



Department of Science & Technology
(Government of Gujarat)

GBRC NEWS

Volume IV, Issue IV
December 2024



CONTENTS

TITLE PAGE NO.

- KAUSAHALYA..... 1
- SPECIALISED WORKSHOPS..... 2
- GBRC IN MEDIA..... 2
- TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER..... 2
- RECENT PUBLICATIONS..... 3
- OUTREACH, COLLABORATION AND KNOWLEDGE DISSEMINATION..... 7
- PAPER PRESENTED..... 8
- ACHIEVEMENTS..... 9
- CAPACITY BUILDING..... 9
- PARABODH..... 10
- ARRIVAL & DEPARTURE..... 11
- STAFF WELFARE CLUB ACTIVITIES..... 12
- MONTHLY EVALUATION ACTIVITY..... 13
- VISITS..... 14
- UPCOMING TRAINING..... 19
- NEW FACILITIES..... 19

KAUSHALYA TRAINING PROGRAM FOR SKILL DEVELOPMENT IN BIOTECHNOLOGY 2024-25



Molecular Biology
From Basic to Advance



Analytical Techniques
Isolation to Identification



Capillary Sequencing and
Fragment Analysis



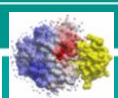
Next Generation
Sequencing



Animal Cell
Culture and Flow
Cytometry



Plant Tissue
Culture
And
Transgenics



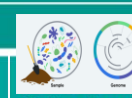
Unveiling
Protein
Biology Wet
and Dry
Approach



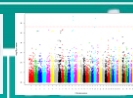
In-vitro
Fertilization



Bioinformatics
From Basic
to
Advanced



Metagenome
and
Metatranscriptomic
Data Analysis



GWAS
In Plants
and
Animals

KAUSHALYA (Knowledge Advancement Ushering Skills on High-end Applied Lifetechnology For Aspirants) is an innovative initiative by GBRC, aims to bridge the gap between theoretical learning and practical application by providing hands-on training in cutting-edge biotechnology fields to aspiring stakeholders. Through KAUSHALYA, participants gain the necessary skills and knowledge to excel in their chosen fields, unlocking new opportunities for personal and professional growth. In this regard, GBRC has developed 12 training modules for the year, with 99 hrs training session held monthly in collaboration with partner institute.

TRAININGS COMPLETED

2 Weeks Hands-on Training Program on

PLANT TISSUE CULTURE AND TRANSGENICS

As a part of KAUSHALYA
(Knowledge Advancement Ushering Skills on High-end Applied Lifetechnology For Aspirants)

14th to 25th October 2024
9.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m.
(Learning hours-99)

Jointly organized by
Gujarat Biotechnology Research Centre (GBRC)
&
Indian Institute of Technology Gandhinagar (IITGN)

Training Highlights

- Plant tissue culture techniques and different explants
- Culture and confirmation of recombinant plasmid
- Agrobacterium mediated plant transformation
- Gene gun mediated plant transformation
- GFP (green fluorescent protein) expression analysis of transgenic plants
- Confirmation of gene integration in transgenic plants

Team

- Dr. Fenil Kumar Patel, Scientist-B, GBRC
- Dr. Komal Sopora, Scientist-B, GBRC
- Dr. Bhuvan Pathak, Assistant Professor, Ahmedabad University
- Dr. Nilesh Gowande, Post Doc Fellow, IITGN
- Dr. Poonam Patel, Research Associate, GBRC
- Dr. Charli Kaushal, Research Associate, IITGN
- Mr. Kunj Bhatt, Junior Research Fellow, GBRC

Training Fees

Category	Fee
Student	Rs. 4,000
Faculty	Rs. 6,000
Industry	Rs. 8,000
International	Rs. 10,000

15 seats only!

Minimum eligibility: Postgraduate degree

Interested individuals have to fill the online application form using the following link
<https://fo.gbrc.res.in/jfr>

Training Coordinators: Dr. Niraj Kumar Singh, Joint Director, GBRC; Dr. Subramanian Sankaranarayanan, Assistant Professor, IITGN

Venue: Gujarat Biotechnology Research Centre, Department of Science & Technology, 4th Building, 4th Floor, GID Road, Sector-16, Gandhinagar, Gujarat 382015. Phone: 079-23248800. Email: info@gbrc.res.in. Website: <https://fo.gbrc.res.in>

Scan to register

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fo.gbrc.res.in/jfr
fo.gbrc.res.in/jfr

TRANSLATING BRIGHTER FUTURE

2 Weeks Hands-on Training Program on

Unveiling Protein Biology: Wet & Dry Lab Approach

11th - 22nd November 2024
9.00 am to 6.00 pm
(Learning hours - 99)

As a part of KAUSHALYA
(Knowledge Advancement Ushering Skills on High-end Applied Lifetechnology For Aspirants)

Jointly organized by
Gujarat Biotechnology Research Centre (GBRC)
&
National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER), Ahmedabad

Training Highlights

- Protein Purification
- Column Chromatography
- Western Blot
- 2-D Gel Electrophoresis
- Peptide Mass Fingerprinting using Orbitrap
- Protein Modelling using AlphaFold
- Protein-Ligand docking
- Protein-Protein docking
- Schrodinger Suite
- Molecular Dynamics and Simulations

Registration

Interested individuals (Atleast post graduate) have to fill the online application form using the following link
<https://fo.gbrc.res.in/moldoc>

Last Date: 18th October 2024

Training Fee:

Category	Fee
Student	Rs. 4,000
Faculty	Rs. 6,000
Industry	Rs. 8,000
International	Rs. 10,000

Faculties

- Dr. Amit Mandoli, Assistant Professor, NIPER-A
- Dr. Sapan Borah, Assistant Professor, NIPER-A
- Dr. Nitish Sharma, Assistant Professor, NIPER-A
- Dr. Dilip Ghara, Assistant Professor, NIPER-A
- Dr. Ishan Ravil, Scientist-E, GBRC
- Dr. Krishna Bharwad, Scientist-B, GBRC
- Dr. Pooja Doshi, Research Associate, GBRC
- Mr. Nitin Shukla, Senior Research Fellow, GBRC

Training Coordinators: Dr. Niraj Kumar Singh, Joint Director, GBRC; Dr. Amit Kumar Pandey, Associate Professor, NIPER-A

