Introduction: The emerging economic, trade and intellectual property scenario, nationally and internationally, necessitates Indian Pharmaceutical Industry to innovate new molecules/new processes. The accumulated knowledge of traditional medicinal system and large biodiversity of our country offer a great advantage to our industry. At the same time several Indian academic institutions and national laboratories have established impressive infrastructure and developed excellent expertise in selected areas of drug development. Drug research is investment and knowledge-intensive. The Indian drug industry due to their small size compared to international operators is not in a position to invest in a viable new drug development programme.

The Programme: Department of Science and Technology (DST), Government of India has mounted a programme on drug development for promoting collaborative R&D in drugs and pharmaceuticals sector with the specific objectives to synergise the strengths of publicly-funded R&D institutions and Indian Pharmaceutical Industry in all systems of medicines and to create an enabling infrastructure mechanisms and linkages to facilitate new drug development.

Approach: The programme supports selectively collaborative projects between industry and publicly-funded research institute/university.

Coverage: The programme supports drug development for all types of medicinal systems covering all stages of the innovative chain of new drug development including Veterinary drugs.

Who can apply: Any Indian company/firm engaged in drug development/manufacturing jointly with publicly-funded R&D laboratories of CSIR, ICMR, etc. and universities/colleges.

Information/Assistance: For submission of the proposals/any information/assistance on the programme, please contact:

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