

6th edition of GBP`S
TALENT SEARCH CONTEST ON
INNOVATIVE RESEARCH IDEAS LEADING
TO ENTREPRENEURIAL VENTURE IN
BIOTECHNOLOGY AND ALLIED AREAS



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1. PREAMBLE

Guwahati Biotech Park (GBP) is a visionary initiative of Government of Assam to promote business in biotechnology and allied areas through entrepreneurship development. GBP has been established with an objective to accelerate the R & D activities and product development in biotechnology and allied areas and to facilitate faster penetration of biotech industry to the North Eastern Region.

As a first endeavor of the Park's activities an Incubation Centre namely Technology Incubation Center (TIC) has been established. TIC is offering ready-to-use modular laboratories equipped with modern laboratory work stations and other utilities for leasing out to startup entrepreneurs/companies interested in pursuing their R&D activities in biotechnology and related areas where they can translate their research ideas into commercialisable technologies as well as for up-gradation of existing technologies without risking huge investments in terms of infrastructure and equipment.

Apart from modular laboratories, TIC is offering instrument/equipment support required for R&D activities through specialized facilities having modern & sophisticated equipment. The facilities are: Central Analytical Instrumentation Facility, Bioprospecting Facility, Micropropagation Facility, Herbal Extraction Facility, Fermentation Facility and Bioinformatics Facility. These instrument services are available on nominal pay and use basis.

Presently the centre is having a number of modular laboratories of different sizes ranging from 334 sft to 1375sft for leasing out to the entrepreneurs. Currently around 150 different types of high end as well as common equipment are available at TIC and many other will be added soon. All these facilities are available to entrepreneurs/researchers/students on pay and use basis.

GBP has collaborated with the **North East Agriculture Technology Entrepreneurs Hub (NEATEHUB)** –An Atal Incubation Center at Assam Agriculture University, Jorhat to leverage the offerings and support to budding entrepreneurs. With this

collaboration, the selected entrepreneurs will further receive structured incubation programme support mentoring and coaching services to laboratory and Physical co-working spaces including Robotics etc. at AAU Jorhat, producers-connect, market linkages and access to funding support under the NEATEHUB programmes. More info on NEATEHUB is available at www.neatehub.org.

GBP has also collaborated with **Assam Agribusiness Growth Lab (AAGL): A flagship initiative of APART.**

Assam Agribusiness Growth Lab (AAGL) is a first of its kind agribusiness acceleration initiative in Assam and North East India under the aegis of Assam Agribusiness and Rural Transformation Project (APART).

The Centre for Innovation Incubation & Entrepreneurship (CIIE.CO), the Startup Incubator of IIM, Ahmedabad in association with Innovative Change Collaborative Services Pvt Ltd. (ICCSPL) are co-implementing this programme in Assam. The AAGL initiative was officially launched on 30th June 2021 with an aim to support 100 enterprises, in 4 years duration in the agri and allied sectors including participation of 30% women-led businesses.

The program focuses on building capacity for selected enterprises, supporting improving product standards, developing new products and services, introducing and adopting new technology in production and core operations, and assisting them to mobilize finance for business. As AAGL and GBP are working with the similar mandate, both the organization have joined hands to organize the 6th edition of TSC.

2. ABOUT THE CONTEST

The growth of Biotechnology industry in Assam is in its nascent stage. GBP is committed to play the role of a catalyst and facilitator for entrepreneurship development in biotechnology and related areas and to catalyze the growth of Biotechnology Industry in North Eastern states through proper and effective utilization of the huge bio-resources of this region.

To accelerate the R & D activity and ignite the young minds to cultivate entrepreneurial ideas in biotechnology and allied fields GBP is organizing a *'Talent Search Contest on Innovative Research Ideas Leading to Entrepreneurial Venture in Biotechnology and Allied Areas.'* This will encourage the innovative potential of students/researchers and open up the new vistas of industrialization throughout the NE Region in the long run.

3. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Start-ups/entrepreneurs/Graduate/ Post Graduate/PhD Scholars/ Postdoctoral fellow and any professionals experienced in Biotechnology and allied areas can participate in this contest. Participants must submit a scanned copy of the photoID card of their College/University/Institute/organization currently associated and a NOC from Supervisor/ Head of the Institute/Organization. Those who are not associated with any organization but interested to participate in this contest can submit a self-declaration document stating their current occupation.

4. HOW TO APPLY

Participants can submit their Project Proposal/ Research ideas in the prescribed format (**Annexure I**). This may be sent to the GBP via **Google Form (<https://tinyurl.com/TSCJANUARY2022>)**. Proposal received after the stipulated time will not be entertained. All the details of the contest, link, any updates and the list of selected participants can be seen in the website of GBP *i.e.* www.guwahatibiotechpark.com/News and Events.

5. RECOGNITION AND AWARD

Twelve (12) numbers of participants out of the total participants will be selected by a Screening Committee based on the novelty, feasibility, commercial viability, competitive advantage over existing technologies and user friendliness of the research concept. The selected participants will be invited to join the **final contest for Award for innovative Research Program** to be organized by Guwahati Biotech

Park and all the selected participants will be awarded for their outstanding innovative concepts with Certificates and Mementos.

