



Garbhini-Drishti

Why in News?

India took a major step forward in its commitment to **cutting-edge biomedical research and innovation** by inaugurating the nation's first **Ferret Research Facility**, launching the **GARBH-INI-DRISHTI data repository**, and finalizing a key technology transfer agreement.

- The event was held at the **Translational Health Science and Technology Institute (THSTI)** in the **NCR Biotech Science Cluster, Faridabad, Haryana**.

Key Points

- **THSTI Ferret Research Facility:**
 - India inaugurated the THSTI Ferret Research Facility, a state-of-the-art establishment adhering to the **highest biosafety and research standards**.
 - The facility plays a **crucial role in vaccine development, therapeutic testing, and research on emerging infectious diseases**.
 - It **strengthens India's pandemic preparedness strategy** and enhances its position in global scientific research.
- **GARBH-INI-DRISHTI:**
 - GARBH-INI-DRISHTI is a pioneering **DBT Data Repository and Information Sharing Hub** at THSTI.
 - The platform provides **clinical data, images, and biospecimens from over 12,000 pregnant women, newborns, and postpartum mothers**.
 - As one of South Asia's largest maternal and child health databases, it **enables researchers to conduct transformative studies** to improve maternal and neonatal health outcomes.
 - This initiative represents a collaborative effort among India's leading research institutions and hospitals, fostering a strong research ecosystem.
- **Technology Transfer Agreement:**
 - THSTI signed a **Technology Transfer Agreement** with M/s **Sundyota Numandis Probiocentials Pvt. Ltd.** to commercialize its innovative **microbial consortium, Lactobacillus crispatus**.
 - **Isolated from the reproductive tracts of women** enrolled in the GARBH-INI cohort, this synthetic microbial consortium holds immense potential for **nutraceutical applications**.
 - The agreement facilitates the translation of research into real-world health solutions through **targeted microbiome-based interventions**.

Garbh-Ini

- **Garbh-Ini (Interdisciplinary Group for Advanced Research on Birth Outcomes—DBT India Initiative)** was initiated by the **Department of Biotechnology (DBT)**, in **2014** as a collaborative interdisciplinary program.
- This program is led by **Translational Health Science and Technology Institute (THSTI)**, NCR Biotech cluster, Faridabad.
- It aims to elucidate **biological and non-biological risks of preterm birth (PTB)** to

create **important knowledge-driven interventions** and technologies that can be sustainably implemented in clinical practice and in the community for this disease.

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