



**DEPARTMENT OF BIOTECHNOLOGY  
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**

**CALL FOR PROPOSALS**  
for  
**Biotech Hubs in the North Eastern Region**

The **Department of Biotechnology (DBT)**, Ministry of Science & Technology, Government of India, invites proposals from eligible Research Institutions/Govt. Colleges/Academic Institutions/Universities located in the **North Eastern Region (NER)** for the **Biotech Hubs** across the NER states.

Eligible institutions must offer undergraduate and/or postgraduate courses in **Biotechnology and Life Sciences. Research and Development (R&D) institutions** in the region that are actively engaged in biological research are also encouraged to apply.

**A. Objective of the programme**

This initiative aims to strengthen education and research in Biotechnology in the North Eastern Region. Promoting impactful, goal-oriented research that addresses the distinctive local challenges of the North Eastern Region, alongside comprehensive training programmes dedicated to developing a highly skilled and innovative workforce poised to advance research, innovation, and entrepreneurship in the region.

**B. Duration:** Initially for 3 years.

**C. Facilities and Support**

Each selected institute for Biotech Hub will receive support under the following components:

- Equipment
- Grant for consumables, manpower, National travel
- Funding for research in novel areas of Biotechnology and Life Sciences relevant to the NER
- Support for capacity-building activities (like students/ faculties/teachers/ farmers etc. through training programs and workshops)

#### **D. Categories of Biotech Hubs (Details are as annexed)**

Funding will be provided under the following categories:

- I. State Biotech Hubs**
- II. Advanced-Level Institutional Biotech Hubs**
- III. Institutional Biotech Hubs**

#### **E. Selection Criteria**

Selection will be based on:

- Academic and research credentials of the scientific faculty
- Availability of undergraduate, postgraduate, and PhD programs
- Existing laboratory infrastructure and facilities (The host institution must ensure the availability of space and basic infrastructure for the hub.)
- Scientific merit of research work relevant to the NER

Each Biotech Hub will be managed by a **Project Coordinator**, and its activities will be monitored and reviewed by an **Expert Committee** of DBT.

**Note: Institutions that have already received DBT funding under any category of the Biotech Hub programme (Institutional, Advanced Institutional, or State Level) are not eligible to apply.**

#### **Who can apply?**

Scientists/Researchers working on regular positions in recognized Research Institutions/Govt. Colleges/Academic Institutions/Universities of **NER, India** having relevant research experiences on the proposed area of research, and desirous of undertaking activities as enumerated above can submit proposals in this Call. The relevant research experiences must be evidenced through high quality research publications in the SCI indexed journals.

- Investigators with 05 ongoing DBT-funded projects, whether they are PI or Co-PI (wherever he or she is receiving the funds), will be ineligible to submit the proposal.
- No fresh proposal may be considered for funding, if relevant documents for final settlement of accounts (FSA) of the earlier DBT supported completed project is pending >1 year.
- Each proposal should be submitted by a single NER institution.

- In case of Government agency, submission of information / undertaking about Zero balance Subsidiary Account (ZBSA), no pending Utilization Certificate. implementation of EAT module of PFMS, compliance of data submission in IBDC portal, Copy of DSIR certificate, Non-Availability / Justification of requested equipment; quotations in respect of purchase of the equipment etc. shall be mandatory.
- In case of Non-Government / Not-for-Profit Institutes, **in addition to the above-mentioned documents**, they shall also need to submit proof of establishment under the Indian Statute, Copy of Certificate of Registration under Society Registration Act, Memorandum of Association, Details of registration in NITI Aayog 'NGO Darpan' portal, Copy of DSIR-SIRO certificate, and Annual Audited Account Statements for the last three financial years.
- The institution must possess the basic and relevant infrastructure necessary to achieve the objectives or the proposed project. Proposals must be complete in all aspects.
- The manpower in the proposals shall be preferably proposed as per DST guidelines or as per approved guidelines of ICMR/ICAR/other Government agencies / Government autonomous institutions.
- A flowchart/schematic illustration explaining the concept or methodology of the proposed scientific research must be submitted along with proposal.
- Statutory requirements/norms/guidelines/procedures need to be attached/referred as and when necessary.
- The proposal must be forwarded by the executive authority of the institution, and the host institution should undertake the overall responsibility of implementing the project that includes following of relevant statutory requirements/norms/guidelines/procedures.
- Private Profit making agencies / Industries / Start-ups **will not be eligible** for applying under this program.
- Incomplete applications and those which do not fulfil eligibility criteria will not be considered for evaluation.

### How to Apply?

Interested and eligible researchers from the NER should submit proposals online through DBT electronic project management system, “eProMIS” (<http://dbtepromis.nic.in/Login.aspx>) under the “**Submit Proposal under Calls**” selecting the area, “**NER Programme**”.

**The following steps may be followed while submitting the proposal in eProMIS:**

Submit proposal → Submit proposal under call → Submit project under various  
DBT calls for Proposals → Call for Proposals for “Biotech Hubs in Northeastern  
Region” → Apply

**Note:** While submitting a proposal, if the required information is not fully entered or remains partially filled, the proposal will automatically be saved in **Draft** mode. In such cases, please click on the **“half filled proposal”** to complete and submit it, instead of applying again. In case of any technical difficulties in the eProMIS portal, **please contact eProMIS portal administrator** in the email ID: [epromis.dbt@nic.in](mailto:epromis.dbt@nic.in) Phone: **01124365136**

***The proposals which are not submitted through DBT eProMIS portal will not be considered.***

**Mode of Selection:**

The Indian investigators from the **recognized Indian** organizations from **NER** are encouraged to submit the proposals. The short listing, screening and selection of proposals will be done as per the DBT norms and will be based on the eligibility criteria, competence of the PIs and scientific merit of the submitted proposal(s).

