

**Ministry of Science & Technology  
Department of Biotechnology**

**Title of the story:**

THSTI steps up Clinical & Translational research through collaboration: Joins DBT-BIRAC's COVID19 Research Consortium

**Institute's Name:**

Translational Health Science and Technology Institute

**Brief Story in 400 words maximum:**

The COVID19 pandemic has been perceived a disaster. It has also been a test of resilience for the scientific community. A government issued memorandum issued a month back gave institutes other than those funded directly by ICMR, access to COVID19 samples. This very step has changed the way India does science.

Taking up the opportunity, the Department of Biotechnology and National Biopharma Mission at Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC), Govt. of India have initiated an effort to understand human COVID-19 infections by announcing the '**COVID19 Research Consortium**'. Following the call, THSTI was identified as the focal center for clinical and translational research on COVID19.

THSTI, in this initiative has built collaborations and rekindled the older ones with various hospitals and diagnostic laboratories to embark on this initiative. Some of them are the Foundation for Innovative New Diagnostics (FIND); Lady Hardinge Medical College (LHMC), New Delhi and associated hospitals; Safdarjung Hospital, New Delhi; Gurgaon Civil hospital; Christian Medical College (CMC), Vellore; Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research (PGIMER), Chandigarh; Jawaharlal Institute of Postgraduate Medical Education and Research (JIPMER), Pondicherry; Ram Manohar Lohiya hospital, New Delhi; Medanta Hospital; BigTec labs; University of Turku, Finland; Civil Hospital, Palwal. Collaborations have already been established with five hospitals and one diagnostic lab.

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