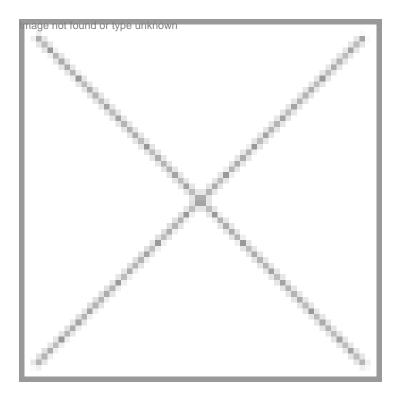


## DST Seeks Advice On Usage of R&D Fund

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Recently, the DST in association with the University of Hyderabad organized a brainstorming session on Pharma R&D Support Fund in Hyderabad to seek recommendations from the industry and the academia.

In yet another attempt to boost the arrival of India on the global biotech radar, the Department of Science and Technology (DST), Government of India, in its recent budget has announced a corpus of Rs 150 crore. While this is a resilient enough move, the department is barraged with the effective utilization of the fund.

Seeking recommendations from the industry and the academia, DST in association with University of Hyderabad organized a brainstorming session on Pharma R&D Support Fund in Hyderabad. The event saw the gathering of nearly 50 industry leaders and more than 30 academic experts.

Spearheading atteractsion, Prof V S Ramamurthy, secretary, DST, said, "A quality drug yet at lower price is what our country has to offer. There is a need for setting up of cost effective infrastructure facilities including shared testing laboratories, HRD improvement and upgrading the existing research facilities. Focusing on specific issues we can compete provided DST supporting research facility that could be

used by industry and academia is essential.

He further time depth at http://www.uperacendersundial salsporting the industry posed a problem, but with funds available now, how to use it effectively that a solution of the sale of the industry was not willing to use it for some reasons. They had this feeling that such a solution of professors till the end of the project, and if DST can ensure support funding for the whole program," he said.

Citing geven winter work at the first of the

incurred besides setting up of an additional cell t may be recalled that during the eighth plan, there was fund allocation of Rs 10 crore. So far the TDB has approved 80 projects besides the Planning Commission allocating Rs 25 crore. The Board had also funded five loans last year in the field of clinical trials costing around Rs 50 crore. For eleven receptive the planning commission allocating Rs 25 crore. The Board had also funded five loans last year in the field of clinical trials costing around Rs 50 crore. For eleven respective trials costing around Rs 50 crore. For eleven respective trials costing around Rs 50 crore the projects worth Rs 182 project basic Rs 2005-06, the dup and comparison is below to the plann the product the plann the plann the plann the plann the plann the plann trials of the dup and the respective trials are focusing on R&D but badly need all prove the trials the form of the frequency of the plann trials the plann the plann the plann trials the plann trials the plann the plann trials the planning trials trials the planning trials trials the planning trials trials the planning trials trial

forward. Briefing the media, Ramamurthy said, "The proposed Pharmaceuticals Research and Development Fund (PRDSF) of Rs 150 crore would be given in the form of grants and loans. Of this, Rs 70 crore is the grant amount to aid institutions and Rs 80 crore widelplibge theutoarclamoralunt researchele intrakest and hree per cent. This is the first session we are having in Hyderabad. Howeverguippinity deviate cossistications and states conducted three or more such sessions."

prepared to address the market as the clinical Sunitha Natti fester Ardis Selfing to be population-based.

- Toxicology testing facility and pharmacogenetic testing.
- Ayurvedic knowledge management.
- Funds for innovative ideas.