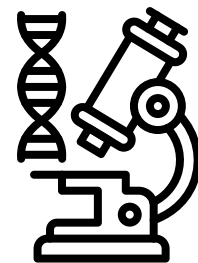




# The BioNexus Times

BIOTECHNIKA CLUB, HBTU KANPUR



HBTU KANPUR | EDITION: 04 FEBRUARY 2025 | INSPIRING BIOTECHNOLOGY EXCELLENCE

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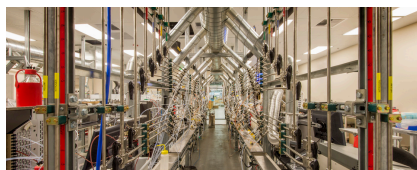
## USA: AUTOMATION IN CELL THERAPY MANUFACTURING



**A** Cellares, a biotech start-up co-founded by Fabian Gerlinghaus and Omar Kurdi, aims to revolutionize cell therapy production through automation. Their "Cell Shuttle," a mini biological factory, is designed to manufacture cell therapies more efficiently, potentially reducing costs and increasing accessibility. This innovation could significantly impact the healthcare industry by providing life-saving treatments to more patients globally

BIOTECH

## SHIFT IN U.S. PHARMACEUTICAL SUPPLY CHAINS



Due to rising geopolitical tensions and the enactment of the Biosecure Act, U.S. drugmakers and biotech companies are seeking alternatives to Chinese partners for manufacturing, research, and raw materials. Major companies, including AstraZeneca, are moving operations to Europe, India, and the U.S. to minimize risks associated with reliance on a single country. This shift may impact drug rollout timelines and costs.



DETAIL >

## APPROVAL OF THE BIO-RIDE SCHEME

**T**he Union Cabinet has approved the Biotechnology Research Innovation and Entrepreneurship Development (Bio-RIDE) scheme to support cutting-edge research and development in biotechnology. Bio-RIDE combines two existing schemes—Biotechnology Research and Development (R&D) and Industrial and Entrepreneurship Development (I&ED)—with a new component called 'Bio-manufacturing and Bio-foundry.'



DETAIL >

## ICMR: CALL FOR COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH ON CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASES

**T**he Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has launched an initiative to encourage collaborative research on cardiovascular health and diseases, recognizing the increasing burden of cardiovascular diseases (CVDs) in India. This call for Expressions of Interest (EOI) is aimed at bringing together researchers, scientists, and clinicians to engage in multidisciplinary, multicentric projects that will enhance the understanding of cardiovascular disease mechanisms, identify early risk factors, and develop preventive strategies. As part of ICMR's Chronic and Lifestyle Disease Program, the initiative emphasizes the importance of studying metabolic, genetic, and environmental determinants that contribute to cardiovascular conditions. Additionally, there is a focus on understanding the long-term cardiac implications of viral infections, particularly post-COVID-19 complications. The program seeks to establish innovative biological models that can be used to study cardiac functions and facilitate drug discovery. By fostering collaboration between institutions across India, ICMR aims to accelerate the development of scientific solutions that can improve patient outcomes and contribute to national healthcare policies. Researchers from both public and private institutions are invited to submit proposals detailing their research objectives, methodologies, and expected outcomes. This initiative aligns with global efforts to combat cardiovascular diseases through cutting-edge research, aiming to reduce morbidity and mortality rates associated with heart-related conditions. Interested applicants are encouraged to visit the ICMR website for further details and submission guidelines.



## INDIA'S BIOECONOMY VALUED AT \$150 BILLION

India's biotechnology sector has reached a valuation of \$150 billion, reflecting significant growth. However, there remains untapped potential in innovation and product development. The Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC) is supporting startup growth and research and development investments to elevate India's bioeconomy. Increased private-sector investment and streamlined regulatory processes are essential for India to achieve global leadership in biotechnology.

[DETAIL >](#)

## KARNATAKA SHOWCASES BTS 2024 TO GLOBAL PARTNERS

The Department of Electronics, IT, and Biotechnology of the Government of Karnataka showcased the Bengaluru Tech Summit (BTS) 2024 to global partners. The event highlighted Karnataka's advancements in biotechnology and its commitment to fostering innovation and collaboration in the sector.

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## BIOCON BIOLOGICS LOOKS TO TRIM \$300 MILLION DEBT IN 1 YEAR

Biocon Biologics plans to reduce its acquisition debt by \$300 million over the next year. The company recently refinanced \$1.1 billion in debt, providing more financial flexibility. Biocon aims to capitalize on the growing insulin market, with plans to double its insulin production capacity in Malaysia.

Biocon Biologics is looking to pare another \$300 million acquisition debt in the next one year, and will explore various options to achieve its plans, chairperson Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw told ET in an interview.

[DETAIL >](#)



## PANACEA BIOTEC GETS \$20 MILLION LOAN FROM US GOVERNMENT FOR HEXAVALENT VACCINE CAPACITY EXPANSION

Panacea Biotech has secured a \$20 million long-term loan from the US International Development Finance Corporation to expand its hexavalent vaccine production. This funding will help the company meet global demand for childhood immunization, supplying vaccines to UN agencies. The hexavalent vaccine, EasySix, protects against six diseases and is expected to see significant demand growth by 2030.

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