## BITS BIRAC BioNEST ranked in top 5 Private Bio-Incubator in India in Biospectrum India's Bio-incubator Survey

BITS BIRAC BioNEST bio-incubator, established at BITS Pilani, K K Birla Goa campus, has ranked 4<sup>th</sup> in the list of life sciences incubators in the private incubators category in the recent survey conducted by BioSpectrum India, a leading B2B media platform in Life Sciences. Overall BITS BIRAC BioNEST has ranked 7<sup>th</sup> in India among 40 participating incubators and was applauded for the quality of its incubated startups and funding raised. It is the only bio-incubator in Goa.

Delighted with the honour, Prof. Mridula Goel, Professor In-charge, BITS BIRAC BioNEST stated "It is an incredible feeling to get acknowledged for our efforts & is a truly glorious moment for the entire team of BITS BIRAC BioNEST. We are keen to further support startups who are working in deeptech, healthcare and environment with both mentoring and funds. We thank all our ecosystem partners and commit to continue striving on our mission of strengthening the Startup Ecosystem in India".

The incubator is under the aegis of the BITS Goa Innovation, Incubation and Entrepreneurship Society (BGIIES). She further added, "we are happy to announce that recently we have been also selected for Startup India Seed Fund Scheme by Department of Policy and Promotion. This enables us to provide support to deeptech startups across the country".

The BioSpectrum survey focused on both private and public incubators' achievements in the past financial year on four parameters - number of incubatees, funds raised, space available, MoUs signed with other agencies to attract enterprises/ entrepreneurs. BioSpectrum has worked to identify the factors behind successful business incubation in the Life sciences. Through their Study, BioSpectrum assesses and benchmarks incubation programs from around India. The first three positions are with Venture Center, KIIT TBI and Crescent Incubator Chennai. The category in which BITS BIRAC BioNEST was included represented 90% of the total field.

BITS BIRAC Incubator with its high touch mentorship program and networks, meets the needs of early stage startups, and provides a comprehensive road map for their development. Since 2019, the incubator has supported more than 25 ideas/ startups. The selected start-ups of BITS BIRAC BioNEST receive seed funding, advice & mentoring, network connections and other essential support for technology and business development.

BITS BIRAC BioNEST is also known for its accelerated preincubation programs, HealthXcel and EnvironXcel which we support startups in the healthcare and greentech sector respectively.

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