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News / Story reproduced with thanks:- **Pharmabiz**

India-Canada to foster joint scientific, technological cooperation in all areas of DBT

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Ramesh Shankar, Mumbai

Direct link to the News/Story:- <http://www.pharmabiz.com/article/detnews.asp?articleid=56145§ionid=>

Under the Canada-India Agreement for Scientific and Technological Cooperation, India and Canada will soon foster joint activities aimed at generating new or expanded research and technology-based partnerships between the two countries. Both the countries have invited proposals which are open to partnership development activities in all areas of biotechnology.

Department of Biotechnology (DBT) will be the implementing organization on the Indian side, while ISTPCanada, a non-governmental organization selected by the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade will be the organisation to deliver elements of the International Science and Technology Partnerships Programme on the Canadian side.

The nature of activities under the partnership include the bilateral Partnership Development Activities (PDAs) aiming to generate new or expand existing research and technology-based partnerships between two countries. They include scientific seminars, conferences, symposia and workshops and other joint initiatives that involve exchanges amongst scientists, technical experts and academics.

The partnership brings together researchers, developers, industry leaders, subject matter experts and other stakeholders from a minimum of two jurisdictions to explore novel models of R&D collaboration, and innovative ways to work cooperatively on new technology advancements or solutions to the existing problems. They aim to help participants (from companies, universities and innovation agencies) become more competitive by developing global research-based alliances with the potential to foster increased or expanded international R&D collaboration.

Each proposal must include an eligible lead from Canada and India. Eligible Indian applicants include researchers and managers of Indian academic institutions, research hospitals, companies (companies must have minimum 51 per cent Indian ownership), or other institutes that operate and are headquartered in India. Representatives from subsidiaries of firms headquartered and owned outside India are not eligible to receive funding or subsidies from DBT.