



National Bio Entrepreneurship Competition

Why in News

Recently, the **Department of Biotechnology** has launched the **fifth edition of the National Bio Entrepreneurship Competition (NBEC)**.

- NBEC is conducted as a part of the **Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC) Regional Entrepreneurship Centre**, established at **Centre for Cellular and Molecular Platforms (C-CAMP)** in partnership with BIRAC.
 - BIRAC is a **Public Sector Enterprise**, set up by the **Department of Biotechnology (DBT)**.

Centre for Cellular and Molecular Platforms (C-CAMP)

- C-CAMP is **one of the centers for technology-based innovation and entrepreneurship** in the field of life sciences under the **Department of Biotechnology (DBT)**.
- It intends to **develop state-of-the-art technologies** and to **provide training** on these technologies to academia and industry.

Key Points

- **About NBEC:**
 - It is **India's largest and most prestigious national competition** for bio-entrepreneurs.
 - First Launched in 2017, **NBEC has emerged as a flagship platform** for bio-entrepreneurs and innovators in India to showcase their deep science driven ideas and has created a great impact.
 - It is **held annually to identify and nurture deep science-driven business ideas** in the life sciences domain that have the **potential to break new ground** in addressing societal challenges.
- **Prize:**
 - It gives an **unprecedented sum of Rs 8.5 crore** in cash prizes and investment opportunities this year for winners.
- **Investment Partners:**
 - **Over 30 industry and investment partners** have **come forward to encourage and support bio-entrepreneurship** in India through this competition.
- **Achievements:**
 - NBEC in four years has created a **repository of over 1,000 carefully vetted and expert hand-picked business ideas** spanning all sub-domains of life Sciences.

- Special focus was given on healthcare, agriculture and environment, with a special focus on emerging areas like digital health, maternal & child health, antimicrobial resistance, water and sanitation, green chemistry, and personal care.
- This has built **a steady pipeline of innovative technologies with demonstrated commercial viability.**

Source: DTE

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