

KITS/BT/BT/11/2020-BIOTECH-KITS/

July 27, 2020

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Sub: Constitution of COVID-19 Mentorship Panel to guide startups developing products/services related to COVID-19 Disease and coordinate with BIRAC and Central Agencies.

Ref: 1) Letter from Dr. Vishal Rao, Centre of Academics and Research, HCG Cancer Centre, Bengaluru dated 14.05.2020
2) Approval received from Government on 04.07.2020

1. The World Health Organization on 11th March 2020, declared the 2019 Corona Virus Disease (COVID-19), a global pandemic. The virus that causes the disease, SARS-CoV-2, has infected millions of people all over the world and lakhs of people have succumbed to the disease worldwide. Karnataka start-ups and R&D institutes are playing an important role in developing many innovative products and services to control the spread and early diagnosis COVID-19 disease. Such groups require assistance and facilitation to improve on the products developed, obtain necessary regulatory clearances and validations before they are put to market.
2. In order to support start-ups up, a **“COVID-19 Startups Mentorship Panel”** is constituted with following as members:
 - i) Mr. D.A. Prasanna, Member, Vision Group on Biotechnology, Government of Karnataka
 - ii) Dr. P.M. Murali, Member, Vision Group on Biotechnology, Government of Karnataka
 - iii) Dr. Divakar Rao, Member, Vision Group on Biotechnology, Government of Karnataka
 - iv) Dr. Taslimarif Saiyed, Member, Vision Group on Biotechnology, Government of Karnataka
 - v) Mr. M.S. Lokesh Prasad, Member, Drugs Technical Advisory Board, DCGI, MoH&FW, GoI
 - vi) Dr. Vishal Rao, Associate Dean, Centre of Academics and Research, HCG Cancer Centre
 - vii) Dr. Dr. H.V. Batra, Former Director, DFRL, Mysuru
 - viii) Dr. H.S. Subramanya, Director, IBAB, Bengaluru

Coordinators:

 - i) Dr. S. Balasubramanya, Senior Consultant, Biotechnology Facilitation Cell, KITS, DeitY, Bt and S&T, GoK
 - ii) Dr. Jitendra Kumar, Director, Bangalore Bioinnovation Centre, DeitY, Bt and S&T, GoK
3. The panel to guide startups developing products/services related to COVID-19 Disease and coordinate with BIRAC and Central Agencies to obtain necessary regulatory clearances and validations.

4. The panel will meet on every first and third Friday of the month from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm for taking queries related to;
 - Regulatory pathways and regulations
 - Technical Mentorship
 - Industry-Academia partnerships
 - Intellectual Property
5. Prior appointment is essential and only 5-6 slots will be made available on each day of the meeting. Startups should take prior appointment with details on Company Name, Address, Contact Details, Technology/Innovation Summary, Stage of development and specific queries through online form made available at www.k-tech.org and www.bioinnovationcentre.com.
6. The panel will function for the duration of One year and the period of panel is extendable on the need basis.
7. The panel decisions to be submitted periodically to the Department of Electronics, IT, Bt and S&T. KITS would provide secretarial support to the panel during the ongoing task.



(C.N. Meena Nagaraaj, IAS)
**Managing Director, KITS &
Director, DeitY and BT, GoK**

CC: For information/necessary action to:
All concerned.