

**DEPARTMENT OF BIOTECHNOLOGY
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

Block-2, CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi 110 003

**CALL FOR CONCEPT PAPERS FOR R&D PROJECTS ON
DEVELOPMENT OF LIQUID BIOFERTILIZER FORMULATIONS**

The new approach to farming, often referred to as 'Sustainable Agriculture' emphasizes on the use of renewable inputs like biofertilizers, so as to maximize the ecological benefits and minimize the environmental hazards. The Department of Biotechnology supports research and development programmes on various biofertilizers. As compared to carrier-based biofertilizers, liquid biofertilizers have advantages of having high cell count, longer shelf life, minimum contamination, protection against abiotic stresses, and convenience in packing, storage and transport.

The Department of Biotechnology invites concept papers for undertaking R&D projects on development of liquid formulations of biofertilizer–microorganisms as alternative to carrier-based ones. The three–four page concept papers should define the scientific hypothesis, plan of work and time frame to test the hypothesis, scope of scaling up of production by industries and identify the practicability and economic feasibility of use in field. The scientists and their institutions whose papers will be accepted may be asked at a later date to submit their full proposals and then to join a network coordinated R&D programme to be sponsored by the Department. Scientists from well established research institutions like Universities, CSIR, ICAR laboratories and other institutions may submit their concept papers (15 copies each) including their brief biodata stating their experience and expertise in the area, to Dr R. R. Sinha, Director, Department of Biotechnology, Block 2, 6th Floor, CGO Complex, Lodi Road, New Delhi 110 003 within six weeks of this advertisement. The Department would encourage such R&D projects wherein public/private industries working in this field, are willing to meet part of the expenditure to pursue the projects in universities or other public institutions. It may please be noted that mere submission of concept paper will not qualify for inclusion in the programme.