

MINUTES OF THE 298th MEETING OF THE REVIEW COMMITTEE ON GENETIC MANIPULATION (RCGM) HELD ON 27.11.2024 BY VIDEO CONFERENCING (GO TO MEETING)

The Chairman-RCGM extended a formal welcome to the members of the RCGM for the **298th meeting** and initiated the process of the meeting. The list of participants is given at Annexure-I.

2. The Committee adopted the minutes and recommendations of the **297th meeting** of the RCGM held on **13.11.2024**.

3. On the action taken report, the Member-Secretary informed that during the **297th meeting** of the RCGM, a total of **19** applications including information items were considered and the Secretariat is in the process of issuing requisite permit letters based on the recommendations of the RCGM.

4. Proposals considered

4.1 Applications in the area of Pharmaceuticals

The Committee considered the applications to transfer and receive Lumpy Skin Disease Virus culture; to import HEK293T cells; to conduct preclinical toxicity studies on Insulin lispro Biosimilar, Insulin aspart Biosimilar, Pembrolizumab monoclonal antibody Biosimilar, *SARS-CoV-2* Multiepitope Vaccine; preclinical toxicity report of Semaglutide injection Biosimilar, live frozen cell associated vaccine consisting of a recombinant herpes virus of turkeys, Trastuzumab Solution Biosimilar; SOPs submitted in reference to the proposal on evaluation of efficacy, immunogenicity and safety of Respiratory Syncytial Virus vaccine. After deliberation on each application including information items, appropriate decisions were taken by the RCGM.

4.2 Applications in the area of Agriculture

The Committee considered Record of Transport for the BRL-I 1st year trial of GE cotton event; Record of Planting of Event Selection Trial of GE rubber lines; Inspection reports for monitoring harvest/termination and Record(s) of Harvest/Termination for two ESTs of GE banana lines; Request seeking permission for extension of validity of permit letters to conduct ESTs of GE banana lines; Risk Assessment and Risk Management Plan for import of GE *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* and its distribution for 2G ethanol production. After deliberation on each application including information items, appropriate decisions were taken by the RCGM.

5. IBSC Reports

The Committee considered minutes submitted by twenty-four IBSCs, thirteen annual compliance reports and nil medical surveillance report, and appropriate decisions were taken by the RCGM.

6. Other items

The Committee deliberated on the Applications recommended by the Inter-Ministerial Committee for Certification of BSL-3 facility; draft "*Handbook for Institutional Biosafety Committees (IBSCs) - 2024*"; and reforms in visits of CCCs for monitoring of confined field trials of GE plants.

No other transaction took place, and the meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair and members.

The Minutes are approved.



(Prof. Y.K. Gupta)
Chairman, RCGM

Annexure-I

List of Participants:		
1.	Prof. Y.K. Gupta, Former Professor, AIIMS, New Delhi and President AIIMS, Jammu	Chairman
2.	Dr. Ramesh Sonti, Director & Group Leader, Plant-microbe Interaction, International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology, New Delhi	Co-Chair (Agri)
3.	Dr. Arvind Sahu, Executive Director, Regional Centre for Biotechnology, Faridabad	Co-Chair (Biopharma)
4.	Dr. Nitin K. Jain, Scientist 'G' & Head, Regulation, DBT, New Delhi	Member-Secretary
5.	Dr. S. N. Sudhakara Babu, Former Head, Crop Production & Principal Scientist (Agronomy), ICAR-Indian Institute of Oil Seed Research, Hyderabad	Member
6.	Dr. Neelam S. Sangwan, Professor (Biochemistry), Central University of Haryana, Mahendergarh	Member
7.	Dr. Uma Shaankar, Senior Professor, IIT-Jammu, Jammu	Member
8.	Dr. Chandish R. Ballal, Former Director, National Bureau of Agricultural Insect Resources, Bengaluru	Member
9.	Dr. K.G. Tirumurugaan, Professor, Department of Animal Biotechnology, Madras Veterinary College, TANUVAS, Chennai	Member
10.	Dr. Ritu Aggarwal, Professor, Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education & Research, Chandigarh	Member
11.	Dr. Asha Chaubey, Sr. Principal Scientist & Head of Fermentation Technology Division, CSIR-IIIM, Jammu	Member
12.	Dr. Rubina Bose, Deputy Drugs Controller (India), CDSCO, Nominee/Representative – CDSCO	Member
13.	Sh. Rajappan Viswanathan, Astd. Drugs Controller (India), CDSCO, Nominee/Representative – CDSCO	Member
14.	Dr. Geeta Jotwani, Senior Deputy Director General & Scientist G-ICMR, Nominee/Representative – ICMR	Member
15.	Dr. Om Prakash Meena, Assistant Director, Ministry of Home Affairs, Nominee/Representative - Ministry of Home Affairs	Member
16.	Dr. Anant Narayan Bhatt, INMAS, Nominee/Representative - Defence Research and Development Organization	Member
17.	Dr. K. C. Samal, Professor (Biotech) & Dean, College of Horticulture, Odisha University of Agriculture and Technology, Sambalpur, Representative – State Agricultural University	Special Invitee
18.	Dr. Parveen Chhuneja, Principal Molecular Geneticist, College of Agriculture, Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana, Representative – State Agricultural University	Special Invitee
19.	Dr. Amit P. Parikh, Scientist 'F', DBT, New Delhi	DBT officer
Biosafety Support Unit:		

20.	Dr. Govind Kumar Rai, Scientist & Coordinator
21.	Dr. Poonam Vishwakarma, Scientist
22.	Dr. Pranjali Vishwakarma, Scientist
23.	Dr. Shipra Shahi, Scientist
24.	Dr. Manpreet Kaur, Scientist
Others:	
25.	Mr. Jatin Vimal, M/s. Levim Lifetech Private Limited, Chennai
26.	Ms. Nazia Sulthana DKS, M/s. Levim Lifetech Private Limited, Chennai
27.	Mr. Srinivasa Rao Kandula, M/s. Vivo Bio Tech Ltd., Hyderabad

J. Srinivasa Rao