



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

Meeting held on 07/12/2015 (Monday), 1440-1550 hrs. at the Conference Room, BITS.

**Attendance:**

<b>Members Present</b>			
<b>Prof. S. Punnekkat</b> (Chairperson and Director)	<b>Dr. Samir Damare</b> (External Expert)	<b>Dr. Utpal Roy</b> (Internal Expert)	<b>Dr. Raghavendra KM</b> (Biosafety Officer)
<b>Prof. Sunil Bhand</b> (Member Secretary)	<b>Dr. Sumit Biswas</b> (Internal Expert)	<b>Dr. Judith Braganca</b> (Internal Expert)	

**Member absent:** Prof. Urmila Barros, DBT nominee who had given prior intimation of her non-availability due to unforeseen circumstances.

1. The meeting was chaired by the Director of the Campus, Prof. Sasikumar Punnekkat (the Chairperson).
2. The chairperson read out the approved minutes of the last meeting and set out the agenda which was the proposed mapping of currently running projects vis-à-vis IBSC guidelines, and simultaneously raised the need for an awareness program about IBSC guidelines.
3. A list of seven currently running projects were presented to the committee for assessing the bio safety compatibility of those projects.
4. During the course of discussions, it was felt that there was a need for a questionnaire to be given to a Principal Investigator before assessing the bio safety compatibility of the project.
5. Subsequently, Dr. Samir Damare suggested he can share a standard questionnaire form for bio safety declaration.
6. It was decided that a two-member team comprising Dr. Utpal Roy and Dr. Judith Braganca would be entrusted with the task of preparing a questionnaire for bio safety declaration for the Institute, while a team with Prof. Sunil Bhand and Dr. Sumit Biswas, would be responsible for chalking out the bio safety guidelines.

7. It was felt that the containment facilities in the Institute for use and disposal of genetically modified organisms need to be identified and assessed.
8. As a further step, a Bio Safety Level 2 facility was proposed to be constructed as a central facility with funds from the Institute budget.
9. A proposal for having a separate page for the IBSC in the Institute website was mooted. Prof. Bhand also raised the need for having an exclusive e-mail id. for the IBSC.
10. The next meeting of the IBSC was tentatively scheduled in the first week of March 2016.

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**