

Supporting the Fight Against CoVid – 19 : Activities Launched By DBT-RGCB- KRIBS-BioNest

KRIBS-BioNest is a part of the Department of Biotechnology's Thiruvananthapuram-based Rajiv Gandhi Centre for Biotechnology (DBT-RGCB). It is involved in its translational research activity. It houses 30 Biotechnology startups. They have launched several products ranging from nutraceuticals, cosmeceuticals, biomedical, and diagnostics to probiotics for aquaponics and plant virus testing. In the wake of COVID – 19 pandemic, some of the companies took steps to launch products needed to fight the infection and are in the process of procuring drug licence and other such approvals for mass productions.

M/s. Bipha Ayurveda Pvt. Ltd has introduced sanitizers with Neem and Papaya extracts both of which have antibacterial and antifungal properties, while M/s. Scire Science Pvt. Ltd, has started production of an alcohol based hand sanitizer and has applied for regulatory approval. These sanitizers are packed in handy compact containers shaped in the form of a pen, which is easy to carry.

M/s. Omicsgen Life Science Pvt. Ltd, had launched gadget wipes for devices such as mobile phones to prevent the transmission of the microbe. The product assumes importance as hand-held devices are becoming an inseparable part of human life. The company recently got selected in a challenge conducted by DBT's C-CAMP, to select products to combat COVID-19. A total of 840 companies had participated in the contest. C-CAMP will support the start-up to take the product into national and international markets.

<https://rgcb.res.in/BioNest/index.php>