

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY
DEPARTMENT OF BIOTECHNOLOGY

LOKSABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1984
ANSWERED ON 11.02.2026

DBT Grants under BIRAC, BioNEST and Biotech Hubs

1984. Thiru Arun Nehru:

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of institutions in Tamil Nadu receiving DBT grants under BIRAC, BioNEST and Biotech Hubs during 2023-26, district-wise;
- (b) the details of the number of biotech startups incubated in incubators in Tamil Nadu district-wise, with seed funding disbursed, IP filed and companies commercialised;
- (c) the STEM fellowships and INSPIRE awards given to students in Tamil Nadu district-wise, including women researchers supported; and
- (d) the details of the new DBT-supported R&D centres approved, clinical trial units operationalised, and biotech employment generated, district-wise?

ANSWER
MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR THE
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND EARTH SCIENCES
(DR. JITENDRA SINGH)

(a). The Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Government of India, has established the Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC) is a Section 8, not-for-profit Public Sector Enterprise that serves as a strategic interface agency, dedicated to nurturing

India's startup ecosystem and advancing R&D with a specialized focus on the biotechnology sector.

The following Institutes, Startups, Companies located in Tamil Nadu received funding from BIRAC under Biotechnology Industry Partnership Programme (BIPP), Small Business Innovation Research Initiative (SBIRI), Promoting Academic Research Conversion to Enterprise (PACE), Bioincubators Nurturing Entrepreneurship for Scaling Technologies (BioNEST), Grand Challenge India (GCI) and National Biopharma Mission (NBM) schemes during 2023-26:

S. No	Applicant/ Grantee Name	Scheme /Programs	District
1.	Fermentech Gsv Private Limited	SBIRI	Thanjavur
2.	C. Abdul Hakeem College	SBIRI	Vellore
3.	Cisgen Biotech Discoveries Private Limited	SBIRI	Chennai
4.	Levim Biotech LLP	BIPP	Chennai
5.	Seagrass Tech Private Limited	BIPP	Chennai
6.	Tamil Nadu Agricultural University Department of Nano Science and Technology	PACE	Coimbatore
7.	Karunya Institute of Technology and Sciences	PACE	Coimbatore
8.	IIT Madras	PACE	Chennai
9.	Central Leather Research Institute	PACE	Chennai
10.	Avinashilingam Institute for HSc and HEd for Women	PACE	Coimbatore
11.	Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal Sciences University-DCAHS	PACE	Chennai
12.	IIT Madras	PACE	Chennai
13.	Healthcare Technology Innovation Center, IIT Madras	NBM	Chennai

14.	The Cancer Institute (WIA - Women's Indian Association)	NBM	Chennai
15.	Christian Medical College Vellore Association	NBM	Vellore
16.	Carenow Medical Pvt Ltd	NBM	Coimbatore
17.	Vellore Institute of Technology	NBM	Vellore
18.	SRM Institutes for Medical Science	NBM	Chennai
19.	Theragen Biologics Private Limited	NBM	Chennai
20.	ICMR - National Institute of Epidemiology	NBM	Chennai
21.	Meenakshi Mission Hospital, Research Centre	NBM	Madurai
22.	HTIC (Healthcare Technology Innovation Centre) MedTech Incubator, Chennai	BioNEST	Chennai
23.	Association for Bio-inspired Leaders and Entrepreneurs at Sastra TBI	BioNEST	Thanjavur
24.	Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal sciences University - Veterinary Incubation Foundation at TANUVAS	BioNEST	Chennai
25.	Sri Ramachandra Institute of Higher Education & Research	BioNEST	Chennai
26.	IIT Madras	GCI	Chennai

(b). The district-wise details of the number of biotech startups incubated in Tamil Nadu-based bioincubators, intellectual property (IP) filed, and technologies/products commercialised during 2023-26, are provided below. BIRAC provides infrastructure and operational support to ensure the smooth functioning of these centres, however, it does not provide direct seed funding to startups under the incubation scheme

S. No	Name of the BioNEST Bioincubator	District	Total No. of Incubatees supported	No. of Products / Technologies commercialised	No of IP's filed
1.	BioNEST HTIC (Healthcare Technology Innovation Centre) MedTech Incubator, Chennai	Chennai	69	27	42
2.	BioNEST Association for Bio-inspired Leaders and Entrepreneurs at Sastra TBI, Thanjavur	Thanjavur	45	10	10
3.	BioNEST Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal Sciences University - Veterinary Incubation Foundation at TANUVAS, Chennai	Chennai	18	5	7
4.	BioNEST Sri Ramachandra Institute of Higher Education & Research, Chennai	Chennai	37	2	9
5.	BioNEST-SRM Medical College Hospital and Research Centre, Chennai	Chengalpattu	28	0	0

(c). The table below details the number of beneficiaries in Tamil Nadu who received scholarships or fellowships from the Department of Science & Technology (DST) over the last three years. This includes recipients under the WOS-A (Women Scientists Scheme), WISE-PhD (Women in Science and Engineering-PhD), WISE-PDF (Women in Science and Engineering-PDF), and WISE-SCOPE (Women in Science and Engineering- Societal Challenges with Opportunities) programs.

