

BIONEST TEAM PARTICIPATION IN THE GLOBAL BIO INDIA 2023

December 06, 2023: The BioNEST team, consisting of Dr. Suman Kumar Nandy, Chief Executive Officer and Ms. Alva Margareth Kharkongor, Program Manager of BIRAC's BioNEST Bioincubator (B3I) Facility, NEHU Tura Campus, participated in the GLOBAL BIO INDIA (GBI) 2023 held from December 4-6, 2023, at Pragati Maidan in New Delhi, India. Organised by the Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Ministry of Science & Technology, Government of India, in association with, Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC), A Government of India Enterprise, GBI 2023 centred around the theme Biotech Innovation and Bio-manufacturing and its impact on the economy of the country.

Global Bio-India 2023 hosted the largest gathering of biotech start-ups in India till date, witnessed a mega international congregation of biotechnology stakeholders, including international bodies from 30+ countries; 500+ Exhibitors from Central and State Ministries, Academia, Research Institutions, and Regulatory agencies; 1000+ Start-ups, SMEs, large Industries, Investors, and strategic start-up ecosystem partners along with more than 5000 delegates across the globe. The event focused on boosting the biomanufacturing segment in India through the utilisation of next-gen technologies, upskilling of the workforce, upgrading the biosafety measures, and ensuring easy and secured investments, etc.

Hon'ble Union Minister DR. JITENDRA SINGH, Union Minister of State (Independent Charge), Science & Technology, MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Government of India inaugurated the event on December 4th, 2023 in presence of the luminaries like his excellency FREDDY SVANE, Ambassador at Royal Danish Embassy in New Delhi; Principal Scientific Adviser (PSA) to the Government of India, PROF AJAY KUMAR SOOD; Secretary of the Department of Science and Technology, PROF. ABHAY KARANDIKAR; Secretary of the Department of Biotechnology (DBT), DR RAJESH GOKHALE, and DR. KIRAN MAZUMDAR-SHAW, Chairperson and Managing Director, Biocon Ltd.

The event serves as a crucial platform for innovators and entrepreneurs across verticals including healthcare, diagnostics, medical devices, agriculture, and industrial biotechnology to showcase their technologies and innovations. It also fosters a collaborative platform through multiple panel discussions where global minds convene to discuss the latest in biotechnology; policymakers shared their views and interacted with the innovators to sketch the way forward; investors opened up on opportunities and challenges in biopharma and biotech sectors. Multiple

startups were facilitated to pitch before the investors and to foster collaboration throughout the course of the event. Parallel one to one bio-partnering sessions were arranged to endorse networking within the strategic partners of the startup ecosystem. The event also recognized and awarded outstanding BioNESTs, Incubation Centers, Innovators, and Start-ups during the valedictory session.

Several Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) between Indian and international organizations and the Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC) were announced during the Global Bio-India event. BIRAC signed MoUs with Germany-based Miltenyi Biotec for cell and gene therapy research; Japan-based Takeda Pharmaceutical; Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) in the UK, and with India Health Fund to provide advisory and mentoring support to innovators and entrepreneurs and to assist them from ideation to market deployment of new-age healthcare solutions.

During GBI 2023, the BioNEST team actively showcased prototypes and technologies of incubatees, fostering interactions with startups, innovators, investors, incubation centers, and service providers. The team played a pivotal role in building a strong network and exploring opportunities in the global biotech sector.

The BioNEST team's participation in GBI 2023 not only highlighted the innovative initiatives from NEHU but also contributed to the broader conversation on biotechnology, opening new horizons for collaboration and growth in the global biotech sector.





Fig. Snapshots from the GBI 2023