Venue: Gujarat Biotechnology Research Centre, Department of Science and Technology, 4th Building, 4th Floor, GID Road, Sector-16, Gandhinagar, Gujarat 382015. Phone: 079-23248800. Email: info@gbrc.res.in. Website: <https://fo.gbrc.res.in>

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TRANSLATING BRIGHTER FUTURE

2 Weeks Hands-on Training Program on

IN VITRO FERTILIZATION

As a part of KAUSHALYA
(Knowledge Advancement Ushering Skills on High-end Applied Lifetechnology For Aspirants)

16th to 27th December 2024
9.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m.
(Learning hours-99)

Jointly organized by
Gujarat Biotechnology Research Centre (GBRC)
&
Setgene Lab Private Limited, Ahmedabad

Training Highlights

- Isolation and Evaluation of Oocytes
- Maturation of Oocytes
- Semen Preparation and Analysis
- In-vitro Fertilization
- Use of Flow Cytometry for Semen Analysis
- Hand-on Intracytoplasmic Sperm Injection (ICSI)
- Verification of Embryos and Oocytes

Team

- Dr. Dhvani Jhala, Scientist-B, GBRC
- Dr. Devan Patel, Chief Embryologist, Sunflower Hospital
- Dr. Naroda Maheshwari, Gynecologist, Sunflower Hospital
- Ms. Esha Dalal, Sr. Cytogeneticist, Setgene Laboratory
- Dr. Shroddha Jarmwal, Research Associate, GBRC
- Mr. Vikas Paridar, Technical Assistant, GBRC
- Ms. Vrunda Bhavsar, Junior Research Fellow, GBRC

Training Fees

Category	Fee
Student	Rs. 4,000
Faculty	Rs. 6,000
Industry	Rs. 8,000
International	Rs. 10,000

15 seats only!

Minimum eligibility: Postgraduate degree

Interested individuals have to fill the online application form using the following link
<https://fo.gbrc.res.in/jfr>

Training Coordinators: Dr. Niraj Kumar Singh, Joint Director, GBRC; Dr. D. G. Patel, Director, Setgene Laboratory

Venue: Gujarat Biotechnology Research Centre, Department of Science & Technology, 4th Building, 4th Floor, GID Road, Sector-16, Gandhinagar, Gujarat 382015. Phone: 079-23248800. Email: info@gbrc.res.in. Website: <https://fo.gbrc.res.in>

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TRANSLATING BRIGHTER FUTURE

SPECIALISED WORKSHOPS

GBRC hosted two pre-conference workshops organized by the Association of Medical Biochemists of India (AMBI) Gujarat Chapter on “Nucleic Acid Extraction and PCR Techniques” and “LC MS/MS QTOF and MALDI TOF”.



GBRC IN MEDIA

Two lumpy disease variants found in Jamnagar samples

Study Finds 1,819 Variations In 22 Sequenced Genomes


Ahmedabad: Scientists investigating the lumpy skin disease (LSD) outbreaks in cattle identified mutation in the lumpy skin disease virus (LSDV) from samples collected in Jamnagar during 2022 outbreak. In Gujarat, 1.76 lakh bovines were infected by the LSDV, of which 6,193 succumbed in 2022. Nationwide, 1.55 lakh animals with LSD died since 2019.

IMPORTANT FINDINGS

TWO DISTINCT LSDV VARIANTS IN INDIA: Two groups within the 2022 Indian outbreak, one with fewer mutations resembling the 2019 Ranchi strain and another "high-mutation" group linked to the 2015 Russian outbreak

VACCINE EFFECTIVENESS AND MUTATIONS: The study raised concerns about the effectiveness of existing LSDV vaccines as outbreaks were observed even in vaccinated animals

POSSIBILITY OF CROSS-SPECIES TRANSMISSION: The study found evidence of LSDV infection in camels with similar mutations to the high-mutation group observed in cows, suggesting possible cross-species transmission



- Implement and expand existing prevention measures
- Quarantine and control enteric infections
- Continue genomic surveillance of LSDV

KEY MUTATIONS

RNA polymerase subunit 1 (LSUV934): This protein is found in the Jembrana sample. It is thought to modulate the host immune response, and mutations can enhance viral replication and virulence.

R279-like protein (LSUV134): This protein, also found in Jembrana sample, is known to suppress host immune response and contribute to increased virulence and a broader host range.

Virion core protein (LSUV9): This protein is crucial for viral assembly and infection. Mutations can affect viral assembly and infectivity.

RNA polymerase subunit 2 (LSUV935): This protein is essential for viral replication, and mutations could alter the virus's ability to proliferate.

Three GBRC techs transferred to private firms for wider application

Parth Shastri
@timessindia.com

Ahmedabad: State government-funded Gujarat Biotechnology Research Centre (GBRC) recently carried out technology transfer of three cutting-edge projects to private sector firms for wider application.

Two of the technologies developed at GBRC aimed at identifying hereditary breast and ovarian cancer (HBOC) and muscular dys-

rophies (MDs), where one was to advance a probiotic formulation for treating endometriosis in women. Both agreements were signed with Ahmedabad-based firms, said officials.

A senior GBRC official said that several of the breast and ovarian cancer cases are hereditary in nature, and screening through



nodes such as the BRCA gene test is now gaining traction.

"The case of Hollywood actor Angelina Jolie is a famous one. The panel developed at GBRC is unique in the sense that it is the first such work based on the western Indian population. It can work as an effective screening tool to identify cases

Expertise in genetic testing is progressing rapidly, and the muscular dystrophy panel is no exception. The panel developed at GBRC is unique in the sense that it is the first such work based on the western Indian population. It can work as an effective screening tool to identify cases

**IAR युनिवर्सिटी तथा GBRC वर्ये
आयोटेक्नोलोजी रिसर्च क्षेत्रे MOU कराया**



ગાંધીનગર,તા.પં.	કરવામાં આવ્યું. સહર	MOU	માર્ચે૨૦૨૧,૦૧. વૈતપ્ય સેરી, ડૉ.
બુજરાત રાજ્ય સ્થિત	અંતર્ગત બંને સંસ્થાઓ જોઈન		માધવી સેરી, ડૉ. ભરત પટેલ, ડૉ.
બાપોદેકનોલોજી દિરાયે જોડે	રિસર્ચ અન્વેષે એડવાન્સ		જીવી જીવિ, IPAR બુનિસીટી
પ્રતિષ્ઠિત સંસ્થાઓ	ટેક્સનોલોજીના માધ્યમથી શુભન		તરફથી પો વોર્ડન વાન્સેઢર
બુનિસીટી, ગાંધીનગર	લેવા સંપર્કિત સંસ્થાઓ કરવામાં		જીવેડેયર પી સી વ્યાસ, ડૉ.
બુજરાત બાપોદેકનોલોજી દિરાયે	આવશે જેનો સીપી લાભગાપ		મંદીપ પદમાર, પ્રોફેસર આનંદ
નંદર (GBRC) વચ્ચે	ને મળશે. સહર	MOU ને	તિવારી, ડૉ. ઉર્મિત કુમાર તાલે
બાપોદેકનોલોજી દિરાયે અન્વેષે	જિપિમાં	GBRC	તરફથી નેડેસક કુમાર તાલે હાથ.

