



BEST-ABLE: The Pune Chapter
 - Organized by ABLE & Venture Center -

Organized by	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Association of Biotechnology Led Enterprises (ABLE) • Venture Center
When	Refer the timeline given below
Where	Conference room (final PPT in front of jury) Lecture Theatre, Venture Center, 900 NCL Innovation Park, Dr. Homi Bhabha Road, Pashan, Pune – 411008
Registration	<p>Registration Process:</p> <p>Step 1: Interested participants need to fill in application form and upload the required documents at the following link.</p> <p>Apply online at: https://rebrand.ly/BEST-ABLEPune2024</p> <p>Step 2: Email invite will be sent to shortlisted participants post screening of application details.</p>
Contact	<p>Technical queries: Meghana B meghana.bhandari@venturecenter.co.in</p> <p>Registration related Queries: Vineet J eventsdesk@venturecenter.co.in</p>

Workshop includes

- Workshop includes tea, snacks and lunch at the Innovation Café.
- Free membership in mailing list to follow-up on workshop and intimation of relevant events/ funding/ opportunities from Venture Center.

Workshop excludes

Please note that the participants will have to arrange for their own travel & local transport. For more information on Pune city, travel, transport and stay options, see <http://www.venturecenter.co.in/puneguide/>

Guidelines for the competition

What is BEST ABLE?

Association of Biotechnology Led Enterprises (ABLE) - <https://ableindia.in/best/> has been successfully conducting the Biotechnology Entrepreneurship Student Teams (BEST) program to inculcate the spirit of entrepreneurship among biotech students since 2009, with the support of the Department of Biotechnology. This program has been encouraging young graduate, post-graduate and doctoral students in developing their entrepreneurial skills by exposing them to issues involved in the commercialization of biosciences and bringing out an idea to present in front of an eminent jury.

Over the past decade, at least 20 companies have been formed by BEST graduates that together have garnered more than Rs 400 crore in investment and have created 180 high value jobs. Startups like Sea6Energy, Pandorum Technologies, and KB Cols, which have emerged from the BEST program, have won many laurels for the country over the years.

Why are we doing a BEST ABLE for the Pune region?

Looking at the success of BEST-ABLE that is being conducted in different cities as BEST Zonal rounds, we thought of organizing one for the Pune region to provide an exposure to the local talent & make an attempt to promote their entrepreneurial mindset. Since Venture Center is the western regional chapter for ABLE India, we plan to take this opportunity to reach the numerous biotechnology colleges in Pune, scout for talent and provide them a platform to pitch their thesis as a business idea in front of an eminent jury.

Eligibility criteria:

- Applicants must be necessarily enrolled as students who are currently pursuing their UG or PG (including 5 year integrated post graduate degree), doctoral degree, BE or B.Tech courses, 4yr BSc. Agri program and other four/three year professional courses in the areas of life sciences (bioscience/ biotechnology/ biochem/ microbio / biophysics/ bioengineering/ food and/ or related subjects) from Indian universities/institutes located within the Pune district.
- There should be 3 members in a team. The team could be interdisciplinary with at least two of the members pursuing life science courses and 1 can be from other disciplines.
- Top 10 teams will be shortlisted for the final rounds.
- Each team will submit only one entry. A participant can be a member of only one team.
- The proposals could be either for product, service or an application.

How to apply?

- Venture Center shall announce 'Call for Proposals' in the area of life sciences that have commercialization potential through various communication media.
- Each team comprises 3 students. The team could be interdisciplinary with at least two of the members pursuing life science courses and 1 can be from other disciplines.
- Interested applicants are required to fill in the registration form and upload their concept note. Apply here:
- The student team has to submit a Concept note and Executive summary of their idea
- Top 10 students teams will be shortlisted for the final round to present their idea in front of Jury
- A 2 day boot camp at Venture Center will be conducted for the students before the final jury round.
- The boot camp will be conducted by ABLE and Venture Center team members providing motivational talks to improve students skills to convert ideas into an effective business plan and introduce students to aspects like proof-of- concept, IPR, managing funds, licensing and strategic alliances for starting a venture.
- Each team has to prepare a PPT presentation of their idea for the final round after the boot camp. The students will be assisted in preparing the presentation during the boot camp.
- The student teams will be presenting their ideas in front of a jury in a closed conference room. The students' ideas will be kept confidential.
- The shortlisted teams will be presenting their idea physically in the Venture Center campus. Decisions will be taken after the teams are shortlisted.
- Total 15 minutes for each team will be given for the final round (8 min presentation and 7 min discussion/ Q&A with Jury)

- Top 3 winning teams (as decided & graded by the jury) stand a chance to win exciting cash prizes!

