

BIRAC showcases at BioAsia 2020

By Dr. Bilqeesa Bhat

The 17th edition of the three day global forum called BioAsia 2020 was held during from 17-19 February 2020 at HICC, Hyderabad, India. The event was inaugurated by KT Rama Rao, Minister for Industries and commerce & IT, Government of Telangana under theme 'Today for Tomorrow'. Event saw the presence of stalwarts from Life Sciences, Biotechnology, Pharma and Healthcare industries in India and abroad.



A glimpses from BioAsia 2020

Dr Manish Diwan, DrHafsa Ahmad and Mr Amit Kumar from the Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC), government of India participated in the event. The start-ups, students, academicians and researchers showed great interest to know about the various schemes and activities of BIRAC. The BIRAC team had an engaging time answering these queries. Young start-ups and researchers exhibited enthusiasm to know about our new initiatives, incubators, time of various calls and possibilities of collaborations in different capacities. The exhibition also had representation from many BIRAC supported incubators and start-ups.

BIRAC sponsored panel discussion on Collaborative R&D: Unlocking the potential of public and private partnerships was held on Day 2 of the event. Dr. Ajit Shetty, Corporate VP Global Operations, J&J USA (Retd.), Chairman Emeritus, Janssen Pharmaceutica, Belgium & Chairman, International Advisory Board, BioAsia moderated this session and on the panel were Mr.Ajit Rangnekar; Director General, Research & Innovation Circle of Hyderabad, Dr. SubodhDeshmukh; Global Head of Product Development, Sandoz, Mr Krishna Kanumuri; CEO & Managing Director, Sai Life Sciences Ltd., Mr Jonathan Hunt; CEO Syngene International, Dr. Srinivas S Rao; Global Head, Translational In Vivo Models Global Research Platform, Sanofi, USA, Dr. OmkaramNalamasu; Chief Technology Officer, Applied Materials & President, Applied Ventures, USA; Dr. Margrit Leuthold; Deputy Program Director, 'Future Health Technologies' Program, Singapore ETH Zurich Centre. The session converged upon establishing various ways and mechanisms to develop programs based on public-private partnerships for solving global health problems.

BIRAC cosponsored the start-up stage awards that concluded on day 3 of the event. Dr Manish Diwan; Head SPED, BIRAC shared the stage with Mr. KT Rama Rao; Hon'ble Minister for Industries and Commerce, Government of Telangana at the award ceremony. The top 5 awardees receiving this prestigious award were Heamac Healthcare Pvt. Ltd., Callzy, Flexmotiv, Lycan 3D, Oncosimis Biotech Pvt. Ltd.

BioAsia is the annual flagship event of Government of Telangana and has become one of Asia's largest Life Sciences and Biotechnology convention. The event was focused on how innovations and technological disruptions are re-shaping the global life sciences sector. Over 2,000 delegates from Industry, government, scientist community, academia and start-ups representing 37 countries participated in the global bio-business event.