



### **Joint Call for R&D Proposals on Biotech interventions in medicinal plants**

Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Ministry of Science & Technology, Govt. of India and National Medicinal Plants Board (NMPB), Ministry of AYUSH, Govt. of India have entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for mutual collaboration to explore the possibility of cooperation, convergence and synergy and to have a platform for exchange of information between both the organizations and to have a biotechnological intervention in AYUSH sector. The priority medicinal plant species identified include *Embeliaribes*, *Saracaasoca*, *Sidacordifolia*, *Boswellia serrata*, *Commiphorawightii*, *Urariapicta*, *Desmodiumgangeticum*, *Nordostachysjatamansi*, *Bacopa monnieri* and *Withaniasomnifera* for support for carrying out R&D activities on various aspects of medicinal plants. With an aim of making sustainable availability and use of medicinal plants, both the organizations propose to support R&D proposals in the following thrust areas:

1. Finding substitutes and sustainable alternative plant parts for Rare, Endangered and Threatened (RET) medicinal plant species.
2. Development of bio-actives and marker compounds for authentication of raw medicinal plant materials.
3. Elite identification, development of propagation techniques and conservation.
4. Varietal development and establishment of quality standards in respect of norms related to toxicity and heavy metal content to increase acceptability of botanicals in the international market.
5. Non-destructive methods and sustainable harvesting for priority species such as *Commiphorawightii*.
6. Value addition and technology development through biotechnology tools for priority species such as *Bacopa monnieri* and *Withaniasomnifera*.
7. Ecological Niche modeling on RET medicinal plants species.

**Eligibility:** Applications may be submitted by public and private universities, colleges, institutes, non-profit organizations (recognized by DSIR as a Scientific and Industrial Research Organization (SIRO)), with demonstrated expertise, track record and infrastructure.

**Norms of Assistance:** The funding of selected R&D proposals will be made by DBT and NMPB following their own existing norms.

**How to apply:** Applications should full proposals on or before the deadline through DBT eProMIS portal (<https://dbtepromis.nic.in>) and submit two hard copies to Dr. Manoj K. Modi, Scientist 'E', Department of Biotechnology, Block III (5<sup>th</sup> Floor), CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi – 110003 and email the softcopy to [manoj.modi@nic.in](mailto:manoj.modi@nic.in). The link to submit the proposal can be accessed by registering and logging in as PI in DBT eProMIS portal.

The deadline for submission of full proposal is 31<sup>st</sup> January, 2020.

For any query, contact Dr. Manoj K. Modi, Scientist 'E', DBT; email: [manoj.modi@nic.in](mailto:manoj.modi@nic.in).