

Bangalore India Bio 2013 promises a new look

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Bangalore India Bio 2013 promises a new look and feel



Bangalore: The Department of Information Technology, Biotechnology and Science and Technology, Government of Karnataka, Vision Group on Biotechnology and MM Activ Sci-Tech Communications today announced that Bangalore India Bio (BIB) 2013 will be held from February 4-6, 2013 at the Lalit Ashok Hotel, Bangalore.

The announcement was made today by Shri I S N Prasad, IAS, principal secretary to Government, Department of Information Technology, Biotechnology and Science and Technology, in the presence of Dr Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw, chairperson, Karnataka's Vision Group on Biotechnology and CMD, Biocon, and Mr Subir Hari Singh, IAS, additional chief secretary, Government of Karnataka.

Highlighting the point that Karnataka is working closely with the biotechnology industry, Shri I S N Prasad said that, "there will be new highlights at the 13th edition of the BIB. We hope that the incubation center for biotechnology will be completed by March. We are also building a large biotech park in Electronics City, Bangalore, through the help of Alexandria Park, which we hope will be operational in the next two years."

Dr Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw gave an insight on what to expect at the 13th BIB. She highlighted that, "This year we want to address various aspects of biotechnology. Biotechnology has a key role to play in food, healthcare, environment and energy and hence this year's theme for BIB is 'Biotech for a better tomorrow'. The conference this year will have a different look and feel."

Dr Shaw mentioned that BIB is partnering with very select partners such as the National Innovation Center (NIC), in order to put an interesting session on the innovations from this field. BIB is also partnering with the Indian Institute of Bangalore (IIM-B) and will have a session on how to translate a concept into a business. This session is expected to be useful for young entrepreneurs. Institute of Bioinformatics and Biotechnology (IBAB) is also expected to have a session and talk about the upcoming in-silico technology. The BIB conference this year will have a session on agri-biotech, which will focus not only on transgenics technology but also on other domains. "There is more that biotechnology can offer in agriculture apart from just transgenics and the session will focus on this," said Dr Shaw.

Bangalore India Bio 2013 will consist of an international trade show, multi-track conference, Bio Partnering sessions, Vision Leadership Series and plenary talks, a CEO Conclave, poster session, Bio Quiz and Bio-Excellence awards. The international conference at BIB will focus on partnering and deal making trends, biosimilars, regenerative medicines, molecular biotechnology and bioinformatics, vaccines and clinical research. This year, there will be two new elements added to the above mentioned programs. BIB will be conducting a workshop that will benefit the young entrepreneurs and will also be having Tele-Plenary Talks from eminent personalities from the world, who will connect through video and tele conferencing.

When *BioSpectrum* highlighted the fact that enrollment in the biotechnology-related courses has declined this year, Dr Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw responded by saying that "Previously, the curriculum that was taught in institutions did not meet the industry expectation. This has led to the emergence of a vicious cycle of industry not taking in the graduates and students not applying to biotechnology-related courses. We have broken this cycle through the BT Finishing schools, where we have done course correction and the courses are now tailor-made according to what the industry requires."

It is expected that more than 700 delegates, 100 renowned speakers from India and abroad and more than 100 exhibitors will participate and many memorandum of understanding (MoUs), technical tie-ups and business collaborations will be signed during the three-day Bangalore India Bio 2013 event.