- i. All the selected participants will present their concepts before a Screening Committee in the **final contest for Award for innovative Research Program**.
- ii. Best five (5) participants with outstanding innovative concepts, will be given attractive awards to facilitate their research on the presented concept. The awards are: 1stAward - Rs. 60,000/-, 2ndAward -Rs. 50,000/-, 3rdAward -Rs. 40,000/-, 4thAward - Rs. 30,000/- and 5th-Award -Rs. 20,000/-. The awardees must utilize the grant to do R & D work for the awarded project by incubating at TIC, GBP. The grant can also be utilized against equipment user charges at TIC, GBP for the awarded project. The maximum time period for commencement of the project work will be 3 months from the date of the final contest. These awardees will be offered laboratory space at TIC to start R & D works on the selected concept with concessional lease rent of Rs. 5/sf/month (Five Rupees only) plus maintenance charge as per the T & C of GBP for incubatees. The actual lease rent for TIC modular laboratories is Rs. 40/sf/month plus maintenance charge. Concessional lease rent of Rs. 5/sf/month will be applicable within 6 months from the date of the final contest or till the full utilization of the award money, whichever is earlier. After this period, actual lease rent of Rs. 40/sf/month will be applicable.
- iii. GBP is associated with NRL for this 6th edition of TSC. The best three (3) participants will also get direct entry to the second level of screening for NRL ideation grant. Details will be available <http://www.ideation.nrl.co.in/strategic-alignment.aspx#4>.
- iv. Industry professionals, Investment bankers, Angel Investors and academicians will be invited in the program to join the Award for innovative Research Program to explore opportunities for investment for these innovative research ideas and participants could directly interact with the experts.

- v. Participants can visit the instrumentation facilities and could have the exposure to the sophisticated instruments available at TIC,GBP.
- vi. Participants can interact with the experts of NEATEHUB and AAGL for mentorship and guidance for bringing their concept to a marketable product.
- vii. Participation in the event will develop and improve transferable skills such as networking with academicians, mentorship from industry professionals, will Increase commercial awareness and technology transfer knowledge, communication, time-management, IP filling and team management.

Note: If the proposal is submitted in a team, maximum number allowed is 2 persons and the proposal will be considered as one proposal. Teams can consist of members from different organizations. A team cannot submit more than one business plan. Also, a member can be part of only one team. If a team proposal is selected, the prize will be given as one award.

6. IMPORTANT DATES

Announcement of the Contest	:	12 th December 2021
Last date for submission	:	31 st January 2022
Announcement of shortlisted participants	:	Through email/Will be notified in GBP website
Award for innovative Research Program (Online)	:	Will be notified in GBP website

7. DISCLAIMER

Competent Authority of GBP reserves the right to reject any or all the applications without assigning reason(s) thereof. GBP will not be responsible for any IPR issues arisingthereof for the research ideas submitted for the contest.

8. ADDRESS FOR COMMUNICATION

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 www.guwahatibiotechpark.com

9. SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

The Talent Search Contest on Innovative Research Ideas offers several sponsorship packages. As a sponsor, one can increase the exposure, network with the business community, and can promote the brand of a company to the entrepreneurs, Students/Researchers, academicians and industry professionals and also to other guests of the program.

Interested organization/firms can contact Guwahati Biotech Park through email at **bioedp@guwahatibiotechpark.com**

10. ANNEXURE I

Project Proposal /Research Ideas (within3000 words)*

Sl. No.	Topic	Total no. of words	Total Marks for evaluation
1	Title of the Project proposal/Research Idea	-	-
2	Objective of the proposal	-	5
3	Nature of business: Specify whether Product or service	50	5
4	Concept Note	400	10
5	Challenges or risk factors associated with the project	200	15
6	Technical Feasibility and innovative aspects of the idea-solution, uniqueness of the solution	400	15
7	Stage of Research Idea:Has any preliminary work been carried out? Give status of work done? If no, please provide the background	50	5

	details.		
8	Practical Application/Outcome of the project) explain the relevant one: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ A Product for customers ➤ A knowledge based service for customers ➤ A technology (knowhow) for sale or licensing to industry ➤ An intellectual property right for licensing or sale ➤ Any other, please specify 	350	10
9	Commercial Viability and Future Plan of Commercialization	450	15
10	Target population and Market Potential of the product or service to be developed	500	5
11	Competitive advantage	400	5
12	Social implications	200	10

*as per maximum word limit by Google form

B. Information about the applicant:

- i. Name :
- ii. Address for communication :
- iii. Mobile number :
- iv. Email address :
- v. Date of Birth (dd/mm/yyyy):
- vi. Age (Years) :
- vii. Sex (M/F) :
- viii. Educational Qualification :
- ix. Present occupation :

C. No Objection Certificate from the Head of the Department/Supervisor in the prescribe format (Annexure II)

11. ANNEXURE II

No Objection Certificate

This is to certify that Mr/Mrs/Dris a Post Graduate/PhD Student/Research Associate/ Postdoctoral fellow/employee of this

.....sinceThis organization has no objection in participation of Mr/Mrs/Dr..... in the 6th edition of GBP`s“Talent Search Contest on Innovative Research Ideas Leading To Entrepreneurial Venture In Biotechnology and allied areas’with the Research Idea entitled “”

Signature:

Place
Date

Name& Designation of
Head of Department/Supervisor

Note: If the person is not associated with any organization a self-declaration certificate required to be attached along with the proposal.