

## India, Germany cooperate in key biotech research areas

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Within the agreement of Indo-German cooperation in science and technology (S&T) of 1974 and the special arrangement in biotechnology for the period, 2001-2006 signed on February 15, 2001, a programme of cooperation was signed between the Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Government of India and Forschungszentrum Julich BMBH (FZJ), Federal Republic of Germany, defining cooperation in biotechnology between India and Germany.

The programme intends 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, and exchange visits of scientists. Nodal implementing agencies include DBT, Ministry of Science & Technology, Government of India, New Delhi and the German Aerospace Center, Project Management Agency (DLR-PT), Bonn are the nodal implementing agencies from the Indian and German sides respectively.

Areas of cooperation include proposals in identified priority areas are biodiversity, treatment of sewage water, neuroimaging and diagnostics.

The programme should have 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 and expected results and outcomes.

Scientists or faculty members working in regular capacity in Universities, national R&D Laboratories/ Institutes and private R&D institutes can apply under this programme. Partners from all kind of private sectors too can apply but financing is limited.