

Proceedings of the Government of Karnataka

Sub: Karnataka Biotechnology Policy 2017 – 2022

Read: Cabinet decision vide subject No. 634/2017, dt. 27th September, 2017.

Preamble:

Karnataka was the first state to announce a Biotechnology Policy at the dawn of the new millennium in 2001 which was then followed by version 2 of the policy in 2009-10. Biotechnology has emerged as a vital technology applicable across sectors such as Agriculture, Sericulture, Horticulture, Floriculture, and Health including Infectious, lifestyle/chronic diseases, Animal Health, Aqua-Marine resource utilization, renewable energy resources, bioremediation to prevent environment pollution etc. It has already impacted society to a significant extent, in agricultural and medical research.

2. It is important that the policy initiatives must move along with the trend by frequent introspection and introduction of changes as and when necessary. Such a critical time is now to move to the next version of the policy which would be Biotechnology Policy v3.0.
3. In view of the rapid advances in various domains of Biotechnology / Life Sciences that can provide answers to the prevailing and new societal challenges in the areas of Agriculture & allied disciplines, Nutrition, Health & BioPharma, Energy and Environment, it is necessary to develop a new Biotech Policy document to identify new areas to support and also strengthen the existing initiatives.
4. ABLE (Association of Biotechnology Led Enterprises) a pan-India association of biotech organizations has been actively assisting growth of the sector in Karnataka and in the country. The members of ABLE are leaders in the various domains and are well entrenched in business opportunities in the sector as well as suggesting policy measures for the growth of Biotechnology in India. Inputs of ABLE have been taken into consideration while drafting the Policy document.
5. Karnataka is home to over 50% of Indian core Biotech companies and is supported by various premier R&D institutions, national and multinational biotech companies. As per ABLE's estimate, the Indian

Biotech economy has a promising potential to reach \$100 billion by 2025. Karnataka aims to be the dominant contributor in achieving this. New policy driven provisions of incentives for faster growth of the sector especially in the Startup ecosystem, intervention in newer R&D areas of biotechnology such as Synthetic Biology, Anti Microbial Resistance, Microbiome, Medical Devices, Affordable Healthcare, Bio Manufacturing, convergence of technologies to reach quicker the goals of biotechnology sector and most importantly creation of confidence to access incentives, grants and venture funds, are key to success. In view of this, a new Policy for the Biotech sector has been developed. State Cabinet in the meeting held on 27th September, 2017 has approved the Policy.

Government Order No. ITD 04 MDA 2017, dt. 4th October, 2017

In the circumstances explained above in the Preamble, Government is pleased to announce Karnataka Biotechnology Policy 2017 – 2022 as detailed in the annexure to this order.

2. Karnataka Biotechnology Policy 2017 – 2022 shall come into effect from 4th October, 2017 and will be valid for a period of 5 years or till a new policy is announced.
3. This order issues with the concurrence of Finance Department vide endorsement No. O/o ACS, FD No. 4620, dt. 4th September, 2017.

**By order and in the name of the
Governor of Karnataka**



**(Gaurav Gupta)
Principal Secretary to Government
Department of Information Technology,
Biotechnology and Science & Technology**

To,

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- 4) All Additional Chief Secretaries, Principal Secretaries, Secretaries to Government.
- 5) The Director, IT and BT, Government of Karnataka, Bengaluru.
- 6) MD-KBITS, Government of Karnataka, Bengaluru.
- 7) Chairperson, Vision Group on Biotechnology, Bengaluru.
- 8) All members of Vision Group on Biotechnology, Bengaluru.
- 9) President, ABLE, Bengaluru.
- 10) P.S. to Hon'ble Minister for IT, BT and Tourism.
- 11) Deputy Secretary (Cabinet), Vidhana Soudha, Bengaluru.
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