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Mumbai: The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), India, under its New Millennium Indian Technology Leadership Initiative (NMITLI) Scheme, has approved the implementation of the project, "Customized adaptation of nonClonableID technology to establish authenticity of medical products", by Pune-based company Bilcare. Dr Praful Naik, executive director and chief scientific officer, Bilcare, has been designated as the principal investigator for the project.

One of key challenges before India in the pharmaceutical space, both in domestic and export sectors, is that of counterfeit drugs with dire implications to not only the pharmaceutical companies but also government authorities and the general public. In this context, product accountability and traceability has been recognized as a critical need for providing quality medical products. The issue covers not only detecting counterfeits or eliminating illegal duplicates but more importantly to also ensure that medicine of genuine origin is consumed by the patients.

The CSIR-NMITLI-Bilcare team has been assigned the challenge of demonstrating the ability of a novel nonClonableID technology to address the unmet needs in medical product authentication and patient safety. The nonClonableID technology, based on novel aspects of material science and utilizing the law of randomness, shall create unique non-duplicable fingerprints. These fingerprints when processed, digitized and activated can function as unique identification tags. The key objectives of the CSIR-NMITLI project is to demonstrate the utility of the nonClonableID tags in establishing product accountability through secured traceability from the point of origin to the point of dispensation, authenticity check and establishing e-pedigree; and also in improving medication compliance by patients.

This Public-Private Partnership will allow CSIR and Bilcare to advance research areas of mutual interest in the healthcare domain, build technical expertise to pursue high science and niche technology for global impact and create technologies that address the country's concerns.

CSIR, established in 1942, is an autonomous society with the Prime Minister of India as its president and is amongst the foremost and largest publicly funded scientific and industrial research organizations in the world.
Bilcare Technologies is a research and technology leader focused on creating next-generation anti-counterfeiting, security and brand protection solutions for a broad range of industry sectors.