Dr. Ishan Raval was invited as expert for the special discussion on the topic of “Micro RNA: discovery and research” at DD News Gujarati and DD GIRNAR broadcast on October 15th at 3:30 pm.

5 TECHNOLOGIES TRANSFERED

Inventa systems, Ahmedabad, Gujarat

- Amplicon Panels For Hereditary Breast & Ovarian Cancer Detection
- Amplicon Panels For Muscular Dys



prompt[®]
The pursuit of purity

**Prompt Equipment's Pvt. Ltd.,
Ahmedabad, Gujarat**

- **Probiotic formulation to treat Endometritis in bovines**



**Shree Ramkrishna Trust, Kutch,
Gujarat**

- **PCR Based Sex Determination in Date Palm**



Biolaxi Enzymes Pvt. Ltd,
Thane, Maharashtra

- **Serratiopeptidase Overproduction**



RECENT PUBLICATIONS

ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE IN PLANT ENDOPHYTES ASSOCIATED WITH POULTRY-MANURE APPLICATION REVEALED BY SELECTIVE CULTURE AND WHOLE GENOME SEQUENCING

Authors: Animesh Tripathi, Anjali Jaiswal, Dinesh Kumar, Priyank Chavda, Ramesh Pandit, Madhvi Joshi, Damer P. Blake, Fiona M. Tomley, Chaitanya G. Joshi, Suresh Kumar Dubey

Journal: Journal of Hazardous Materials (Volume 480, 136166)

Impact factor: 12.2

Persistent high-level use of antibiotics in poultry production has raised concerns about the selection for reservoirs of antimicrobial resistance genes (ARGs). Previous studies have shown that the addition of poultry manure can increase the abundance of genes associated with microbial resistance to various antibiotics. Here, the authors tested the hypothesis that environmental exposure to poultry manure increases the occurrence of antimicrobial resistance (AMR) in plant endophytes using selective culture, phenotypic. Endophytes from poultry manure treated *Sorghum bicolor* (L.) Moench plant root and stem samples showed increased phenotypic and genotypic resistance against multiple antibiotics compared to untreated controls. Comparison of AMR phenotype-to-genotype relationships highlighted the detection of multi-drug resistant (MDR) plant endophytes, demonstrating the value of genomic surveillance for emerging drug-resistant pathogens. The increased occurrence of ARGs in poultry manure-exposed endophytes highlights the need for responsible antibiotic use in poultry and animal farming to reduce contamination of ecological niches and transgression into endophytic plant microbiome compartments. It also emphasizes the requirement for proper manure management practices and vigilance in monitoring and surveillance efforts to tackle the growing problem of antibiotic resistance and preserve the efficacy of antibiotics for human and veterinary medicine.

UNTARGETED METABOLOMICS UNRAVEL THE PHARMACEUTICAL POTENTIAL OF CALLUS CULTURE OF *COMMIPHORA WIGHTII*

Authors: Sahil Kapoor, Poonam Patel, Jaina Patel, Ishan Raval, Amrutlal Patel, Chaitanya Joshi, Madhvi Joshi, Fenil Patel

Journal: Industrial Crops & Products (Volume 222, 119904)

Impact factor: 5.6

In this study pharmaceutical potential and bioactive properties of *Commiphora wightii* (Arnott) Bhandari callus culture and leaf extract were explored by GC-MS based untargeted metabolomics. The leaf-derived callus culture was established. A total of 55 metabolites were identified in different callus extract including pharmaceutically important phenylpropanes (1,3-ditert-butylbenzene, 2,4-ditert-butylphenol (DTBP)), diterpenoids (2,6,10,14-tetramethylheptadecane) and sesquiterpenoids (3,7,11-trimethyldodecan-1-ol, 2,6,10,15-tetramethylheptadecane). Results revealed that 1-(4-bromobutyl) piperidin-2-one (PNBB) and DTBP were significantly up-regulated in callus as compared with a leaf. The callus has 2-fold higher concentration of Total phenolic content (TPC) ($115.30 \pm 4.7 \mu\text{g}/\text{mg DW}$) and Total flavonoid content (TFC) ($178.25 \pm 10.9 \mu\text{g}/\text{mg DW}$) as compared with a leaf ($p \leq 0.05$). The callus extract exhibited strong DPPH scavenging activity (IC₅₀: 0.11 mg/mL, EC₅₀: 1.49 mg/mL, ARP: 67.11) in comparison to leaf extract ($p \leq 0.05$). Molecular docking and molecular dynamic simulation analysis revealed that PNBB ligand has the highest binding affinity with the ER α receptor. The metabolites identified in different callus extracts have diverse pharmacological activities including antimicrobial, anti-inflammatory, anticancer, and antiviral activity. Overall, the results suggest that callus cultures of *C. wightii* can be used as an attractive alternative source of biologically active metabolites with potential implications in pharmaceutical industries.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

SPATIAL DISTRIBUTION OF POULTRY FARMS USING POINT PATTERN MODELLING: A METHOD TO ADDRESS LIVESTOCK ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS AND DISEASE TRANSMISSION RISKS

Authors: Marie-Cécile Dupas, Francesco Pinotti, Chaitanya Joshi, Madhvi Joshi, Damer Blake, Fiona Tomley, Marius Gilbert, Guillaume Fournié

Journal: PLOS Computational Biology (Volume 20(10), 1011980)

