

**Government of India
Ministry of Science and Technology
Department of Biotechnology**

Monthly Cabinet Summary, September-2019

1. Important policy decisions taken and major achievements during the month:

a. Launch of UMMID - Unique Methods of Management and treatment of Inherited Disorders & Inauguration of NIDAN - National Inherited Diseases Administration Kendra Network

Dr. Harsh Vardhan, Hon'ble Union Minister for Science & Technology, Earth Sciences and Health & Family Welfare launched UMMID (Unique Methods of Management and treatment of Inherited Disorders) Initiative and inaugurated NIDAN (National Inherited Diseases Administration) Kendras on 23rd September 2019.

The whole initiative is based on the concept of 'Prevention is better than Cure'. The aim is (i) to establish NIDAN Kendras to provide counseling, prenatal testing and diagnosis, management, and multidisciplinary care in Government Hospitals wherein the influx of patients is more, (ii) to produce skilled clinicians in Human Genetics, and (iii) to undertake screening of pregnant women and new born babies for inherited genetic diseases in hospitals at aspirational districts; five NIDAN Kendras have been established to provide comprehensive clinical care. 7 training center have been setup and seven aspirational districts are being covered.

b. Nobel Prize Series -2019

The Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Ministry of Science and Technology and Nobel Media AB, Sweden in partnership with Government of Punjab organised third edition of the Nobel Prize Series -2019 from 11th -13th September, 2019 at National Agri-Food Biotechnology Institute (NABI), Mohali, Punjab Agriculture University (PAU), Ludhiana, Punjab and at Delhi. Theme of the event was "Teaching and Learning". More than 2500 students and research scholars got opportunity to get enlighten as well as more than 900 additional teachers and young faculties about unique activities of understanding Science and impact of Nobel Prize on science & society.

The occasion also marked the Nobel Prize Museum's world premiere of a new travelling exhibition "For the Greatest Benefit to Humankind," demonstrating contribution of Nobel Laureates. The exhibition will be open for public till second week of October, 2019.

c. Indo-EU Cooperation

DBT in partnership with European Commission (EC) announced a co-funding call under 'HORIZON 2020' for the year 2019-2020. Researchers and innovators from universities, research organisations and enterprises from India can team up with European partners in the calls for proposals published by the EC under this announcement.

DBT has agreed to participate in priority areas focusing majorly on Health, Demographic Change and Wellbeing, Food Security, Sustainable Agriculture and Forestry, Marine (Societal Challenge 2); Secure, Clean & Efficient Energy (Societal

Challenge 3) and Nanotechnologies, advanced materials, biotechnologies and advanced manufacturing and processing (NMBP)

d. Indo-Australian collaboration

Under the Indo-Australian collaboration, joint working group meeting of the DBT along with Department of Science & Technology (DST) and the Department of Industry, Innovation & Science (DIIS), Australia was held at Canberra, Australia on 6th September 2019. The agenda of the meeting was to firm up discussions to continue the collaboration in various areas through Research funding and exchange of students for capacity building. Delegates from Science and Commercialization Policy Division along with Trade & International Policy & Innovation Strategy, Australia as well as from DBT and Industry, Innovation & Science, India and DST, India were present.

e. An Inter Ministerial Committee Meeting to consider and finalize the documents on Biological Data Storage, Access and Sharing Policy of India was held on **16th September, 2019** in DBT, New Delhi under the Chairpersonship of Dr. Renu Swarup, Secretary, DBT.

f. There have been **59 research publications** and **10 patents** filed by the Autonomous Institutes of the Department.

2. Autonomous Institutions of the Department of Biotechnology- at Annexure I

3. Public Sector Undertaking (PSU) of the Department of Biotechnology – Annexure II

4. Important policy matters held up on account of prolonged inter ministerial consultations: N/A

5. Compliance of Cabinet/Cabinet Committee decisions: N/A

No. of COS decisions pending for compliance	Proposed action plan/timelines for compliance of COS decisions	Remarks
-	-	-

6. No. of cases of 'sanction for prosecution' pending for more than three months: Nil

7. Particulars of cases in which there has been a departure from the Transaction of Business

8. Rules or established policy of the Government: N/A

9. Status of implementation of e-governance:

Total No. of active files: 6938	Total No. of e-files generated during August: 258
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10. Status of Public Grievances:

No. of Public Grievances redressed during	No. of Public Grievances pending at the end
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month: 24	of the month: 56
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- 11. **Information on the specific steps taken by the Ministry/ Department for utilization of the Space, Technology based tools and application in Governance and Development:** NIL

- 12. **Confirmation that the incumbency details of all posts in the Ministry/Department and its organizations falling under the purview of the ACC have been updated on AVMS:** It is confirmed that the incumbency details of all the posts in the Ministry/Department (both Autonomous institutes and PSUs under DBT) falling under the purview of the ACC have been updated on AVMS.

- 13. **Status regarding compliance of the directions of ACC. A paragraph on Cases in which the ACC directions have not been compiled with distinct heading:** It is also confirmed that the directions of ACC are complied with.

- 14. **Status of cases where recommendations from PESB have been received but the proposals are yet to be submitted to the ACC Secretariat:** It is stated that the same may be treated as 'Nil'

- 15. **Status of Government e- Marketplace (GeM):** Procurement made through GeM for the month of September, 2019 is NIL.