

## The 15th edition of Bangalore India BIO begins

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The 15<sup>th</sup> edition of India's premier biotech event, *Bangalore India Bio 2015* was inaugurated by Mr Siddaramaiah, the Chief Minister of Karnataka; Mr Prakash Javadekar, Minister of state-Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India; Mr Piyush Goyal, Minister of state for Power, Coal and Renewable Energy, Government of India.

The inaugural event was also graced by the presence of Mr SR Patil, Minister for Planning and Statistics, IT, BT, Science and Technology, Government of Karnataka; Mr Dominic Jermey, chief executive, UK Trade and Investment and Vision group members from Biotechnology, Karnataka.

Jointly organized by the Department of IT, BT and Science & Technology, Vision Group Biotechnology and MM Activ Sci-Tech Communications. The focal theme for this year's summit is "Crystallizing India's Biotech Future". This edition has over 22 conference sessions, 110 impact speakers, over 3,000 visitors and 15 international delegations from the UK, USA, France, Germany, Holland, Singapore, Korea, Japan, and Australia.

In his inaugural address, Mr Siddaramaiah spoke about the government's efforts in making Bangalore the Biotech hub of India.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr Javadekar urged the industry to innovate, saying, "Innovation is the key for sustainability and growth." He also said that his government is looking at generating power from 'Green' coal (from waste) in Andaman islands.

"Today, Biotechnology can help in improving soil health, improve water quality. Again on health care world is looking at preventive medicines," said Mr Piyush Goyal. He asked the Karnataka government to switch to LED bulbs for street lights to save energy.

There will be several sessions spread over these three days. Some of the key topics of discussion during these sessions include, Agri-Biotech, Clinical trials in India and Rare diseases & Orphan Drug Development. US-India vaccine research & collaboration and going beyond the Start-up with effective scaling strategies - a special pavilion dedicated to start-ups.