Impact factor: 3.8

The distribution of farm locations and sizes is paramount to characterize patterns of disease spread. With some regions undergoing rapid intensification of livestock production, resulting in increased clustering of farms in peri-urban areas, measuring changes in the spatial distribution of farms is crucial to design effective interventions. However, those data are not available in many countries, their generation being resource-intensive. Here, we develop a farm distribution model (FDM), which allows the prediction of locations and sizes of poultry farms in countries with scarce data. The model combines (i) a Log-Gaussian Cox process model to simulate the farm distribution as a spatial Poisson point process, and (ii) a random forest model to simulate farm sizes (i.e. the number of animals per farm). Spatial predictors were used to calibrate the FDM on intensive broiler and layer farm distributions in Bangladesh, Gujarat (Indian state) and Thailand. The FDM yielded realistic farm distributions in terms of spatial clustering, farm locations and sizes, while providing insights on the factors influencing these distributions. Finally, we illustrate the relevance of modelling realistic farm distributions in the context of epidemic spread by simulating pathogen transmission on an array of spatial distributions of farms. We found that farm distributions generated from the FDM yielded spreading patterns consistent with simulations using observed data, while random point patterns underestimated the probability of large outbreaks. Indeed, spatial clustering increases vulnerability to epidemics, highlighting the need to account for it in epidemiological modelling studies. As the FDM maintains a realistic distribution of farm location and sizes, its use to inform mathematical models of disease transmission is particularly relevant for regions where these data are not available.

INTEGRATING AZO DYE DEGRADATION AND LIPID ACCUMULATION BY *CANDIDA TROPICALIS* AND *PICHIA KUDRIAVZEVII* ALONG WITH INSIGHTS INTO UNDERLYING METABOLOMICS FOR TREATMENT OF TEXTILE EFFLUENTS

Authors: Sadik Dantoliya, Pooja Doshi, Ishan Raval, Chaitanya Joshi, Madhvi Joshi

Journal: Biochemical Engineering Journal (Volume 212, 109521)

Impact factor: 3.7

Traditional method for azo dye removal often result in harmful by products complicating disposal efforts. This study explores the potential of two yeast strains, *Candida tropicalis* and *Pichia kudriavzevii*, to effectively decolorize azo dyes (TD4, TD5, and TD6) while simultaneously accumulating lipids. The cultures achieved 80–90 % decolorization of the selected dyes during incubation, with *Pichia* showing higher efficiency across multiple dyes compared to *Candida*. Lipid profiling identified valuable fatty acids, such as palmitic acid and oleic acid, with potential applications in biofuels and other industries. Total Organic Carbon (TOC) analysis revealed a reduction in TOC, indicating degradation and mineralization of the dyes by the yeasts. Metabolic profiling via LC-MS confirmed the degradation, showing the presence of intermediates such as azoles, azolines, isoquinolines, pyridines, and benzopyrans in dye-supplemented cultures. Additionally, pathways related to energy metabolism, amino acid metabolism, drug metabolism (cytochrome P450), degradation of aromatic compounds, and steroid biosynthesis were enriched in the dye-treated cultures. The study thus demonstrates a proof of concept for economically viable lipid production combined with efficient dye removal beneficial to industry and environment.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

EFFECT OF HEARTFULNESS MEDITATION ON MENTAL WELL-BEING, BIOMARKERS AND GENE EXPRESSION: A RANDOMIZED CONTROLLED TRIAL

Authors: Jayaram Thimmapuram, Kamlesh Patel, Deepti Bhatt, Ajay Chauhan, Divya Madhusudan, Kashyap Bhatt, Snehal Deshpande, Urvi Budhbhatti, Chaitanya Joshi

Journal: JMIR Bioinformatics and Biotechnology (Volume 5, e65506)

Impact factor: 2.9

Health care students often experience high levels of stress, anxiety, and mental health issues, making it crucial to address these challenges. Variations in stress levels may be associated with changes in dehydroepiandrosterone sulfate (DHEA-S) levels, interleukin-6 (IL-6), and gene expression. Meditative practices have demonstrated effectiveness in reducing stress and improving mental well-being. The enrolled participants were randomized to the Heartfulness meditation and control groups and completed a Perceived Stress Scale (PSS) and Depression Anxiety Stress Scale (DASS-21) at baseline and after week 12. A total of 78 participants enrolled in the study with 42 randomized to the Heartfulness group and 36 to the control group. Heartfulness group exhibited a significant reduction in PSS score compared to a nonsignificant reduction in the control group. The DASS scores also decreased significantly by 27.14% in the Heartfulness group while it increased by 17% in the control group without significance. For the DASS subcomponents—Heartfulness group saw statistically significant reduction in anxiety by 28.53%, 27.38% reduction in stress versus an insignificant increase in anxiety by 22% and stress by 6%. Further, DHEA-S levels showed a significant 20.27% increase in the Heartfulness group compared to an insignificant 9% increase in the control group. IL-6 levels showed a statistically significant difference in both the groups. Notably, group comparison at 12 weeks revealed a significant difference in perceived stress, DASS, and its subcomponents, as well as IL-6. The gene expression profile with mRNA sequencing identified a total of 875 genes to be upregulated, 1539 genes downregulated in the Heartfulness group compared to baseline, and 292 genes were found to be upregulated and 1180 downregulated in the post-Heartfulness group compared to the postcontrol group. Heartfulness practice was associated with decreased depression, anxiety, and stress scores and improved health measures in DHEA-S and IL-6 levels. The gene expression data point toward possible mechanisms of alleviation of symptoms of stress and depression.

IN VITRO AND PLANT-BASED LC-MS/MS ASSESSMENT OF GUGGULSTERONE E AND Z IN *COMMIPHORA WIGHTII* (ARNOTT.) BHANDARI: A SUSTAINABLE SOURCE OF PHYTOSTEROIDS AND ANTIOXIDANTS

Authors: Fenil Patel, Vartika Srivastava, Sahil Kapoor, Chaitanya Joshi, Madhvi Joshi, Amrutlal Patel

Journal: Applied Food Research (Volume 4, 100643)

Impact factor: 4.5

Commiphora wightii, a medicinal plant native to India, is renowned for its therapeutic properties, primarily due to the presence of the phytosteroids guggulsterone E (G-E) and guggulsterone Z (G-Z). However, excessive extraction of these compounds from the oleo-gum resin has placed the plant in the endangered category. This study explores plant cell culture techniques to generate *in vitro* callus cultures as an alternative source of these valuable phytosteroids. The highest biomass yield (4.84 g/50 ml FW and 0.193 g/50 ml DW) was obtained using Gamborg's B5 medium, supplemented with 2 mg/L 2, -D and 0.5 mg/L kinetin. UPLC-ESI-Q-TOF-MS analysis confirmed the presence of G-E and G-Z in both the callus and oleo-gum resin, with characteristic parent and product ion peaks. Quantitative analysis revealed G-E and G-Z levels in callus at 28.90 ± 2.4 µg/g and 92.85 ± 7.7 µg/g, significantly lower than in the resin. However, callus exhibited higher antioxidant properties, including 2.35-fold increased flavonoid content, 1.60-fold higher phenolic content, and a 4.86-fold rise in ascorbic acid. These findings suggest that *C. wightii* callus cultures offer a promising alternative for guggulsterone production and antioxidant therapy.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

