

Govt puts forward "Bio-Vision" for Bharat at BRIC Society's Maiden Meeting

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In a groundbreaking session marking the inaugural gathering of the BRIC Society, Union Minister of Science and Technology Dr Jitendra Singh emphasised the need to define "Bio-Vision" for Bharat. This significant move comes after the recent registration of the Biotechnology Research and Innovation Council (BRIC) following Cabinet approval on November 10, 2023.

Highlighting India's bio-economy growth, Dr Singh noted a thirteen-fold increase in the last decade. Quoting Prime Minister Modi's aspiration for India to enter the top-10 countries in the global biotech ecosystem, Dr Singh sees BRIC as a testament to achieving this goal by uniting brilliant minds on a single platform through the spirit of Sabka Prayas.

The Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Ministry of Science and Technology, has received Cabinet approval to streamline its 14 Autonomous Institutions (AIs) under BRIC for centralised governance, maximising biotech research impact nationwide.

Seeking input from accomplished institution-builders, the Minister urged the BRIC meeting to define the "Bio-Vision" for Bharat. BRIC will maintain distinct research mandates for its 14 subsumed institutions, governed by a unified Governing Body.

To enhance scientific capabilities, BRIC will introduce new PhD programmes, common course curricula, and additional scientific positions. The BRIC Society will oversee 14 renowned institutions, including the National Institute of Immunology, National Brain Research Centre, and Center of Innovative and Applied Bioprocessing.