

BioSpect

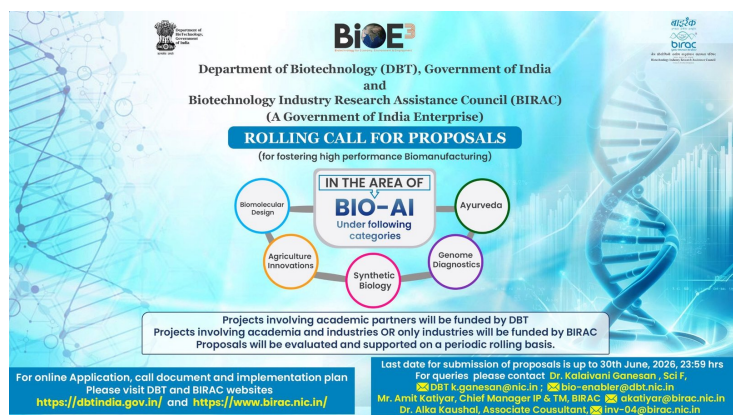
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BIRAC to commence evaluation for first set of Bio-AI Hub proposals from April 2026

17 March 2026 | News

Interested applicants are encouraged to submit their proposals by 31 March 2026



The poster is for a 'Rolling Call for Proposals' by BIRAC, under the Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Government of India. It is specifically for the 'BIO-AI' hub, which focuses on 'fostering high performance Biomannufacturing'. The central theme is 'IN THE AREA OF BIO-AI Under following categories', with five categories listed in colored circles: Biomolecular Design, Agriculture Innovations, Synthetic Biology, Genome Diagnostics, and Ayurveda. The poster also states that projects involving academic partners will be funded by DBT, while projects involving academia and industries or only industries will be funded by BIRAC. Proposals will be evaluated and supported on a periodic rolling basis. The last date for submission of proposals is up to 30th June, 2026, 23:59 hrs. For online application, call document and implementation plan, applicants are directed to visit DBT and BIRAC websites at <https://dbtindia.gov.in/> and <https://www.birac.nic.in/>. For queries, they are directed to contact Dr. Kalavani Ganesan, Sci F, at DBT.k.ganesan@nic.in or bio-enabler@dbt.nic.in, or Mr. Arun Katiyar, Chief Manager IP & TM, BIRAC, at akatiyar@birac.nic.in, or Dr. Alka Koushal, Associate Consultant, at inv-04@birac.nic.in.

BIRAC
Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Government of India
and
Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC)
(A Government of India Enterprise)

ROLLING CALL FOR PROPOSALS
(for fostering high performance Biomannufacturing)

IN THE AREA OF BIO-AI
Under following categories

- Biomolecular Design
- Agriculture Innovations
- Synthetic Biology
- Genome Diagnostics
- Ayurveda

Projects involving academic partners will be funded by DBT
Projects involving academia and industries OR only industries will be funded by BIRAC
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The Department of Biotechnology (DBT) and Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC) have announced a rolling call for proposals to establish Bio-Artificial Intelligence (Bio-AI) Hubs in key areas including Biomolecular Design, Synthetic Biology, Agricultural Innovations, Genome Diagnostics, and Ayurveda.

The evaluation of the first set of proposals will commence from April 2026 onwards. To be considered in the first round of evaluation, interested applicants are encouraged to submit their proposals by 31 March 2026 (05:00 PM). Proposals received after this date will be taken up in subsequent rounds of review as per the evaluation schedule.

The Bio-AI Hubs will focus on interdisciplinary and interinstitutional collaborations. These Hubs will be anchored by organisations (academia/industry) with established expertise in AI/ML, supported by robust infrastructure and advanced computational methodologies.

Startup/SMEs and other academic institutions can participate as spokes, contributing to the hub's research and innovation ecosystem. Bio-AI Hubs are expected to develop AI-guided closed loop platforms, in which predictions, experiments and analyses are integrated into the system to improve performance.

All of these would be connected in a positive feedback loop leading to accelerate scientific discoveries, optimise processes and decision-making. Bio-AI hubs with state-of-art facilities in PPP mode will be established as a shared DBTL facility for scaling-up of various research activities in academia/ industrial or joint industry-academia settings.