ISOLATION, EXPRESSION, AND CHARACTERIZATION OF POTATO (*SOLANUM TUBEROSUM*) GH FAMILY 17 B-1,3-GLUCANASE (STGLU) FOR EXPLORING ITS POTENTIAL AS AN ANTIFUNGAL AGENT

Authors: Mansi Jani, Komal K. Sapara, Darshan Dharajiya, Amrutlal K. Patel, Chaitanya Joshi

Journal: Protein Expression and Purification (Volume 228, 106658)

Impact factor: 1.4

Plant glucanases, including potato glucanase, are pivotal in biological processes such as cell growth, development, and defense against pathogens. These enzymes hold substantial promises in biotechnological applications, especially genetic engineering for enhancing crop disease resistance and stress tolerance. In this study, from *Solanum tuberosum*, glycosyl hydrolases family 17 (GH-17) β -1,3-glucanase (Stglu) was cloned, expressed, characterized and its antifungal activity was evaluated. The gene was isolated from infected potato plants and cloned into the pDrive and subsequently into the pET32a (+) protein expression vector. Sequence analysis revealed a 1044 bp open reading frame encoding a 347 amino acid protein with an anticipated molecular weight of 38 kDa and a signature motif (-IEIIVSESGWPSEG-) of the GH-17 family. The recombinant β -1,3 glucanase (Stglu) protein was expressed in *E. coli* Rosetta-gami 2 (DE3) cells. After recovery from inclusion bodies using urea buffer solubilization and refolding by dialysis, expression of Stglu protein was confirmed by Western blot analysis using an anti-His antibody. Enzymatic assays were performed to characterize β -1,3-glucanase activity which showed its maximum activity at pH 7.0 and 37°C. Plate assays for substrate specificity showed that the enzyme hydrolyzed azo-barley β -glucan and laminarin. The metal ions strongly affected the enzyme's activity; Ca²⁺ acted as a weak activator. Plate assays further indicated the antifungal activity of Stglu against the plant pathogen *Fusarium solani*, showing a biotechnological potential tool in controlling fungal pathogenicity in crop plants.

UNDERSTANDING CARDIOMETABOLIC DISEASES THROUGH TRANSCRIPTOMIC APPROACH

Authors: Kashish Gupta, Apurvasinh Puvar, Madhvi Joshi, Chaitanya Joshi, Niraj Kumar Singh

Book: Biochemical Mechanisms for Metabolic Syndrome

Publisher: Springer Nature, **Editors:** Gandhi, T., Mehta, A.

Transcriptomics, focusing on ribonucleic acid (RNA) molecules in cells, provides insights into gene expression's molecular mechanisms, aiding in disease understanding, functional genomics, and response to stimuli. Technologies like RNA-sequencing (RNA-seq) revolutionize transcriptome analysis, enabling deep exploration of non-coding RNA and gene expression dynamics, shaping medical, environmental, and developmental research. Primarily through RNA-seq, transcriptomics has transformed gene expression research, enabling advancements like single-cell investigations and long-read sequencing. Integrating transcriptomics with other omics data unveils regulatory networks and functional relationships, elucidating disease mechanisms and biological processes. Cardiometabolic diseases, including cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, kidney disease, and liver disease, are preventable conditions whose molecular underpinnings are elucidated by transcriptomics, identifying biomarkers, clarifying gene-environment interactions, and guiding personalized treatments. Transcriptomics is pivotal in understanding and managing cardiometabolic diseases, offering insights into biomarkers, treatment targets, and disease mechanisms. Challenges include integration with other omics techniques, tissue-specific gene expression detection, sample heterogeneity, and limited validation of non-coding RNA biomarkers. Nonetheless, transcriptomics provides insights into disease mechanisms and therapies. Future perspectives include multi-omics integration, single-cell analysis, and personalized medicine, enhancing understanding and treatment strategy.

OUTREACH, COLLABORATION, AND KNOWLEDGE DISSEMINATION

INVITED TALKS DELIVERED BY GBRC TEAM

- Dr. Amrutlal Patel, Scientist-D & Joint Director attended one-day workshop on 'Advancing research collaborations to tackle AMR at the livestock, environment and human interface' at ICAR-NIVEDI, Bengaluru on November 25th, 2024 and delivered talk on "Network program on AMR, superbugs and One health".
- Dr. Niraj Kumar Singh, Scientist-D & Joint Director attended one-day workshop on "Monitoring of antimicrobial resistance in the environment" at ICMR-NIOH on November 22nd, 2024 and delivered an expert talk as part of the celebrations for World Antimicrobial Awareness Week.
- Dr. Madhvi Joshi, Scientist-D & Joint Director attended as a panelist in a session "From sewage to strategy: Role of wastewater surveillance in pathogen and AMR surveillance" as a part of 47th Annual Congress of the Indian Association of Medical Microbiologists (MICROCON-2024) at Pune on November 23rd, 2024.
- Dr. Madhvi Joshi, Scientist-D & Joint Director delivered an lecture on 'Environmental surveillance as a potential tool to complement public health' in 15th National Level Science Symposium at Christ College, Rajkot, on December 15th, 2024.



MOU's

OCTOBER 23RD, 2024

With Gujarat Veterinary Research & Diagnostic Center (GVRDC), Ahmedabad



With Sardar Patel University, Vallabh Vidyanagar, Anand

DECEMBER 4TH, 2024

With Institute of Advanced Research- The University for Innovation, Gandhinagar



SEMINAR ORGANIZED



GBRC hosted a lecture by Dr. Shekhar Mande (Ex DG, CSIR; President, Vigyan Bharti) on October 18th, 2024 at IIT, Gandhinagar. The topic of the talk was "Indigenous Technologies for Viksit Bharat".