Documents to upload with application form- Concept Note and Executive Summary

The components of Executive Summary and Concept Note are given below.

Executive Summary (not exceeding 800 Words)

- Title
- Define the idea
- Establish Novelty/Innovativeness of the Idea
- Demonstrate Intellectual Property generation/Trademark (as applicable)
- Include Competitive Analysis and Market Potential.
- Determine Commercialization Potential and Scalability- should also indicate which stage your idea is in, for example- Idea stage/prototype stage/proof of concept/near commercialization.

Concept Note (Not exceeding 1 MB)

- Concept Note title
- Concept and Scientific Rationale of the idea
- Market Potential
- Commercialization prospects and Scalability
- Current challenges and roadblocks in the development project including regulatory approvals.

Before you start filling the online application form to participate in this BEST-ABLE: The Pune Chapter competition, make sure you have the digital files of all records mentioned below:

- PDF version of the Executive Summary not exceeding 800 words.
- PDF version of the Concept Note, not exceeding 1MB.
- PDF version of the letter from the Institute authorizing your team's participation.
- If members of a team are from the same Institute, the same authorization letter with the name of all the team members can be uploaded against the individual member's name.
- If members of a team are from different Institutes, authorization letters from respective Institutes must be uploaded.
- PDF version of photo-identity cards of all the team members issued by the respective College/Institute. The PDF version should consist of both sides of the identity card.

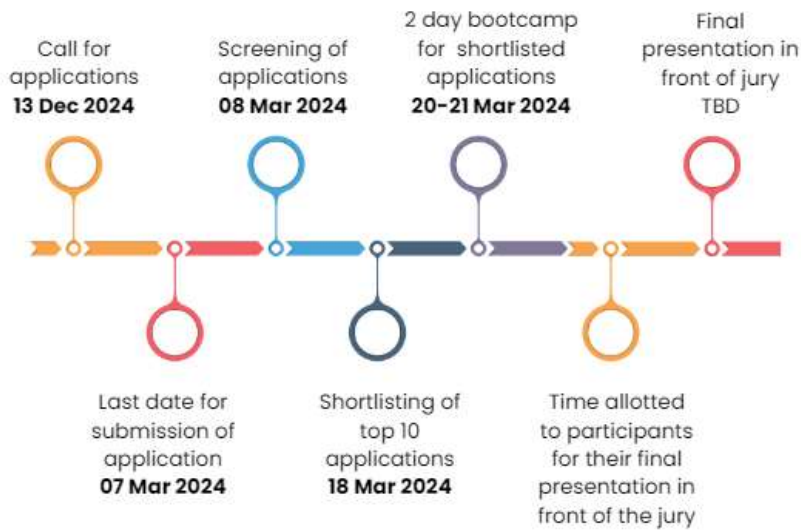
Important: The Executive Summary and Concept Note PDF should not have any reference to the Institution they belong to. Kindly mention your correct full name in the form. The same name will be displayed in the certificate

Screening of applications

The screening of applications will begin as soon as the forms close. The entire screening process will take about a week's time to complete. We will keep you informed regarding the same. The Concept Notes and Executive Summary were evaluated for:

- Innovativeness of the idea
- Techno economic feasibility and scalability of the idea
- Commercialization & Market potential of the idea
- Clarity of communication

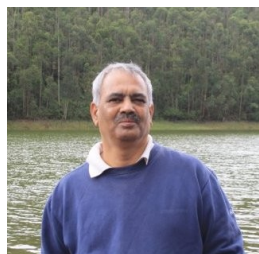
Timeline for the competition



Confidentiality

The student teams will be presenting their ideas in front of a jury in a closed conference room. The students' ideas will be kept strictly confidential.

Mentors for boot camp & panelists for final presentation (In order of last names; alphabetical order)



Suresh Narayanan
Chief Operating Officer- Association of Biotechnology Led Enterprises

Narayanan Suresh is the Chief Operating Officer of India’s Biotech Industry Association, ABLE, the Association for Biotechnology-Led Enterprises.

