

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY  
DEPARTMENT OF BIOTECHNOLOGY**

**RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION No.3189  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 23/03/2021**

**National Biopharma Mission**

**3189 # Dr. Kirodi Lal Meena:**

Will the Minister of ***Science and Technology*** be pleased to state:

- (a) the objectives and targets decided by Government under National Biopharma Mission (NBM);
- (b) the details of efforts being made by Government to promote entrepreneurship and domestic manufacturing under NBM;
- (c) the manner in which Government is promoting innovation to achieve inclusion in the country; and
- (d) whether any project/activity is being done in Rajasthan under NBM, if so, the details thereof?

**ANSWER**

**HON'BLE UNION MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE; MINISTER  
OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY; AND MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES**

**(DR. HARSH VARDHAN)**

**(a)** Towards strengthening the emerging biotechnology enterprise in India, Department of Biotechnology (DBT), has initiated the Cabinet approved National Biopharma Mission entitled: "Industry-Academia Collaborative Mission for Accelerating Discovery Research to Early Development for Biopharmaceuticals – Innovate in India (i3) Empowering biotech entrepreneurs & accelerating inclusive innovation".

The approved objectives of the Mission are enlisted below :

- i. Development of products from leads that are at advanced stages in the product development lifecycle and relevant to the public health.
- ii. Strengthening and establishing shared infrastructure facilities for both product discovery validation and manufacturing
- iii. Developing human capital by providing specific training to address the critical skills gaps in researchers, nascent biotech companies across the product

development value chain, including in business plan development and market penetration.

iv. Creating and enhancing technology transfer and intellectual property management capacities and capabilities in public and private sector.

In alignment with the approved objectives the specific targets for the Mission, over a period of five years, include: development of 5 biopharma products – Vaccines, biotherapeutics, medical devices and diagnostics; establishment of shared infrastructure and facilities such as GLP Validation and Reference Lab, CMC facilities; Med-Tech validation facility; Consortia for translational and interdisciplinary research, process development, development of cell lines and expression systems; Clinical trial networks; Setting up and establishment of technology transfer offices in public and private sector; and imparting trainings for technical and non-technical skill development.

**(b)** The Mission is supporting small and medium enterprises so that they can overcome the risks involved in early stages of product development. To promote entrepreneurship, the Mission is supporting enhanced industry-academia inter-linkages and providing mentoring and training for academia, innovators and entrepreneurs to translate knowledge into products/technologies. The domestic manufacturing is being promoted through the supported shared national facilities such as GLP Analytical Facilities; CMC facilities for Clinical Trial Lot Manufacturing; Cell Line Repositories; Setting up of Clinical Trial Networks and supporting translational research consortia.

**(c)** To promote innovation for inclusiveness, the Mission is strengthening the ecosystem for affordable product development through the following: Development of vaccine candidates for Cholera, Influenza, Dengue, Chikungunya and Pneumococcal disease, Rabies and COVID-19; Biosimilar products for Diabetes, Psoriasis, Cancer; Diagnostic kits; MedTech Devices for Imaging, Pumps for dialysis and MRI scanners; Supporting shared facilities for Biopharmaceutical development (10), MedTech device development (9) and Vaccine Development (2); Establishment of hospital based and field site based Clinical Trial Networks for clinical trials of vaccines and bio-therapeutics; Supporting Translational Research Consortia (TRC) for infectious diseases to accelerate vaccine development efforts; Support for 7 Technology Transfer Offices for promoting entrepreneurship; Imparting trainings to address the critical skill gaps among the nascent biotech companies in areas such as Product development, intellectual property registration, technology transfer and regulatory standards

**(d)** The Mission is being implemented in a PAN-India manner and the grantees are selected through an open competitive Request For Applications (RFA). Currently, no projects from the state of Rajasthan have been funded under the Mission.