

New biotech chiefs in AP, Karnataka

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MK Shankaralinge Gowda is the new secretary IT, biotechnology, and science & technology, Government of Karnataka. Born in 1953 in Karnataka, this IAS officer is a post graduate in English. He has worked in various capacities in the government department and organizations.

He was the secretary to former chief minister, SM Krishna. His earlier assignments included commissioner, Mangalore City Corporation; managing director, Gangavathi Sugars; joint director, Food and Civil Supplies Department; deputy commissioner, Dharwad District; director of tourism; deputy commissioner, Bangalore; chief executive officer and executive member, Karnataka Industrial Areas Development Board.

Kandam Visweswara Rao, a 1976 AP Cadre IAS officer, who is presently working as the principal secretary to AP Government and commissioner for industrial promotion, industries & commerce department, secretary, will now handle the biotech development in Andhra Pradesh. BP Acharya, who was handling the biotech activities and was instrumental in promoting AP as a biotech hub of the country, has been posted as chief executive officer, Hyderabad Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board.

Rao has held several key assignments in the government. He was the joint secretary, Lok Sabha Secretariat, New Delhi; joint secretary, ports, ministry of surface transport, New Delhi; secretary, industries and commerce department, AP; and managing director, AP State Financial Corporation, among several other key portfolios.

Dr Ramani Aiyer joins Nicholas Piramal

Dr Ramani A Aiyer, who was the chief operating officer of Avesthagen, has moved to Nicholas Piramal. He has joined

Nicholas as senior vice president, corporate strategy, in mid-May. Dr Aiyer has over 15 years of experience in the biotechnology industry and has held senior positions in R&D and business development at biopharmaceutical companies including Genentech, LifeScan (Johnson & Johnson) and Sugen (Pharmacia/Pfizer). He received an MBA from UC Berkeley and has Ph D in biochemistry from Harvard University

Dr Ramani A Aiyer

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Alok Gupta quits Rabo India, joins YES Bank

Alok Gupta has quit Rabo India Finance Pvt Ltd to join YES Bank headed by Rana Kapoor as its country manager, Life Sciences and Biotechnology. Alok Gupta had joined Rabo India in April 2000 and helped Rabo India forge a strong rapport with the Indian biotechnology industry. He was heading the Life Sciences and Biotechnology wing as a director. Alok Gupta started his career with ANZ Grindley and then moved to ABN AMRO. Rana Kapoor recently started YES Bank after leaving Rabo India.

Jayant Katoch is Axygen's new national sales head

Axygen Scientific has appointed Jayant Katoch as its national sales manager. Katoch has over 15 years of diverse management experience in India and the US. At his new assignment, he will be managing the current sales and distribution network of the company and establish new channels business. Besides, he will be assisting corporate management in strategic and operational issues.

He is a science graduate with Post-graduate Diploma from IIFT. He started his career with Nestle India.

Priyank Gupta selected for International Youth Parliament, Sydney

Priyank Gupta, a third year student of B Tech (biotechnology) from Jaypee Institute of Information Technology, Noida has been chosen to participate in world's second Oxfam International Youth Parliament 2004 (IYP 2004), to be held in Sydney in July. He was among 17 Indians who got this opportunity to attend and speak on global platform of biotech issues. IYP 2004 will bring together 250 young leaders from around world to develop dynamic solution to key local, national and global issues.

Priyank Gupta

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Jayant Katoch