

Published Date:	Wednesday 25th September, 2019	Publication:	The Times of India [Chennai]
Journalist:	TNN	Page No:	19
MAV/CCM:	258,720/33.6	Circulation:	273,000

Biocon subsidiary acquires Pfizer's R&D facility in Chennai

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Chennai: Biocon's subsidiary Biocon Biologics has acquired a 60,000 square feet Chennai-based Research & Development (R&D) facility and associated assets from Pfizer Healthcare for an undisclosed amount.

Located at Chennai's TICEL Bio Park, Biocon expects the facility to provide "a significant time advantage" over setting up a greenfield R&D project, and accelerate global development of its biosimilars portfolio.

Biocon said the acquisition will allow the company to fast-forward development of biosimilars from lab to pilot scale.

The new facility will house an early-stage research and innovation centre that will house a pilot scale R&D



TO HOUSE 250 SCIENTISTS

unit with cell line development, drug substance process development, drug product formulation labs, and analytical R&D labs, Biocon said in a statement.

Expected to be operational in a few months, the R&D facility will house over 250 scientists and will be equipped with over 500 high-end process and analytical instrumentation.

Biocon Biologics, a fully integrated pure play biosimilars entity, already has a

2,00,000 square feet R&D centre at Biocon Park in Bengaluru. The company counts a product pipeline of 28 molecules, including 11 with Mylan, few with Sandoz and rest on its own.

Set up in 2004, Chennai's TICEL Bio Park is a biotech R&D hub in the city and houses innovation in major domains such as medical biotechnology, nutraceuticals, agricultural biotechnology and bioinformatics and others.

"The high-end integrated R&D facility in Chennai will enable Biocon Biologics to expand its R&D capability and accelerate its journey towards meeting its strategic long-term goal of addressing the needs of millions of patients worldwide," Dr Christiane Hamacher, CEO, Biocon Biologics, said.