

SRIHER opens healthcare innovation incubation centre

Chennai, Oct 13: A healthcare innovation incubation centre (BioNEST Bioincubator) was inaugurated at Sri Ramachandra Institute of Higher Education and Research here today by Dr. Renu Swarup, Secretary, Biotechnology & Science & Technology and Chairperson, BIRAC. Participating virtually she said this centre located in a medical university will help the entire spectrum of healthcare industry to

translate innovative ideas into useful products and services for the patients. End users engagement is key in innovation with proper clinical validation. This centre should define and guide the incubatees into the regulatory pathway. The centre should also help others in early stage of validation and help roll out their products for commercial use, she said.

Dr. Manish Diwan, Head, Strategic Partnership

and Entrepreneurship Development, BIRAC said this centre can identify the unmet needs of clinicians and involve entrepreneurs to come out with innovative solutions. A clinician can also be an entrepreneur he said and listed out several products innovated by doctors and surgeons in the over 60 bionest incubators functioning in the country.

Speaking on the occasion Dr.P.V.Vijayaraghavan, Vice Chancellor said

SRIHER provides the conducive ambiance of approved and accredited high quality research laboratories, testing facilities, fulfilled clinical trial division with institutional ethics committee and a 2200 bedded tertiary hospital and 12 constituent faculties, research scholars which will be accessible to incubating entrepreneurs. Doctors and para medicals are also being encouraged to translate their clinical research into patented products, he added.

Dr. Kalpana Balakrishnan, Dean Research said, Sri Ramachandra Innovation Incubation Centre (SRIIC) is supported by BioNEST programme of Bio-technology, Industry Research Assistance Council. The focal areas include clinical validation of medical devices, point of care diagnostic kits, nano technology, artificial intelligence, machine learning based tools in healthcare. First of its kind in Tamilnadu, it is supported by multiple research facilities and a sophisticated instrumentation facilities with hi-end bio-analytical capabilities and a GLP accredited small animal test facility of SRIHER. For end user validation, CDSCO-approved DCGI-audited full-fledged clinical trial division is also available, she added.

Dr. S.P.Thyagarajan who initiated setting up this centre and presently Chancellor Avinashilingam Institute of Home Science and Higher Education for women, Coimbatore, Dr. Muthu Singaram, CEO, Healthcare Technology Innovation Centre, IIT-Chennai and Dr. Hardeep Vora, CEO, SRIIC were among those who participated in the event.