



## **MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF THE INSTITUTE BIOSAFETY COMMITTEE (IBSC), BITS, PILANI – K K BIRLA GOA CAMPUS**

**Meeting held on 24/07/2015 (Friday), 1100-1230 hrs. at the Director's Office, BITS.**

### **Attendance:**

| <b>Members Present</b>                                  |  |   | <b>Members absent</b>                            |
|---|--|---|--|
| <b>Prof. S. Punnekkat</b><br>(Chairperson and Director) | <b>Prof. Urmila Barros</b><br>(DBT nominee)  | <b>Dr. Utpal Roy</b><br>(Internal Expert)       | <b>Dr. Samir Damare *</b><br>(External Expert)   |
| <b>Prof. Sunil Bhand</b><br>(Member Secretary)          | <b>Dr. Sumit Biswas</b><br>(Internal Expert) | <b>Dr. Judith Braganca</b><br>(Internal Expert) | <b>Dr. Raghavendra KM</b><br>(Biosafety Officer) |

\* Dr. Samir Damare, NIO, had given prior intimation of his non-availability due to pressing commitments.

1. The meeting was chaired by the Director of the Campus, Prof. Sasikumar Punekkat (the Chairperson).
2. The committee was apprised of the latest (2011) regulations and guidelines of IBSC by Dr. Sumit Biswas (member).
3. Being the first meeting of the IBSC, a number of important resolutions were discussed and adopted for future course of action as listed below:
  - a. A comprehensive BioSafety program (in accordance with the guidelines provided by DBT) would be framed after feedback from all concerned parties, which should be tailor-made for the Institute in particular.
  - b. Awareness about the categories of research which would fall under the purview of the IBSC, and would thereby need intimation and/or approval from the same, would be generated among present and future Principal Investigators (PIs).
  - c. Ongoing projects would be mapped to assess whether they fall under the purview of the biosafety committee.
  - d. The IBSC needs to be intimated of the import/exchange/export of biomaterials (covered by clause 8.4 of the Guidelines handbook) involving recombinant DNA (rDNA)

technology. The IBSC should make sure that packaging, labeling and all other aspects of the movement of the biomaterial are in adherence with the recommended guidelines.

e. In performing all the above activities, the IBSC would be actively collaborating with the Sponsored Research and Counseling Division (SRCD) of the Institute, with proactive inputs from the Head of the concerned Department, which would act as nodal points for earmarking proposals or shipments to be directed to the IBSC.

f. To maintain the following documents with the IBSC: i. Duly approved minutes of meetings, ii. Annual reports of all rDNA projects, iii. Information about projects approved by IBSC, iv. Applications forwarded to RCGM (as applicable), v. Other documents like confidentiality agreement, conflict-of-interest, etc.

g. Adequate awareness would be generated and all parties concerned should be encouraged to follow safe storage, safety and disposal of bio materials.

4. The next meeting of the IBSC was proposed to be held tentatively in the first week of December, 2015.

Signed by,

**Prof. S. Punnekkat**

**Prof. U. Barros**

**Prof. S. Bhand**

**Dr. Samir Damare**

**Dr. U.Roy**

**Dr. J. Braganca**

**Dr. S. Biswas**

**Dr. Raghavendra KM**