

## **DBT sets up target of \$110 billion big biotech sector by 2025**

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As per DBT, the targeted mission is to accelerate the pace of growth of biotechnology sector to achieve a target of \$110 billion by 2025.

In response to questions from management and social sector experts on perceptible and measurable strategies of DBT over the next couple of years, Dr K Vijay Raghavan, secretary, DBT underlined that biotech will see at least a 20 percent increase in new companies, 20 percent more biotech incubators, 20 percent more social-sector partnerships, and 20 percent more Med-tech devices each year over the next three years

Dr Raghavan further stated that the results from stem-cell research will see impact on Sickle-cell anemia and Thalassemia treatments in three years. The work on maternal health, pre-term birth and stunted growth will result in significant improvement in nutrition and anemia treatment - programs for women within 2-3 years. India will establish a substantial presence in genome engineering and computational biology in coming three years.

"Mapping of the biodiversity of our islands and the coral reefs will be completed next year from which drug discovery centres will have access to novel compounds in two years. Major international collaborations will be established this year and the next following high-level exchanges with Japan (Stem-cells), France (Marine Biology) Canada (Stem cells), Netherlands (Vaccines), UK (Agri-plant), Netherlands (vaccines), US (Energy, Vaccines)," outlined the secretary DBT while addressing the directors, senior faculty and officers present on the occasion.

The concluding session of the strategy meet agreed to focus on:

- Building a skilled workforce and leadership.
- Encouraging basic and discovery research and connecting this to our society.
- Nurturing innovation, translation and entrepreneurship to transform our society.
- Ensuring a transparent and globally best regulatory environment.
- Building and fostering partnerships both at National and International level.

It was also agreed that for effective implementation of these strategic decisions it is important that we create a matrix of the measurements of process as well as outcome.

Key missions are also being formulated by the DBT to address major national challenges on healthcare, energy, food security and human resource. These steps by the premier biotech agency in its 30th year will surely bear fruits in next one decade.