

IIT Delhi opens Biosafety Level 3 research facility

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To enable research and innovation in medical diagnostics and therapeutics



To revolutionise biomedical and clinical diagnostics research, the Indian Institute of Technology Delhi (IIT Delhi) has inaugurated a Biosafety Level 3 (BSL3) facility as part of its Central Research Facility (CRF).

The new facility will facilitate research on diagnostic devices and therapeutics for class-3 pathogens, marking the first such initiative among leading educational institutions in India.

This landmark achievement represents a major stride in India's biomedical research capabilities and reaffirms IIT Delhi's commitment to driving innovation in healthcare technology.

"This new research and testing facility will enable research and innovation in medical diagnostics and therapeutics and support IIT Delhi's efforts to cater to academia and industries alike in the domain of healthcare research, bringing in scientists and engineers on a single platform to carry out cutting-edge research. It will open up several opportunities for research collaborations with medical institutes in NCR and across India," said Prof. Arvind Nema, Deputy Director (Operations), IIT Delhi.

The newly launched research facility is located within the Micromodel Complex on the campus under the umbrella of the IIT Delhi's Central Research Facility (CRF). It would be available for researchers from academia and industry alike on a paid basis as per CRF norms for short- to medium-haul on an assisted basis.

The BSL3 research facility would benefit startups and MSMEs immensely, as they can take up their hardware and personnel inside the facility for speedy iterations without investing in such specialized facilities.

"Unlike other such BSL3 facilities in India, this would mark the first time a user can take their medical device inside the unit and test it under the supervision of trained professionals having expertise in class-3 pathogen handling. This will enable hardware and software engineers to debug and fine-tune their diagnostic platform within the facility," said Prof. Sandeep K. Jha from the Centre for Biomedical Engineering, who is also the faculty-in-charge of the facility.