Women beneficiaries supported under DST WOS-A program in Tamil Nadu state (district -wise)		
S.No	District	2023-26
1.	Chennai	9

2.	Coimbatore	3
3.	Karaikudi	2
4.	Salem	1
5.	Tiruchirappalli	2
Total		17

Women beneficiaries supported under DSTWISE-PhD program in Tamil Nadu state (district-wise)		
S. No	District	2023-2026
1.	Chennai	9
2.	Coimbatore	3
3.	Dindigul	1
4.	Kancheepuram	2
5.	Sivaganga	1
6.	Thanjavur	2
7.	Tiruchirappalli	2
8.	Vellore	1
Total		21

Women beneficiaries supported under DST WISE-PDF program in Tamil Nadu state (district wise)		
S. No	District	2023-2026
1.	Chennai	8
2.	Coimbatore	2
3.	Cuddalore	1

4.	Salem	1
5.	Thanjavur	1
6.	Tiruchirappalli	1
7.	Tirunelveli	1
Total		15

Women beneficiaries supported under DST WISE-SCOPE program in Tamil Nadu state (district-wise)		
S. No	District	2023-26
1.	Chennai	3
2.	Coimbatore	2
3.	Cuddalore	1
4.	Dindigul	1
5.	Tiruchirappalli	1
6.	Tirupathur	1
Total		9

The table below presents the number of beneficiaries in Tamil Nadu who were awarded scholarships and fellowships under the DST-INSPIRE (Innovation in Science Pursuit for Inspired Research) program over the past three years.

INSPIRE-SHE Beneficiaries in Tamil Nadu State (district-wise)		
S.No.	District Name	2023-26
1.	Chengalpattu	2
2.	Chennai	15
3.	Coimbatore	4
4.	Dharmapuri	1

5.	Dindigul	1
6.	Erode	20
7.	Kanchipuram	5
8.	Kanyakumari	9
9.	Madurai	2
10.	Nagapattinam	1
11.	Namakkal	8
12.	Salem	1
13.	Thanjavur	2
14.	Thiruvallur	2
15.	Thoothukudi	1
16.	Tiruchirappalli	2
17.	Tirunelveli	2
18.	Tiruppur	6
19.	Virudhunagar	6
Total		90

INSPIRE Fellowship Beneficiaries in Tamil Nadu State (district-wise)		
S. No	District	2023-26
1.	Chengalpattu	44
2.	Chennai	144
3.	Coimbatore	126
4.	Cuddalore	13
5.	Dindigul	16
6.	Kanchipuram	3
7.	Kanyakumari	7
8.	Madurai	8

9.	Salem	10
10.	Sivaganga	68
11.	Thanjavur	20
12.	Tiruchirappalli	39
13.	Tirunelveli	14
14.	Tiruvarur	17
15.	Vellore	53
Total		582

INSPIRE Faculty Fellowship Beneficiaries in Tamil Nadu State (district-wise)		
S.No.	District Name	2023-26
1.	Chengalpattu	6
2.	Chennai	33
3.	Coimbatore	2
4.	Dindigul	2
5.	Kancheepuram	1
6.	Karaikudi	2
7.	Namakkal	1
8.	Tiruchirappalli	9
9.	Vellore	5
Total		61

Additionally, the details of women scientists in Tamil Nadu supported by the DBT BioCARE program and the BIRAC Grand Challenge India (GCI) program are presented below.

Women scientists beneficiaries supported under GCI program in Tamil Nadu state (district-wise)		
S. No	District	2023-26
1.	Thiruvallur	2
Total		2

Women scientists beneficiaries supported under BioCAREin Tamil Nadu state (district-wise)		
S.No	District	2023-26
1.	Chennai	3
2.	Coimbatore	2
3.	Cuddalore	1
Total		6

(d). The details of DBT-supported R&D centres approved, clinical trial units operationalized in the state of Tamil Nadu under the National Biopharma Mission (NBM) are as under-

Grantee	District	State	Employment Generated
Healthcare Technology Innovation Center, IIT Madras, Chennai	Chennai	Tamil Nadu	5
The Cancer Institute (WIA - Women's Indian Association), also known as the Adyar Cancer Institute	Chennai	Tamil Nadu	20
Christian Medical College Vellore Association, Vellore	Vellore	Tamil Nadu	12
SRM Institute for Medical Science, Chennai	Chennai	Tamil Nadu	14
ICMR - National Institute of Epidemiology, Chennai	Chennai	Tamil Nadu	12
Meenakshi Mission Hospital, Research Centre, Madurai	Madurai	Tamil Nadu	14
