From the Desk of President





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Vice PresidentDr Anand Anandkumar

General Secretary Mr Ravi Bhola

Treasurer Dr Anan<u>d Anandkumar</u>

EC members

Dr Ezhil Subbian

Dr Kavitha Iyer Rodrigues

Dr Shama Bhat

Dr Shriram Raghavan

Mr Venkat Kamalakar Bundia

COO Mr Narayanan Suresh

Positive trends and busy days ahead for the Indian biotechnology sector!



The last three months have been hectic at **ABLE**, with the threat of Covid-19 receding and economic activity picking up pace. In this newsletter, eN-ABLE, I am happy to present some glimpses into the wide range of activities taken up by Team ABLE.

The most notable ones are the in-person interactions with two key Union Minister, Mrs Nirmala Sitharaman (Finance) and Mr Piyush Goyal (Commerce & Industry). Both the ministers dedicated three hours to listen to us on the development of the Biotech sector, great contribution during the pandemic and ABLE's proactive role. We had the opportunity to seek solutions to many policies, regulatory and fiscal changes to boost the industry further. The ministers were keen to get into details of all the challenges and were positive to consider all the requests.

These interactions will continue with them and other ministers and key policy makers in New Delhi in the next few months. We will keep the members updated on further developments. The IT-BT department of Government of Karnataka led by Additional Chief Secretary, Dr A V Ramana Reddy, IAS and his team played a crucial role in organizing these meetings with the Union ministers. The **ABLE 'Webinar' series** has also had good traction with international speakers from Denmark, Singapore and Israel in the last three months. I am also happy to report that ABLE did a highly successful industry interaction with our counterparts in South Korea, in collaboration with the Indian Embassy in Seoul. We need our members feedback to make such webinars more meaningful. The interim India **Bio Economy Report (IBER)** prepared by us for BIRAC indicates, now there are 5000+ biotech startups and the BioEconomy grew by more than 45% during the July-September quarter.

The **ABLE Executive Council** is making all efforts to prepare the organization for the future to step up our support to the Biotech sector. **ABLE bylaws** are being redrafted, making necessary changes in line with the legal stand point. We realize the need for expanding ABLE activities in regions with **ABLE Regional chapters** and to start with we will open in **East at Bhubaneshwar and in West at Pune**, Key Bio clusters. We are also refurbishing the **ABLE secretariat** located in Bangalore to provide members a central location to have short meetings and interactions. You can look forward to more initiatives going forward.

Season's Greeting and Happy Festivities to you and your families.

G S Krishnan President, ABLE

ABLE Delegation Meets Key Union Ministers

IN THIS ISSUE ABLE meets the Union ministers

- ABLE delegation meeting with Union Commerce & Industry Minister – Shri Piyush Goyal
- ABLE Delegation Meeting with the finance minister
 Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman

ABLE Meeting with Union Commerce & Industry Minister - Shri Piyush Goyal

September 19, 2021



The meeting was facilitated by the Department of IT, BT & S&T, Government of Karnataka.



ABLE President Mr Krishnan highlighted the strengths of India's and Karnataka's growing BioEconomy and showed how ABLE's member companies were at the forefront of developing the vaccines against COVID-19 pandemic and their role in record breaking vaccination drive. ABLE delegate members got the opportunity to elaborate their issues and seek the minister's support to formulate appropriate solutions by the various agencies of the Union government. Minister Shri Piyush Goyal shared the insights for navigating the issues through the government system and promised to intervene wherever possible to

help the industry. Delegations from ABLE, Information Technology, Semiconductor Industry and select technology startups were present. ABLE members who participated in the meeting included Mr G S Krishnan (President, ABLE), Mr K P Mohan (Novozymes), Dr Anand Anandkumar (Bugworks Research & VP-Treasurer, ABLE), Dr Shama Bhat (Bhat Biotech, EC Member), Mr Kapil Sood (ThermoFisher Scientific), Dr Arun Anand (Immuneel), Mr Sanjeev Neelappa (Yokogawa Life Sciences), Mr Rajesh Krishnamurthy (Laurus Bio) and Mr Narayanan Suresh (COO, ABLE). Besides GoK officials, the meeting was attended by two senior bureaucrats, Mr Anil Agarwal additional secretary in Department of Industrial Promotion and Planning, Government of India, and Ms Shruti Singh, joint secretary in DPI.