PAPER PRESENTED

INDIA INTERNATIONAL SCIENCE FESTIVAL 2024 (IISF2024)

The India International Science Festival (IISF), organized by the Ministry of Science and Technology, Ministry of Earth Sciences, and Vijnana Bharati, aims to celebrate science and engage the public in a joyful manner. By fostering collaboration between the public and the scientific community, IISF promotes scientific exploration for the well-being of India and humanity through innovative programs and activities. The event was held on November 30th - December 3rd, 2024 at IIT, Guwahati. Scientist and fellows from the GBRC has attended the event participated and presented their research work in an oral presentation at the event. Dr. Apurvasinh Puvar, delivered a talk on "Metabolomic profiling in rheumatoid arthritis: Identification of Key Biomarkers and Pathways through LC-MS Analysis". Dr. Ishan Raval, delivered talk on "Uncovering biomarkers in oral squamous cell carcinoma through differential gene expression analysis" and Dr. Ramesh Pandit, presented on "A comprehensive analysis of gastrointestinal bacteriome of sheep (*Ovis aries*) using 16S amplicon analysis"



Dr. Apurvasinh Puvar and Dr. Ishan Raval presenting the paper in the summit

TRIALOGUE DAYS CONFERENCE



Dr. Madhvi Joshi presenting the work in the conference

Dr. Madhvi Joshi attended the Trialogue Days conference at IISC Bengaluru between December 1st - 3rd, 2024 organized by Swiss Embassy in India. This event facilitated interdisciplinary dialogue among government representatives, non-profit organizations, media, and civil society, focusing on planetary health from diverse perspectives. She presented the work on "One Health approach for planetary health: case studies from GBRC".

ACHIEVEMENTS



GBRC granted a process patent on inventing the process preparation of 7-azaindol hybrids as potential antitumor agents

CAPACITY BUILDING

TRAINING ON ENVIRONMENTAL SURVEILLANCE OF LUMPY SKIN DISEASE VIRUS (LSDV)

A training program was conducted at the ICAR - National Institute of Veterinary Epidemiology and Disease Informatics (NIVEDI), Bangalore, aimed at developing protocols for environmental surveillance of Lumpy skin disease virus (LSDV). The program was organized in collaboration with the CSIR-NCL, Pune, and the NCBS, Pune a part of the Tata Institute of Atomic Energy, Government of India. GBRC scientist and fellows have been invited as the participants.



TRAINING ON ENVIRONMENTAL SURVEILLANCE OF FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE VIRUS (FMDV)

In collaboration with NIFMD, NCL-Pune, NCBS-Bengaluru, PKCF-Pune, and CCMB-Hyderabad, a training program was conducted at ICAR - National Institute of Foot and Mouth Disease (NIFMD), Bhubaneshwar, Odisha, to develop protocols for environmental surveillance of FMDV during December 16th-19th, 2024. Dr. Ramesh Pandit, Scientist-B at GBRC, participated in this training program.



PRABODH

GBRC is conducting "PRABODH" (Promoting Research Awareness in Biotechnology for Development of Human Resource) to accelerate the research work and to develop research-oriented thought processes in staff.

OCTOBER-2024

INVITED GUEST



Shri Hasmukh Patel,
IPS, DGP, Managing Director- The Gujarat Police Housing Corporation
Limited, Chairman- Gujarat Police Recruitment Board, and Gujarat
Panchayat Service Selection Board (GPSSB)

Topic: Life: A journey of learning

PRESENTATION FROM GBRC MEMBER



Ms. Dhara Raval

JRF

Article: Reverse Complement PCR: A novel one step PCR system for typing highly degraded DNA for human identification

Journal Name: Forensic Science International: Genetics

Impact Factor: 3.8

NOVEMBER-2024

INVITED GUEST



Dr. (Prof) K. Parameswaran,
Professor of Law, Gujarat National Law
University, Gandhinagar

Topic: New approaches to research: Integrating spiritual, psychological & ethical perspectives for peace, order, justice & wholistic society

PRESENTATION FROM GBRC MEMBER



Mr. Nimesh Patel

TA

Article: SSEmb: A joint embedding of protein sequence and structure enables robust variant effect predictions

Journal Name: Nature Communication

Impact Factor: 14.7

PRABODH

PRESENTATION FROM GBRC MEMBER



Dr. Karthik Kumar Gajjar

RA

Article: Development of nutritious rice with high zinc/ selenium and low cadmium in grains through QTL pyramiding

Journal Name: Journal of Integrative Plant Biology

Impact Factor: 13.2

DECEMBER-2024

INVITED GUEST



Dr. Sreedhar Chinnaswamy

Scientist-G

BRIC- NIAB, Hyderabad

Topic: Genetics of the Human Interferon Lambda Locus: examples for confounding and effect modification

PRESENTATION FROM GBRC MEMBER



Mr. Krutarth Raval

SRF

Article: Why flying insects gather at artificial light

Journal Name: Nature Communication

Impact Factor: 14.8

ARRIVAL & DEPARTURE

GBRC welcome to the new members

Dr. Anil Pandey	Mr. Akhil
Dr. Debashrita Mittra	Ms. Shivangi Parmar
Ms. Zarna Patel	Ms. Aakanksha Shukla
Dr. Harsh Mistry	Ms. Devarshi Raval
Ms. Gemini Gajera	Ms. Harsha Poddar
Dr. Manoj Sharma	Ms. Himanshi Katariya
Ms. Sharlet Parmar	Mr. Parth Pandit
Ms. Priya Ladani	Mr. Kunjan Panchal
Mr. Parth Parekh	Mr. Harshal Purohit
Dr. Jagrutiben Mahla	

GBRC wishes best for the future of the bright minds who had left GBRC

Dr. Anupam Kumari
Ms. Diksha Borade
Ms. Tanvi Bhatt
Mr. Suhas Karle
Ms. Janki Pandya
Mr. Kunj Bhatt
Ms. Urmi Vyas
Ms. Dhara Raval
Mr. B Vigneshwaran
Ms. Pratiksha Sevra
Dr. Bablu Prasad

STAFF WELFARE CLUB ACTIVITIES

The main objective of the Staff Welfare Club is to establish, promote, subsidize, encourage, provide, maintain, organize, undertake, manage, equip, develop, recondition, operate, conduct and run activities such as music, dance, sports, social welfare, carry out scientific and technical, other than political activities.

