

भारत सरकार

विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्रालय

जैव प्रौद्योगिकी विभाग

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

MINISTRY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

DEPARTMENT OF BIOTECHNOLOGY

BT/BS/17/635/2015-PID



सत्यमेव जयते

ब्लॉक-2, 7वां तल, सी0जी0ओ0 कम्पलेक्स

लोधी रोड, नई दिल्ली-110003

Block-2, 7th Floor, C.G.O. Complex

Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003

Tele : 011-24365071 Fax : 011-24362884


Website : <http://www.dbtindia.nic.in>

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OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Handbook For Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBSC), 2020

1. In accordance with "Rules for the Manufacture, Use, Import, Export and Storage of Hazardous Microorganisms/Genetically Engineered Organisms or Cells 1989 (known as 'Rules, 1989') of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 (EPA 1986), an Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBSC) shall be constituted by an occupier or any person including research institutions handling-microorganism/genetically engineered organisms. IBSC is to be constituted by every organisation engaged in research, use & applications activities related to GE organisms (organisms include microorganisms, animals, plants, arthropods, aquatic animals, etc.) and hazardous microorganisms (microorganisms include parasites, protozoa, algae, fungi, bacteria, virus, prions etc.) and products produced through exploration of such organisms. IBSC serves as the nodal point within an organization for implementation of the biosafety regulatory framework.
2. In the past few years, several reforms in Indian Biotechnology Regulatory Framework have taken place to ensure safe and secure use of biotechnological processes and products. The reforms include decentralized regulatory powers to IBSC and implementation of a user- friendly online mechanism of regulatory process through **Indian Biosafety Knowledge Portal (IBKP)**.
3. In view of these changes, the Handbook for IBSC has been updated through extensive deliberations by the Expert Committee constituted for this purpose and the Review Committee on Genetic Manipulation (RCGM), DBT recommended the updated version.
The updated handbook for IBSC provides information on regulatory processes to be followed for research activities while dealing with GE organisms & non-GE hazardous microorganisms in line with Rules, 1989 and guidelines issued by DBT from time to time.
4. It provides guidance for composition, constitution and functions of IBSCs including steps of application evaluation, approval procedure, monitoring, compliance and online submissions through IBKP portal.
5. The "Handbook for Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBSC), 2020" supersedes "Guidelines and Handbook for IBSCs" issued in 2011.
6. The "Handbook For Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBSC), 2020" is notified at www.dbtindia.nic.in & <https://ibkp.dbtindia.gov.in/>.


(Nitin Kumar Jain)
Member Secretary, RCGM
Scientist F, DBT

To,

1. All institutional Biosafety Committees
2. Communication Cell, DBT