ABLE Delegation Meeting with the finance minister - Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman

July 2, 2021





The meeting was facilitated by Bangalore Bioinnovation Centre (BBC). Dr Ashwathnarayan CN, Dr Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw, delegation from ABLE and its member companies, officials and startups at BBC, and dignitaries from the Government of Karnataka were present at the meeting. ABLE highlighted to seek exemption/ reduced GST rate for lifesaving medicines used

in treatment of COVID-19. ABLE members who participated in the meeting included Mr. G S Krishnan (President, ABLE & Director- External Stakeholder Relations, Novozymes India); Dr Jitendra Kumar (Director, BBC); Dr Taslimarif Saiyed (Director & CEO, C-CAMP); Mr Siddarth Mittal (CEO, Biocon Ltd); Dr. P M Murali (President, ABLE Business Council); Mr. Krishna Mohan Puvvada (Regional President, India & Business Director, Consumer BioSolutions, Novozymes); Mr Subramanian R (Chairman and Founder, Laurus Bio); Mr Ajay Bharadwaj (Chairman, Anthem Biosciences); Dr K Talismanic Narayanan (Founder, Kottaram Agro Foods); Mr Manohar B N (CEO, Stempeutics Research); Dr. Kavitha lyer Rodrigues (Director, Zumutor Biologics); Dr. Murali Ramachandra (CSO, Aurigene Discovery Technologies Ltd.); Dr. Mahesh Bhalgat (COO, Syngene International); Dr Shreehas Tambe (President & Dy. CEO, Biocon Biologicals); Dr. Arun Anand (COO, Immuneel Therapeutics); Mr Shrikumar Suryanarayan (Chairman, Sea6energy & Ex-President, ABLE) and Mr Narayanan Suresh (COO, ABLE).

ABLE WEBINARS

IN THIS ISSUE Webinars

- Understanding the Biodiversity Laws
- International
 Biotech Startups
 and their
 Institutional
 Support System
- "Is future food already here?"-Asian and Indian Perspectives

Webinar on "Understanding the Biodiversity Laws" June 25, 2021



The webinar "Understanding the Biodiversity Laws" was hosted on June 25, 2021 at 4pm. Dr Malathi Lakshmikumaran, Executive Director and Head, Lakshmikumaran & Sridharan Attorneys was the speaker for the webinar and Mr GS Krishnan, President, ABLE was the moderator.

The discussion was on various aspects of the Biodiversity Act that govern biotech research and product developments.

Novozymes, Sea6Energy, Bugworks were the sponsors for the webinar.

Webinar on "International Biotech Startups and their Institutional Support System"

August 27, 2021



The webinar "International Biotech Startups and their Institutional Support System" was scheduled on August 27, 2021 at 4pm.

Mr. Jonathan Zadka, Consul General of Israel to South India, Bengaluru; Dr Jakob Williams Ørberg, Counsellor for Innovation, Research and Higher Education, Danish Embassy, New Delhi and Dr Konstantinos Vavitsas, Assistant Senior Manager, Singapore Consortium for Synthetic Biology (SINERGY) were the main speakers. Mr GS Krishnan, President, ABLE moderated the session. The discussions focused on the biotech startup ecosystem.

Webinar on "Is future food already here? - Asian and Indian Perspective"

October 1, 2021



The webinar "Is future food already here?" was scheduled on October 1, 2021 at 4pm. The webinar provided Asian and Indian Perspectives.