OCTOBER-2024

BEST MONTHLY PRESENTATION AWARD



Dr. Anitaba Chauhan
RA

AWARD FOR BEST QUESTION IN PRABODH



Ms. Laliteshwari Bhardwaj
PA

EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH AWARD



Mr. Nitin Shukla
SRF



BEST CUBICLE AWARD

Pathogen Lab In charges

Dr. Satyamitra, Scientist
Ms. Rajvi Der, JRF
Mrs. Laliteshwari Bhardwaj,
PA



BEST MONTHLY PRESENTATION AWARD



Dr. Kartikkumar Gajjar
RA

AWARD FOR BEST QUESTION IN PRABODH



Ms. Nandini Vasa
JRF

EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH AWARD



Mr. Gauravkumar Rana
JRF



BEST CUBICLE AWARD

NGS Lab In charges

Dr. Ramesh Pandit, Scientist
Dr. Sonal Sharma, Scientist
Mr. Priyank Chavda, TA
Ms. Jinal Thakor, RA



STAFF WELFARE CLUB ACTIVITIES

DECEMBER-2024

BEST MONTHLY PRESENTATION AWARD



Ms. Kashish Gupta
JRF

AWARD FOR BEST QUESTION IN PRABODH



Ms. Bhavika Sisodia
JRF

EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH AWARD



Mr. Nitin Shukla
SRF

BEST CUBICLE AWARD

PCR Lab In charges

Dr. Pritesh Sabara, Scientist
Ms. Meha Bhatt, SRF
Ms. Aerika Patel, JRF



MONTHLY EVALUATION ACTIVITY

GBRC has internal evaluation system of the project progress where all the fellows present their work for the month and their performances are also evaluated in front of external expert.

OCTOBER-2024



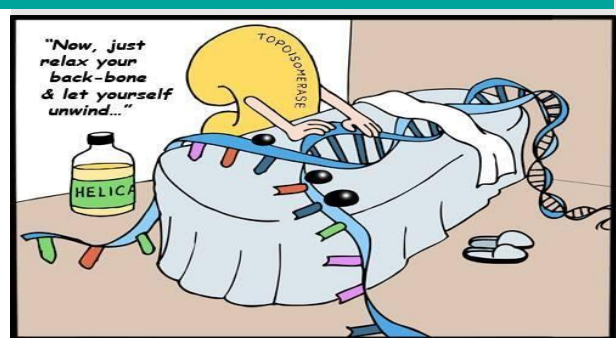
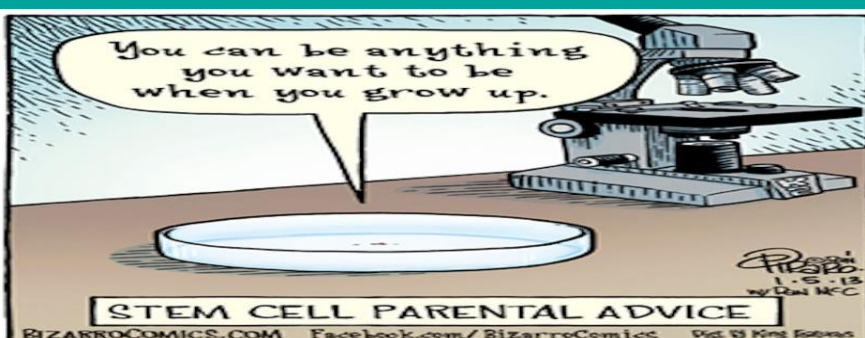
Prof. Suresh Balakrishnan,
Head of the Department, Department of
Zoology, The Maharaja Sayajirao
University of Baroda

NOVEMBER-2024



Dr. Neelam Kungwani
Assistant Professor,
Gujarat Biotechnology University,
Gandhinagar

LIGHTER NOTE



VISIT BY DIGNITARIES AND TESTIMONIALS

Today on the occasion of roll-out of two-weeks training at GBRC. I wish great luck to all students who are attending this training at a pious place of GBRC. Today I saw numerous instruments being used at GBRC which seems to be at a best level and are utilized for upliftment of Science and its Applications.



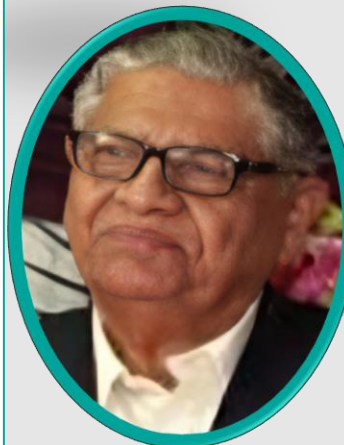
Dr. Gaurav Dahiya
Addl. Development Commissioner,
Government of Gujarat, Gandhinagar

Dr. Atya Kapley
Chief Scientist, CSIR-National
Environmental Engineering Research
Institute, (NEERI), Nagpur



Amazing infrastructure and great projects. What was most satisfying is all equipment is functioning and in use. The server room is great. Bioinformatic support is always the bottleneck at most institutes working with NGS but this work at GBRC is also extraordinary. The only suggestion I can make is to add some environmental projects too. Wonderful work & wonderful team. Thank you Dr. Niraj for the detailed tour.

I feel very lucky to visit GBRC, Gandhinagar to day and attend the revalidation session of the trainers very nice to see well equipped lab's and the working attitude of all faculty members. Congratulations to Director Dr. Joshi sir and all faculty members.



Dr. K. G. Mehta
Secretary and Former President,
Gujarat Association for Agricultural
Sciences (GAAS), Ahmedabad

Prof. Bruce Whitelaw
Director,
The Roslin Institute, Royal (Dick) School
of Veterinary Studies,
The University of Edinburgh



VERY IMPRESSIVE, WITH DIVERSITY
OF CAPABILITY, HUGE IMPRESSIVE
CONNECTIONS AND COMMUNITY

VISIT BY DIGNITARIES AND TESTIMONIALS

Excellent facility, impressed
by the motivation of staff of GORE
& their Commitment for the
advancement of Knowledge &
Skill upgradation.
Best wishes



Dr. R. Dixit
Addl. Director,
Medical Education Services, Govt. of
Gujarat

Prof. Riaz A Shah
Head of Department,
Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural
Sciences and Technology of Kashmir
(SKUAST-K)



Amazed to see the facilities
and services offered to
researchers under one-roof.
Excellent staff and well
managed work flow. Best wishes
for the future endeavors

Impressed to see the
high end facilities &
state of art infra with
dedicated Research culture
in GORE.



