New Delhi, March 04: The Innovative Young Biotechnologist Award (IYBA), initiated in 2005, is a career-oriented award to identify and nurture outstanding young scientists with innovative ideas and desirous of pursuing research in frontier areas of biotechnology. The awards are conferred to budding scientists below 35 years of age. However, there is a relaxation in age limit up to 5 years in case of women, OBC, SC/ST and for differently-abled candidates. The scheme includes scientists without regular employment also.

The applications are sought through an open advertisement and selection is done after comprehensive review by an empowered committee of eminent scientists. The award carries a fellowship amount of Rs.1.00 Lakh/annum for candidates who are in permanent faculty position and Rs.75000/- per month for those candidates who are not in regular employment along with a substantial project grant to pursue their innovative ideas at the beginning of their career.

The advertisement for the award was made on 10th May 2020. Based on various parameters like age limit, academic record, journal publications patents filed/granted, details of any commercialization of technologies developed, originality/scientific novelty of proposed research, targets objectives, rational work plan/approach and feasibility to implement the proposed objectives within time frame, proposal forwarding norms etc 15 candidates have been selected for the award by the Selection Committee formed for the purpose. Name of the awardees may be seen on http://dbtindia.gov.in.

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