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DBT-BIRAC shines at Bharat Innovates 2026 in France

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DBT-BIRAC spearheaded the "Biotechnology" theme – one amongst the thirteen themes



Bharat Innovates 2026, a global accelerator event held from 14–16 June 2026 in Nice, France, showcased 120 Indian deep-tech startups, 15 premier institutions, and major India–France innovation partnerships, inaugurated by PM Narendra

Modi and President Emmanuel Macron.

Department of Biotechnology (DBT)- Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC) booth was prominently located near the entrance of exhibition area, emphasising on the following: India's BioEconomy growth, DBT's championed BioE3 national policy, BIRAC-RDI Fund support for deep-tech innovations, BioSaarthi- mentoring platform to integrate European mentor pool, BRIC's R&D ecosystem, BIRAC's translational ecosystem – Bioincubation centres, Biofoundries, Biotech Startups, and others.

A panel discussion explored how India can build on its success as the "Pharmacy of the World" and evolve into a globally recognised leader in bio-innovation and bio manufacturing through the convergence of science, entrepreneurship, policy, capital, artificial intelligence, and international collaboration.

There were 15 startups nominees of DBT-BIRAC out of 120 startup who were selected for Bharat Innovates 2026. In all, there were 36 out of 120 startups who were BIRAC beneficiaries. This represented a lion's share contribution of DBT-BIRAC in building high quality national innovation ecosystem.

DBT-BIRAC was represented by Dr Manish Diwan, Head, BIRAC-RDIF; Dr Sonali Tandon, Chief Manager & In charge Investment; and Dr Rashi Aggarwal, Programme Officer, BIRAC-RDIF.

Three term sheets worth Rs 450 Cr + from BIRAC-RDI Fund were announced for Fermbox Bio, Sea6 Energy, and Revelations Biotech, following first set of beneficiaries in the presence of Sudhir Sethi, Founder and Chairman, Chiratae Ventures; Strategic Advisory Committee member, BIRAC-RDIF.

MoU/ agreements between Startup and Industry from the Biotechnology theme were exchanged in the presence of Principal Scientific Advisor, Prof. Ajay K Sood-

ATGC Biotech (participating Startup Company under Biotechnology theme) with Albaugh Europe (a division of US based agrochemical company, Swiss Headquartered MNC specializing in crop-protection with formulation plants in Slovenia, Spain)

ATGC Biotech and Luxembourg Industries Ltd (Israel based Agrochemical, speciality chemicals & advanced materials company with subsidiaries and manufacturing plants in USA and Brazil) announced a Joint Venture called SEMIOPHORE