Dr. Ramesh Pradhan
Prof. and HOD,
GCS Medical College,
Ahmedabad

Dr. Shilpa Jain
Professor,
AIIMS Bathinda,
Punjab



Very good, state of art
facilities and very good
work going on. The faculty
is very supportive and
explaining elaborately.
Best wishes.

VISIT BY DIGNITARIES AND TESTIMONIALS

- Excellent lab facilities
- Research activities related to Bioinformatics
- Looking forward for joint research collaboration.
- *excellent*



Prof. Dharmendra Singh
Director,
IIIT Vadodara,

Shri Sandeep Kumar, IAS
Director,
IIIT Vadodara,
Punjab



I had the opportunity to understand various activities of GBRC, the lab and the equipments research activities they are involved. Overall it's an excellent facility with dedicated & inspired manpower. It's been a great learning experience.

It was mesmerizing experience to visit GBRC and closely understand the facilities available in this centre. The centre is doing exemplary work in the field of Bioinformatics & Genomics. Equipment sharing model is unique and need huge appreciation.

Best wishes for more contribution for development of society centred biotech research.

30/12/24



Prof. (Dr.) S. P. Singh
Director General,
Kaushalya- The Skill University,
Ahmedabad

Shri Ramesh Joshi
IAS (Retd.)



એડ એમ્સ એમ્સ.
ગેમન ગુમન એવે ટેમિ કીડી
ફિન બેટ્સ યુલેટી ગિયટ દે.
દીનિય એવે ઉદ્દેશી ગિયને ઉલેટીયી
ફિન ફોર રજુકે. ફોર ફોર બાના
ફાઈ રિગ્ગ પાકાંટીન ફુદર
રીન ફોર રજુકે. એલિગેન.

શ્રી રામજી

VISIT BY COLLEGES/ ACADEMIC INSTITUTES



Students and faculty from Department of Biotechnology and Biochemistry, LJ School of Applied Science, Ahmedabad



Students and faculty members from Department of Biosciences, School of Science, Indrashil University, Rajpur, Mehsana



Students and faculty members from Government Akhandanand Ayurveda College, Ahmedabad

VISIT BY COLLEGES/ ACADEMIC INSTITUTES



Students and faculty members from Department of Biotechnology, U. V. Patel college of Engineering, Ganpat University, Ganpat Vidhyanagar, Mahesana



Students and faculty members from S.P.T. Arts & Science College, Shri Govind Guru University, Godhra



Students and faculty members from Aspee Shakilam Biotechnology Institute, Navsari Agricultural University, Surat

UPCOMING TRAININGS

2 Weeks Hands-on Training Program on
ENVIRONMENTAL SURVEILLANCE USING MOLECULAR METHODS
 As a part of
KAUSHALYA
 (Knowledge Advancement Ushering Skills on High-end Applied Lifetechnology for Aspirants)
10th February to 21st February 2025
9.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m.
 (Learning hours-99)
 Jointly organized by
Gujarat Biotechnology Research Centre (GBRC),
CSIR-National Chemical Laboratory (NCL), Pune
 &
AI & Robotics Technology Park (ARTPARK), IISc, Bengaluru

Training Highlights

- Fundamentals of Environmental Surveillance
- Sample Processing and Nucleic acid Extraction
- Molecular Detection Methods (qPCR and Digital PCR)
- Total Virome Analysis through Next Generation Sequencing
- Wastewater AMR analysis
- Bioinformatics Analysis
- Disease Modeling for Environmental Surveillance

Training Fees

Student	- Rs. 4,000
Faculty	- Rs. 6,000
Industry	- Rs. 8,000
International	- Rs. 10,000

15 seats only!
 Last date:
30th January 2025

Minimum eligibility: Postgraduate degree
 Interested individuals have to fill the online application form using the following link
<https://io.gbrc.res.in/env>

Note: 1) Accommodation at concessional rate will be provided to selected participants.
 2) TA/DA will not be provided.

Training Coordinators: Dr. Niraj Kumar Singh (Joint Director, GBRC) | Dr. Dhanasekaran Shanmugam (Senior Principal Scientist, NCL) | Dr. Rohit Satish (Director, ARTPARK)

Venue: Gujarat Biotechnology Research Centre, Department of Science & Technology, MS Building, 4th Floor, GH Road, Sector - 11, Gandhinagar, Gujarat 382011
 Phone : 079-33258500
 Email : info-gbrc@gujarat.gov.in
 Website: <https://gbrc.gujarat.gov.in>

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TRANSLATING BRIGHTER FUTURE

Environmental Surveillance using Molecular Methods

NEW FACILITIES



GridION sequencing unit from Oxford Nanopore Technologies



PromethION 2 sequencing unit from Oxford Nanopore Technologies



Know Your Scientist

Har Gobind Khorana

9th January, 1922– 9th November, 2011

He shared the 1968 Nobel Prize for Physiology or Medicine with Marshall W. Nirenberg and Robert W. Holley for research that showed the order of nucleotides in nucleic acids, which carry the genetic code of the cell and control the cell's synthesis of proteins.

Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Har_Gobind_Khorana

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For Shared Lab Facility : <https://gbrc.org.in/>

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Editorial Team:

Dr. Sonal Sharma (Scientist B- GBRC)



GUJARAT BIOTECHNOLOGY RESEARCH CENTRE
DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY
GOVERNMENT OF GUJARAT

ANNOUNCES

Shared LAB

Online System



- NGS Illumina NovaSeq 6000
- NGS Illumina MiSeq
- NGS Ion S5 & S5 Plus
- NGS IonChef
- BD Flow Cytometer & Cell sorter
- Capillary ABI 3500 Sequencer
- PCR + Gel Doc
- Nanodrop, Qubit
- Lyophilizer
- HPLC
- GC-MS (Clarus 680/Clarus SQ8C)
- LC-MS
- Digital PCR
- Real time PCR machine
- HPC Server & Param Shavak Server for Bioinformatics (with CLC Genomics)

GBRC shared lab online booking system:

<https://gbrc.org.in>



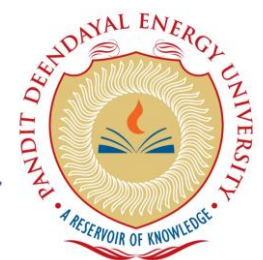
AIIMS
New Delhi



VNSGU
VEER NARMAD
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CONCORD BIOTECH
Biotech for Mankind...



NAVRACHANA
UNIVERSITY

