

## Cell Repository

NCCS has been operating as the National Cell Repository in India, facilitating the expansion, cryopreservation, and distribution of cell lines to researchers across academia, government, private research institutions, and industry. In the 2025-26 fiscal year, we provided 4,074 cell cultures to 2,410 users from 612 organizations nationwide. Additionally, we have supplied 147 cell cultures to scientists at NCCS. We have also distributed 225 litres of various cell culture media to in-house researchers during this period. Our services include cell line authentication using Short Tandem Repeat (STR) analysis and Mycoplasma testing, available to both internal and external scientists. We have actively encouraged scientists from NCCS and other institutions to deposit their newly developed or modified cell lines into our repository. During the reporting period, two cell lines were received from NCCS scientists for secure storage. A cell line deposited by NBRC, Manesar was provided under MTA to eight researchers across India. Efforts are underway to establish primary cells/cell lines from human normal/cancer tissues.

We conducted two National hands-on training workshops on "Basic Cell Culture Technology." The workshop covered crucial cell culture practices, including maintenance, expansion, cryopreservation, revival, and other specialized techniques. The workshop trained early-career researchers, including PhD students, young faculty, and technical staff from academic and non-academic institutions across the country. Twenty-two individuals (15 PhD scholars, 2 faculty members, and 5 technical staff) from 21 below-mentioned institutions were selected to participate in the training organized from May 19 -22, 2025.

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| JSS Academy of Higher Education & Research, Bangalore   | Indian Institute of Technology, Tirupati                                       |
| Sarvajanik University, Surat                            | Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan  |
| Symbiosis School of Biological Sciences-SIU, Pune       | ICMR- Regional Medical Research Centre (RMRC), Gorakhpur                       |
| Sardar Patel University, Anand                          | CSIR-Central Electro Chemical Research Institute (CECRI), Alagappapuram        |
| Guru Ghasidas Vishwavidyalaya, Koni, Bilaspur           | Datta Meghe Institute of Higher Education and Research, Sawangi Meghe, Wardha  |
| Modern College of ASC, Ganeshkhind, Pune                | CIIMS-Advanced Research Centre, Nagpur   |
| Indian Institute of Technology, Bhilai                  | University of Madras, Chennai  |
| Gauhati University, Guwahati                            | Mahatma Gandhi Postgraduate Institute of Dental Sciences, Puducherry           |
| Dibrugarh University, Dibrugarh                         | National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER), Raebareli |
| Thapar Institute of Engineering and Technology, Patiala | Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission, Ghaziabad                                     |
| AIPH University, Jagatsinghpur                          |  |

In the training workshop arranged from October 6-9, 2025, twenty-two participants (16 PhD scholars, 2 faculty members, and 4 technical staff) from 21 institutes outlined below were selected for the training.

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| BISHOP Heber College, Tiruchirappalli                                  | Delhi University, Delhi  |
| Kasturba Medical College, Manipal                                      | BLDE University, Vijayapur   |
| Central University of Punjab, Bathinda                                 | Jadavpur University, Kolkata   |
| Mizoram University, Aizawl   | All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Raipur                                  |
| Sri Sathya Sai Institute of Higher Learning, Puttaparthi               | All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) Jammu.                                   |
| Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Guwahati                         | All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Nagpur  |
| CSIR-National Chemical Laboratory, Pune                                | Savitribai Phule Pune University, Pune.  |
| D. Y. Patil University, Kolhapur                                       | Index Medical College Hospital and Research Center, Malwanchal University, Indore        |
| BRIC-NCCS, Pune  | Bureau of Indian Standards, Bangalore  |
| Saveetha Institute of Medical and Technical Sciences (SIMATS), Chennai | Jawaharlal Institute of Postgraduate Medical Education and Research (JIPMER), Puducherry |
| Vidya Pratishthan's Arts, Science and Commerce College, Baramati, Pune |  |

We were also engaged in outreach programs, including the India International Science Festival (IISF 2025) (December 6-9, 2025 at Panchkula). Besides out-reach programs for pre-IISF Open Day on November 13, 2025 and Open day as prelude to National Science Day on February 27, 2026, we hosted visits for diverse group of students from following institutes to Cell Repository.

- University of Petroleum and Energy Studies (UPES), Dehradun [37 participants]
- Fergusson College, Pune [72 participants]

At these events, we highlighted the importance and applications of cell lines in research and provided information about the services offered by Cell Repository.