

## Indo-German Joint Call for Proposals in the area of Biotechnology

Within the agreement of Indo-German cooperation in S&T of 1974 and the Special Arrangement in Biotechnology for the period 2001–2006 signed on the 15th of February, 2001, a Programme of Cooperation was signed between the Department of Biotechnology, Government of India and Forschungszentrum Julich BMBH (FZJ), Federal Republic of Germany, defining cooperation in biotechnology between India and Germany.

The purpose of the programme is to stimulate new collaborations, e.g. the preparation of joint projects under national funding programmes. The programme facilitates bilateral cooperation in biotechnology between the scientific communities of India and Germany by way of joint research projects, bilateral workshops/seminar, exchange visits of scientist, scientific delegations and composite (scientific and industrial) delegation.

### *Nodal Implementing Agencies:*

The Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science & Technology, Government of India, New Delhi and the International Bureau of the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (IB/BMBF at DLR), Bonn are the nodal implementing agencies from the Indian and German sides respectively.

### *Areas of cooperation*

Proposals in identified priority areas are:

- Microbial biotechnology
- Bioprocess engineering
- Structural biology
- Development of cellular systems to rapidly screen pharmacological and therapeutic substances
- New applications for bacterial enzymes
- New cell culture techniques

### *Evaluation and selection criteria*

- Relevance to German and Indian national programmes and multinational programmes (e.g. EU-programmes)
- Preparation of new projects in applied fields of mutual benefit and justification for collaboration
- Quality and originality of research approach
- Qualification of applicant and availability of infrastructure
- Proposals should include young scientists
- Expected results and outcomes

### *Who can apply*

Scientists/faculty members working in regular capacity in Universities, national R&D Laboratories/Institutes and private R&D institutes can apply under this programme.

Private Sector: Partners from all kinds of the private sector are welcome, but, financing is limited:

### *Project duration*

Two years, extendable by one year.

### *Processing*

Joint research projects are required to be submitted to both the nodal agencies by **31 August 2006**. Unilaterally submitted projects shall not be considered.

On Indian side twenty copies of the jointly agreed collaborative research project on specific formats would be received by the respective Secretariat of the Programme. On German side, the International Bureau of BMBF requests electronic applications (+ 1 paper version with signatures) in the English or German language using the website <http://ib.antrag.internationales-buero.de>.

*Contd...*

The request for format and projects should be submitted to the nodal persons whose contact details are given below. All received proposals are peer reviewed and processed independently by both sides.

Indian Side:	German Side:
<p>Dr Shailja V. Gupta Principal Scientific Officer Department of Biotechnology Ministry of Science and Technology Block-2 ,CGO Complex, Lodi Road New Delhi 110 003, INDIA <b>Tel: 2436 3748</b> <b>Fax: 2436 4064, 2436 2884</b></p> <p><b>E-mail: <a href="mailto:shailja@dbt.nic.in">shailja@dbt.nic.in</a></b> <b>Website: <a href="http://www.dbtindia.nic.in">www.dbtindia.nic.in</a></b></p>	<p>Dr Gerold Heinrichs Senior Scientific Officer Internationales Buero des BMBF Koenigswinterer Str. 522-524 53227 Bonn</p> <p><b>Tel: 0228-3821-407</b> <b>Fax: 0228-3821-496</b></p> <p><b>E-mail: <a href="mailto:gerold.heinrichs@dlr.de">gerold.heinrichs@dlr.de</a></b> <b>Website: <a href="http://www.internationales-buero.de">www.internationales-buero.de</a></b></p>

The Research projects would be implemented subject to necessary clearances from the Government and laws and regulations of the host and sponsoring countries.

The details are also available on the websites: [www.dbtindia.nic.in](http://www.dbtindia.nic.in) and [www.internationales-buero.de](http://www.internationales-buero.de)

### Kind of support available

Financial support for the Indian component would be provided by DBT and financial support of the German component would be provided through International Bureau of the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (IB/BMBF at DLR), Bonn.

Financial support is available from the respective nodal agency from the two sides for the exchange visit under the approved projects component only as per the financial terms given below:

1. The sending side (DBT or IB-BMBF) shall cover the travel expenses of the visiting personnel up to the capital city of the host country and shall bear the cost of overseas medical insurance.
2. The receiving side shall provide living expenses and meet the domestic inter-city travel expense in its own country (except private sector in case of DBT), connected with the agreed programme of the visit and shall pay airport tax wherever necessary. In general, visits should not extend 3 months.
3. Reasonable support for equipment, manpower, consumables, etc. is available by DBT for Indian PIs from public institutions. Support for equipment and consumables is available by IB-BMBF for German PIs in exceptional cases.

### Expected Project outcome

It is expected that the funded cooperation enables the partners to develop applicable scientific results which could be commercialised and may lead to formation to joint ventures. All publications, patents coming out of these projects, need to be jointly authored by both Indian and German scientists.

#### *Time table*

Deadline for submission of completed applications	:	<b>31 August 2006</b>
Short-listing of selected projects	:	<b>30 November 2006</b>
Commencement of Projects	:	<b>1 January 2007.</b>