

Government of India
Ministry of Science and Technology
Department of Biotechnology

Manpower Development Programmes in Biotechnology

The Department invites proposals from National Research Institutions/Laboratories/Universities for organizing the following short term training courses in Biotechnology. The objective of these courses is to upgrade the skills of the existing manpower catering to the needs of research and development activities in various areas of Biotechnology, viz. (i) molecular biology, (ii) rDNA technology, (iii) immunology and immunodiagnostics, (iv) animal cell and tissue culture, hybridomas and cell-culture-based vaccines, (v) plant tissue culture, (vi) animal biotechnology, (vii) aquaculture and marine biotechnology, (viii) peptide and nucleic acid chemistry, (ix) modern techniques in industrial microbiology and bioconversion, (x) biochemical engineering, downstream processing and bioseparation techniques, computer modelling and process optimization, etc.

(i) Short-Term Training Courses for mid-career scientists

Institutions/universities engaged in major R&D programmes in Biotechnology and having high level expertise and adequate infrastructure may propose to organize these courses, each for a period of 3–4 weeks to train 12–15 participants. These are advanced level courses designed to train Post-Doctoral mid-career scientists in newly emerging research techniques in various areas of Biotechnology. Emphasis is to be given on 'hands-on' training.

(ii) Short-Term Training Courses for industrial S&T personnel

The purpose of the scheme is to motivate the industries to take up research and manufacturing activities in Biotechnology by way of giving exposure to their S&T personnel to the potential applications of Biotechnology. These are industry-oriented training courses which are organized by research institutions for a duration of 2–4 weeks each for 12–15 participants from industrial R&D institutions.

(iii) Technicians Training Programme

The Department sponsors three months technicians training courses at selected research institutions to upgrade the skills of already employed technicians with the purpose of facilitating research programmes in the advanced field of Biotechnology.

The Department provides funds for purchase of minor laboratory equipment, consumables, honorarium for internal and guest faculty, to meet expenses on preparation of laboratory manual, press advertisement and contingency items required for organizing the training course.

Besides the above, proposals are also invited under the following programmes.

(iv) Visiting Scientist from Abroad Programme (VSAP)

The objective of the programme is to gain and share the current state of knowledge in rapidly advancing field of Biotechnology through personal visits of experts from abroad. The invited experts are involved in ongoing research programmes or in initiating collaborative research projects or in conducting advanced training programme in their field of expertise for the benefit of Indian scientists. Under the programme, experts from abroad can be invited for a period of 3–6 months. Grant towards the cost of travel and honorarium to the visiting scientist and a research contingency grant depending on the duration of the visit would be provided.

(v) Popular Lectures in Biotechnology by Experts

The purpose of the scheme is to create awareness of the basic concepts and recent advances in Biotechnology and its potentials among the students of schools, colleges, universities as well as general public. Institutions actively involved in Biotechnology research may propose to organize a series of three popular lectures—two by their internal faculty and one by a leading expert from any other institution in India. At least one of the lectures may be organized in Hindi or in the local language.

Separate guidelines and format for each programmes would be available upon request from the Junior Analyst, Manpower Division, Department of Biotechnology, Block-2, C.G.O. Complex, Lodi Road, New Delhi 110 003. The complete proposals should reach the Department by 31 August 1996.