**Contact details:**

Any queries in this regard can be addressed to:  
Dr. Suraksha S. Diwan, Scientist ‘F’ (Email: [nerdiv@dbt.nic.in](mailto:nerdiv@dbt.nic.in)) **Phone: 01124665100**

**Last Date of Submission: 30<sup>th</sup> March, 2026**

## I. State Level Biotech Hubs

***Eligibility: Only Universities and Research Institutions of the State Government and the Central Government can apply under State Level Biotech Hubs category.***

### Activities to be carried out under State Level Biotech Hubs:

1. To carry out well defined identified focused research plan addressing Major local issues.
2. To provide training to other Advanced level Institutional Hubs of their state in specialized areas of research identified by the institute.
3. To attach at least one Advanced-level Institutional Biotech Hub from each district of their state with them for mentoring, including conducting hands-on training programmes at the attached Advanced-level Institutional Biotech Hub as well as at own i.e. the State Biotech Hub.
4. To conduct ***specialized and well-defined hands-on training courses/programmes (of 5-7 days duration) for Researchers/PhD and PG students.*** The programme should have more than > 75 % students from institutions/universities from all 8 states of NER other than the host State Biotech Hub. Domain-specific experts (**at least four**) of repute from across the country should be invited to train the students during these training programmes. These courses should have a well-defined learning outcome. To organize **at least 3** such training programmes in a year.
5. To conduct ***Popular Lectures series*** (at least 2 in a year) and invite eminent scientists from across the country to inspire young researchers /students of NER.
6. To conduct Outreach activities for training locals like students, farmers etc. on technologies for effectively utilizing local bio-resources. **At least 2 such** trainings must be conducted in a year.  
(The theme of each training /awareness /outreach programme must be defined along with the duration of the programme, no. of resource persons, no. of beneficiaries, venue of the programme).
7. ***Summer traineeship to 20 PG interns*** for to upto 6 months per student (with at least 50% from neighboring institutions) must be provided per year.
8. The facilities established at these Hubs should be open to all institutes in their state and appropriately advertised on institute website. Modules should be devised for making these facilities sustainable e.g. by making facilities available on nominal chargeable basis.
9. The Biotech Hub should have one coordinator and 3-4 co-coordinators. The proposal should clearly state the name of the coordinator/co-coordinator identified to take the responsibility of the particular activity. Their role in proposal should also be clearly defined.

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## **II. Advanced-level Institutional Biotech Hubs**

*Eligibility: As mentioned in previous pages under “Who can apply?”*

### **Activities to be carried out under Advanced-level Institutional Biotech Hubs:**

1. To carry out an identified focused research plan addressing local issues, depending on strength of the Institution.
2. To conduct *specialised and well-defined, hands-on training courses (of 5-7 days duration) for Researchers/PhD PG and UG students*. The training should have more than 75 % students from neighboring colleges/institutions/universities of their state. To conduct **at least 2** such trainings in a year with the aim to ignite ideas through ‘**hands-on**’ experimental work.
3. To provide *mentorship to neighbouring Institutional Biotech Hubs* by conducting hands on-training programmes, at the Institutional Biotech Hubs as well as at own i.e. Advanced Level Institutional Biotech Hub.
4. *To conduct Outreach activities for training locals* like students, farmers **etc.** on technologies **for effectively utilizing** local bio-resources. **At least 2 such** trainings must be conducted in a year.
5. To conduct *specialized training programmes for faculty improvement* for optimizing technical capabilities to train students **(1 per year)** with at least 50% teachers from neighbouring Institutes.

**(The theme of each training /outreach programme must be defined along with the duration of the programme, no. of resource persons, no. of beneficiaries, venue of the programme).**

6. The Biotech Hub should have one coordinator and at least one co-coordinator. The proposal should clearly state the name of the coordinator/co-coordinator identified to take the responsibility of the particular activity. Their role in proposal must be clearly defined.

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### III. Institutional Biotech Hubs

*Eligibility: As mentioned in previous pages under “Who can apply?”*

#### **Activities to be carried out under Institutional Biotech Hubs:**

1. To conduct *specialised and well-defined, hands-on training courses (of 4-7 days duration) for UG/PG students*. The training should have >50 % students from neighboring colleges/universities/institutions of their state. Conduct **at least 2 such trainings** in a year with the aim to stimulate original thinking through ‘hands-on’ exposure to experimental work.
2. **To conduct Outreach activities for training locals** like students, farmers etc. on technologies **for effectively utilizing** local bio-resources. **At least 1 such** training must be conducted in a year.
3. To conduct *specialized training programmes for faculty improvement* for optimizing technical capabilities to train students (1 per year), with at least 50% faculty from neighboring Institutions.  
(The theme of each training /outreach programme must be defined along with the duration of the programme, no. of resource persons, no. of beneficiaries, venue of the programme).
4. Institutional Faculty must work on **student-oriented small focused research** projects using the Biotech Hubs facility, largely involving students from their institution to address local issues using Biotech Hubs facility.
5. The Biotech Hubs should have one coordinator and one co-coordinator and the proposal should clearly state the name of the coordinator/co-coordinator identified to take the responsibility of the particular activity, as specified above.

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#### **Note:**

- (i) *A follow up mechanism has to be adopted by all categories of Biotech hubs to track the progress of students trained under Biotech Hubs and their placement record also be maintained and reported to DBT as and when required by DBT and in progress reports.*
- (ii) *The work carried out by the Biotech Hubs using this facility should be reported only in peer-reviewed scientific journal, and the grant received from DBT must be duly acknowledged in the publication emerging from the Biotech Hubs support.*

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