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MESSAGE

Biotechnology, one of the three defining technologies, has made significant advances in recent years and emerged as a frontline area of research and development, with an overwhelming impact on the society. Each new achievement is expanding its horizons. The human genome project has opened new frontiers in medical fields with application in immensely related gene therapy; more than 100 new breakthrough biopharmaceuticals, vaccines and new technologies have helped millions of people worldwide.

In India also, rapid developments are taking place in the field of biotechnology. However, to be globally competitive in this field, it is important to keep pace with global innovations and standards. At the same time, issues pertaining to ethical guidelines, patents, societal concerns need to be addressed and resolved.

Just as IT was referred to as 'India's Tomorrow' by our Hon'ble Prime Minister, BT may indeed become 'Bharat's Tomorrow'. I, therefore, appreciate the efforts of NISCOM to bring out a new, quarterly journal, the Indian Journal of Biotechnology, at a very appropriate time to disseminate information in the area of biotechnology and provide a platform for scientists and researchers to publish their findings.

I congratulate the Director and his team at NISCOM for this initiative and wish them all success in their endeavour.

(R A Mashelkar)