In this role, Suresh represents the interests of 400-strong membership that has contributed to the emergence of a \$94 billion (Rs 780,000 crore) BioEconomy in India. ABLE runs pioneering programs like BEST to promote entrepreneurship among biotech students, Voice for BT public speaking contest for biotech college students, engages with governments on policy and regulatory issues, provides a platform for national and international biotech sector to interact on a range of issues, runs the BioEconomy Conclave Series of events. ABLE also produces the annual India BioEconomy Report (IBER) and India Biotech Startups Dashboard. ABLE also produces a Karnataka BioEconomy Report. Suresh was a member of Karnataka government’s Vision Group on Biotechnology and member of various government committees and steering committee member of Elevate tech innovation support program coordinates the annual SmartBio Awards for KITS to be given at annual BTS event. Suresh has co-authored the Coffee Table Book, Enablers of Indian Biotech, brought out to celebrate 20th anniversary of ABLE. Prior to this, Suresh was the the Group Editor of BioSpectrum, Asia’s first exclusive BioScience magazine, published simultaneously from India and Singapore. Published in print and available online and in fortnightly digital versions, BioSpectrum is Asia’s No.1 media platform that engages the BioScience industry. Suresh was also the editor of the India Edition of MIT’s Technology Review magazine which highlighted technological innovations in India and also produced an annual list of young technology innovators under the age of 35. He started BioSpectrum for CyberMedia and has played a key role in catalyzing the growth of this much talked about industry in India and Asia-Pacific. The magazine also brings out widely acclaimed annual ranking of BioScience companies in Asia-Pacific and Top 20 Biotech companies in India every June. BioSpectrum also pioneered industry awards in the region with the annual BioSpectrum Awards in Bangalore and Singapore to honor outstanding personalities in the bioscience segment.


A Masters in Physics from the Central University of Hyderabad. Suresh started his career as the first Science Correspondent of The Times of India, New Delhi.



Smita Kale
Advisor, Bioincubation, Venture Center

Smita as part of Bioincubation team facilitates incubator operations by interacting with incubatees, infrastructure and facilities creation and development of the ecosystem. She is leading Bio-incubation activities, Center for Biopharma Analysis (CBA) and BIRAC’s Regional Bioinnovation Center (BRBC) projects at Venture Center. She is actively involved in mentoring startups at Venture Center. She is Ph. D in Pharmaceutical Chemistry from Institute of Chemical Technology, Mumbai and prior to joining Venture Center has had academic experience of 12 years which includes research experience of 3.6 years.



	<p>Premnath Venugopalan Director, Venture Center Head, NCL Innovations</p> <p>Dr Premnath is Head, NCL Innovations at CSIR-NCL and Founder Director, Venture Center (National award winning inventive enterprises and deep tech incubator). Dr Premnath is a technology developer, innovation and incubation manager, startup mentor and a co-founder of 2 medical implant startups. One of his inventions -- a breakthrough material for hip and knee joint replacements — has been implanted in more than a million patients worldwide. Another technology for porous maxillo-facial implants has been implanted in thousands of patients in India and abroad. He has provided leadership for teams that have won National awards for technology development, intellectual property management and business incubation. He is chemical engineer and an alumnus of MIT in the US, IIT-Bombay (Distinguished Alumnus, 2022) and has been a Chevening Technology Enterprise Scholar in Cambridge, UK.</p>
	<p>Information on other mentors coming soon!</p>

About the Organizers	
	<p>Association of Biotechnology Led Enterprises - ABE is a not-for-profit pan-India forum that represents the Indian Biotechnology Sector. It was launched in April 2003, after industry leaders felt a need to form an exclusive forum to represent the Indian Biotechnology Sector. ABE has over 400 members from all across India representing all verticals of the sector like Agribiotech, Bio-pharma, Industrial biotech, Bioinformatics, Investment banks and Venture Capital Firms and Equipment Suppliers.</p>
	<p>BIRAC Regional Bioinnovation Centre (BRBC) is the third regional centre of BIRAC and is located in Venture Center. BRBC aims to fill up key innovation ecosystem gaps for bio-based industry sectors and thus significantly impact the translation of high-quality innovative ideas into viable and sustainable business enterprises. Some key BRBC initiatives are Venture Mentoring Service; Venture Base Camps; Regulatory Information and Facilitation Centre; Bio Incubation Practice School.</p> <p>More on: http://www.brbc.venturecenter.co.in/</p>
Supported By	
	<p>Biotechnology Industry Research & Assistance Council is a non-profit company created by the Department of Biotechnology (Government of India) with a mandate to develop the national ecosystem for biotechnology innovation and entrepreneurship and provide targeted support to innovators and entrepreneurs.</p> <p>For more information about BIRAC: www.birac.nic.in</p>
	<p>Venture Center is India's largest inventive enterprises and scientific business incubator. Venture Center is a technology business incubator hosted by CSIR-NCL and supported by the Department of Science & Technology's National Science & Technology Entrepreneurship Development Board</p>



(DST-NSTEDB) and BIRAC.

For more information, visit <http://www.venturecenter.co.in/>