

The world has gone through an extremely turbulent time with the global pandemic taking its toll on an increasingly connected and globalized population. We have also witnessed some of the most remarkable scientific breakthroughs, in creating and delivering life-saving vaccines in never-seen-before record time. And while science seems to have finally gained an upper hand, slowly bringing the world back to normal, the virus continues to surprise us in yet unexpected ways.

While continuing to play its critical role as the 'vaccine manufacturer for the world', India is now at an important juncture in its fight against COVID-19. Large-scale vaccination efforts are underway to immunize its population, while scientists and researchers are also working on manufacturing, and developing new vaccines on newer technology platforms. In such a scenario, conversations on the science and potential of vaccines and their impact have taken centerstage. We are very pleased today as India has granted EUA to 6 vaccines including the World's first DNA Vaccine indigenously developed in India.

We at the Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Ministry of Science and Technology, Government of India, are bringing together global experts to participate in our virtual event – an **International Symposium on Addressing the Pandemic with DNA Vaccine: Potential for the future on October 25, 2021 at 1830 hrs.**

This symposium will be a platform for scientists and researchers in the field to discuss, debate and exchange ideas, best practices, and lessons from their efforts to develop and manufacture effective DNA vaccines towards the global fight against Covid-19 and extend their knowledge to also help address other diseases.