

BioAsia 2019 to promote scientific innovation through Startup Stage

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BioAsia, Asia's largest Life-sciences and healthcare forum will feature a dedicated platform called the “**Startups Stage**” in its 16th Edition of the event to be held at Hyderabad between February 25 – 27, 2019. This platform, **Startups Stage**, will enable entrepreneurs working on solutions for the pharma, bio-tech, life sciences, health-tech or med-tech sectors to showcase their innovation to a global audience. BioAsia has the reputation of being a globally sought-after annual forum due to its diverse attendance of healthcare leaders from over 50 countries regularly. The marquee event has witnessed a prestigious participant history including the likes of several Nobel Prize winners including the likes of Dr's Kurt Wuthrich, Ada Yonath, Harald zur Hausen, Barry Marshall, Martin J Evans, several Lasker Awardees and eminent industry leaders like Dr. Paul Stoffels (Vice Chairman and CSO, J&J), Dr. Vas Narasimhan (CEO, Novartis), Dr. Patrick Vallance (President R&D, GSK), Dr. Seth Berkley (CEO, GAVI), Dr. Freida Lewis Hall (EVP and CMO, Pfizer), Dr. Mark Caulfield (Chief Scientist, Genomics England), Pankaj Patel (Chairman, Zydus Cadila), Satish Reddy (Chairman, Dr. Reddy's Laboratories), Kiran Majumdar Shaw (CMD, Biocon), among others.

The participating startups will get an opportunity to showcase their solutions at the *International Tradeshow Exhibition*, network with global industry delegates, seek mentorship from eminent thought leaders, seek partnership avenues with companies and pitch to leading venture and M&A investors. Notable healthcare investors like **Kris Gopalakrishnan (Axilor)**, **Sanjiv Kaul (ChrysCapital)**, **Pranay Adhvaryu (Lighthouse Canton)**, **Mahadevan (Mahad) Narayanamoni (TPG)**, **Jinesh Shah (Omnivore)** and representatives from **3one4 Capital**, **Kae Capital**, **Kalaari**, **Patni Family Office**, **Ivy Cap Ventures** and representatives from companies like **RoundGlass Partners**, **Abraaj**, **Shunwei Capital** and **Norwest Venture Partners**, among many others shall be actively interacting with the participating startups exploring funding opportunities. **Dr. Renu Swarup (Secretary, Department of Biotechnology), Government of India** who has been instrumental in accelerating the growth of biotech sector in the country will interact with the Start-ups in the Start-up Stage. **M&A teams** from companies like **Zydus Cadila**, **Dr. Reddy's Laboratories**, **Alkem Laboratories**, etc. will also participate in the event. In last 4 years, BioAsia provided an opportunity to around 150 Startups which benefitted by networking with Industry experts along with their feedback and investors community to explore their funding requirements.

The startups will also get an unmatched opportunity to request exclusive one-to-one meetings with the participating delegates

and be a part of the “**Disruptors Roundtable**”. The Disruptors Roundtable will be chaired by industry luminaries for a focused interaction with startups to provide insights and guidance on several emerging healthcare challenges. The likes of Satish Reddy, Chairman of Dr. Reddy’s Laboratories will be a part of the Disruptor’s Roundtable for startups. The Startup Stage will also feature several activities and workshops conducted by industry experts on emerging trends healthcare globally. The top 5 startups participating in the Start-up stage will get a chance to pitch their innovation to the global conference audience. Interested Startups can visit BioAsia 2019 website for a **free registration** (http://2019.bioasia.in/Startups_announcement.html)

Commenting on the Startup stage, **Jayesh Ranjan IAS, Principal Secretary, Industries & Commerce, Government of Telangana** said, *“Start-up Stage @ BioAsia will bring together the most cutting-edge, innovative and technically astute start-ups from the realm of life sciences and healthcare sectors. The platform will provide an unparalleled opportunity to startups to showcase their solutions and connect with a global network of industry stakeholders across the sectors. Most importantly, the event will facilitate conversation between the Start-ups and the Governments, as the Government is becoming the most important customer of the Start-ups. We are glad that Government of India and a number of other State Governments have partnered with us on this initiative”*

In light of BioAsia’s great potential for emerging entrepreneurs, the conference regularly showcases startups with a potential to address the global healthcare challenges and India’s diverse healthcare needs. *“It has been our endeavor to showcase start-ups with potential to transform healthcare. 2019 event will have an increased start-up focus. We are delighted with enthusiastic response from the Life Sciences Industry leaders, Venture capital & Angel investor community and the corporate M&A teams of leading pharma & bio-tech companies,”*said **Shakthi Nagappan, CEO, BioAsia**.

Telangana State Innovation Cell (TSIC) as the innovation partner is working with BioAsia to bring all the stakeholders of life sciences startup ecosystem on a single platform. **Phanindra Sama, Chief Innovation Officer, Government of Telangana** said, *“BioAsia is one of the top Life Sciences conferences in Asia. ‘Startup Stage’ is a fantastic opportunity for Life Sciences startups to network and showcase innovations in the industry.”*

Some of the biggest and influential organizations in the have come joined together for the start-up stage including Startup India, Department of Biotechnology, BIRAC, Telangana State Innovation Cell, NASSCOM, T-Hub, Research and Innovation Circle of Hyderabad, Ernst and Young, inc42, Mumbai Angels, IKP, Light House Canton, among others. With such an extraordinary ensemble of investors, Government & Industry stakeholders, M&A teams from Pharma Companies