The speakers were Dr Isabelle Decitre, CEO, ID Capital Pte and Mr. Varun Deshpande, Managing Director, The Good Food Institute India. The webinar was moderated by Dr Ezhil Subbian, CEO, String Bio Pvt Ltd and Member of Executive Council at ABLE.

The webinar was sponsored by the Biotechnology Facilitation Cell at Karnataka Innovation & Technology Society (K-tech), Dept. of IT, BT and S&T, GoK. Dr S. Balasubramanya highlighted the Biotechnology ecosystem prevailing in the State and about the specific programs undertaken.



ABLE EVENTS

IN THIS ISSUE

ABLE Events

- India-ROK
 Pharma &
 Biopharma CEOs
 Conclave
- BIO Asia-Taiwan2021
- Workshop on Biopharma & Bioinformatics Industry: Opportunities and Challenges in India
- ISPIC 2021

India-ROK Pharma & Biopharma CEOs Conclave



Asia's Potential of Leading the Global Supply Chain of Vaccines & Biologics

10 ABLE member companies and top biotech companies in South Korea shared their capabilities in the segments of vaccines, biologics, cell and gene therapy and Med-tech & genomics at a special session organized by the Indian Embassy in Seoul and ABLE.

The participating companies were: Biocon, Syngene International, Stempeutics, Biocon Biologics, Dr Reddy's Laboratories,

Immuneel Therapeutics and Wockhardt from the Indian side and SK Biosciences, LG Life Sciences, Daewong Pharmaceutical and Lab Genomics from Korea.

BIO Asia-Taiwan 2021, Online July 21-25, 2021



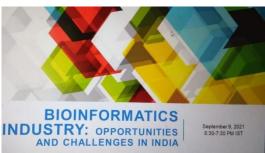
Asia's largest biotech partnering and networking event

Jointly organized by the
Biotechnology Innovation
Organization (BIO) and the
Taiwan Bio Industry
Organization (Taiwan BIO), BIO
Asia—Taiwan has grown over
the years to its current
standing as a not-to-be-missed

occasion where global biomedical and healthcare executives and investors gather with their counterparts from around the world to explore inbound and outbound business and collaboration Opportunities.

Workshop on Biopharma and Bioinformatics Industry: Opportunities and Challenges in India

September 8-9, 2021



The workshop was hosted by Association of Biotechnology Led Enterprises – ABLE; Sri Balaji Vidyapeeth University, India and Stimson Centre, USA.

The workshop focused on private sector engaged Biopharma and Bioinformatics industries and R&D organizations and hosted bio -industrial representatives and their

experts in these fields across India. The workshop was a Panel discussion to understand the ongoing and future biopharma and Bioinformatics landscape, policy and regulatory environments in India; identifying the sectorial safety & security risks involved with the handling organisms and data; identifying the shared and unique challenges and opportunities to evolve with approaches and partnerships for reducing the risks and mitigating challenges. Discussions were focused on the below aspects:

- -What is the current state of the industry in India? How has the pandemic impacted the industry?
- -What future growth opportunities do you envision for this industry?
- -What challenges could impede the effective harnessing of these opportunities?

ASSOCIATION OF BIOTECHNOLOGY LED ENTERPRISES (ABLE)

Comments and questions are welcome and should be addressed to:

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India Smart Protein Innovation Challenge 2021

September 14, 2021



ABLE is a Supporting Partner for the India Smart Protein Innovation Challenge 2021 - ISPIC 2021 - by The Good Food Institute India.

The India Smart Protein Challenge is key to accelerating the rapidly emerging smart protein industry — a sunrise sector in India. Smart proteins are alternatives to animal-derived food products, with better impact on personal and planetary health. Smart protein has the potential to transform conventional animal agriculture and meet the protein needs of our growing population.

After a highly successful first edition of ISPIC in 2020, with

1,000+ participants across India and several smart protein startups incubated, ISPIC is back for 2021, bigger and better. The 5-month-long, expertly structured journey is spread across 4 phases. from September 2021 to February 2022, with tangible outcomes, certifications, and rewards for every phase that participants progress to.