energy solutions.

As part of this endeavour, clean energy such as room temperature biodiesel produced by CSIR-IIP shall be used across some of Tata Projects' ongoing sites. The partnership will also actively explore utilisation of by-product green diesel from the existing DILSAAF (Drop-In Liquid Sustainable Aviation Fuel and Automotive Fuel) Pilot Plant at CSIR-IIP's campus in Dehradun and commercial scale demonstration unit in Tata Projects' fleet.

“As part of the Tata Group's commitment to the planet, our shift to cleaner alternate energy remains at our core, and we look at continuous collaboration between academia and industry, to find innovative pathways to that goal,” said Vinayak Pai, managing director, Tata Projects Ltd.

Published in:
Constructionworld

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