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BBC plans for nation's medtech accelerator

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The BBC measures about 86 acres of land having three zones:

ï‚§ Institutional area - 20 acres (composed of IBAB & CHG - Centre for Human Genetics)
ï‚§ Innovation area - 10 acres (for start-ups)
ï‚§ Industrial cluster area - 56 acres (Alexandria Biotech Park)

The project was sanctioned 10 years ago in 2005 by the Department of Biotechnology (DBT).

The total cost of the project has been Rs 50.9 crore. The civil construction has cost Rs 12.9 crore; internal lab fittings (by IBAB through KBITS grants) about Rs 16 crore; and lab equipments cost Rs 22 crore (from DBT).

BBC's key features

ï‚§ Provide key crucial link between academic institutions such as IBAB, CHG and the industry
ï‚§ Subsidized infrastructure along with mentorship, training, funding, networking support for start-ups
ï‚§ Central equipment facility catering to the needs of broad areas of Life Sciences
ï‚§ Modular labs with an option to combine adjacent labs to create bigger units
ï‚§ Structured as 'section-8' not-for-profit company with independent and autonomous governance structure

So far BBC has received 20 applications from prospective incubatees.

The technical presentation pitch will be conducted in the last week of July 2015.

The incubatees will be selected based on innovative potential, social impact, team strength, and technology readiness level among others.

Way forward

In the future, BBC will play a mentorship role for other clusters in Karnataka if needed, explained Dr Jitendra Kumar, â€?Director & Head, BBC.

He also added, "At the moment, an early-stage venture funding system is being created by KBITS. Also seed funding from DBT and KBITS is on the planning horizon. We are also in the process of conceiving to create a medtech accelerator."

The BBC also plans to have additional infrastructures including animal house, green house, library and information system, medtech accelerator, technology center, and additional lab spaces.