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Biotech show opens next week

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This year's biotechnology industry meet Bangalore India Bio opens on June 2, a day ahead of Karnataka's ambitious second Global Investors' Meet.

The State is promoting Tier-II and III towns as biotech hubs and has called bids for developing five thematic parks, Mr Ashok Kumar Manoli, the State's Principal Secretary, IT and Biotechnology, said at a curtain-raiser to the show on Tuesday.

Bangalore's biotech park is also up for a re-bid. Mysore has been identified for setting up a nutrition park and a plant medicine park; Mangalore for a marine park, Dharwad for an agri-biotech park and Bidar for a vivarium. The GIM also has a session on the biotech investment opportunities in the State.

The tenth edition of the biotech meet happens at a time when the domestic industry has matured to top a total turnover of Rs 12,000 crore.

India is now the cynosure of global biotech majors for services such as clinical trials, research and manufacturing, said Ms Kiran Mazumdar Shaw, CEO of Biocon Ltd and Chairperson of the State Vision Group on Biotechnology that organises the meet.

Bangalore Bio is now Asia's biggest biotech draw and the new branding as 'India Bio' reflects its national platform, she said.

National labs CSIR and DRDO will be present. Some 150 industry exhibitors have booked space. Nearly 700 delegates including from Europe, Canada, Germany, the US and the UK, and industry participants Merck Inc, AstraZeneca USA, global VC Orbimed are expected to participate.