

India's Translational Research Initiative (ITRI)

Proposal format for setting-up/augmenting a technology focused translational research centre

ITRI aims to bridge the critical gaps in the translational research by augmenting infrastructure and ecosystem in leading academic and research institutions. Kindly submit a proposal to understand the current capabilities and augmentation requirements of end-use agnostic technology-focused translational research centre. Kindly ensure the proposal covers all the points mentioned below. Feel free to add any relevant information addition to these points.

Basic Information

1. **Institution Name:**
2. **Technology Focus Area:** (for e.g., membranes, ceramics, catalysts, RNA Therapeutics, etc.)
3. **Name of Contact Person:**
4. **Designation:**
5. **Email Address:**
6. **Phone Number:**

Current Institute Level Capabilities and Infrastructure

8. What TRL levels are your current innovations in the technology focus area across the institute and how many innovations in each category as given below?

(Since this centre is aimed at translational work in the technology focus area for the broader ecosystem, add any known information about technology development in other institutes within the country.)

- TRL 1-3 (Basic Research and Conceptual Development)
- TRL 4-6 (Prototype Development and Validation)
- TRL 7-9 (System Testing, Demonstration, and Deployment)

9. Current Infrastructure Capabilities

Please provide a status of existing capabilities including the availability and status of relevant equipment and organizational capabilities (staff strength and role) in the following 4 areas:

- R&D Laboratories
- Testing & Characterization Facilities – Lab Level
- Pilot-Scale Facilities
- Testing & Characterization Facilities – Pilot Level

10. Successful Commercialization Examples

- Please list successful commercialization examples, if any (either via licensing or spinouts), with brief descriptions.

Augmenting / Setting-up a Technology focused Translational Research Centre

11. Vision

- What is the long-term vision for the centre, in terms of number of technologies to be commercialized in mid-to-long term?

12. Research Focus and Thematic Areas

- Provide examples of current TRL 2-3 research activities/technologies within your institute that can be taken to TRL 7-8 with the help of this proposed centre.

- What would be the potential impact on the society if these technologies are commercialized via licensing or spinouts?
- How will the centre facilitate the TRL 3 to TRL 7 journey?
 - Specify key milestones (e.g., prototype development, pilot testing, deployment) and the timeline for scaling technologies from TRL 3 to TRL 7.
- List key emerging technologies in this technology focus area that the centre can help to advance over the next 5–10 years.

13. Infrastructure and Facilities

- What infrastructure is required for the centre? Kindly assume the centre will be built in the phased manner, please provide the below information for such a phased approach: **Phase 1 (must-have)** and **Phase 2 (good-to-have)**.
 - Space required (in sq. ft.)
 - Labs
 - Equipment
 - Computational resources
- Does your institute have required space and building infrastructure for the proposed TRC?

14. Governance

- Will the centre operate as a new entity, or will it be part of an existing institutional framework?
- Please specify the governance mechanism for the selection new projects/technologies that will be taken by the proposed centre, including how the broader ecosystem (like industry) will be part of this.
- Please specify the governance mechanism for the monitoring through the TRL journey including suitable gate transition mechanisms through the TRLs.

15. Collaboration and Network Building

- Who are the key **partners and collaborators**?
 - Indian academic & research institutes
 - Global academic & research institutes
 - Industry collaborations with equipment suppliers that may provide relevant equipment to the proposed centre
 - Industry collaborations who could fund the translational research projects at the centre and potentially license the technologies developed at the centre
 - Industry collaborations with companies buy the products from the spinouts from the proposed centre
 - Engagement with the government funding agencies

16. Training and Capacity Building

- How will the centre support **skill development**?
 - Describe training programs, internships, or fellowships for students, researchers, and professionals.
- What mentoring plans exist for nurturing future researchers?
 - How will the centre create a talent pipeline for the chosen domain?

17. Operational and Financial Model

- What is the proposed staffing and leadership structure?
 - Outline the management team, research teams, and administrative support required.
- Provide **budget estimates**:
 - **Phase 1 (must-have)** and **Phase 2 (good-to-have)** wise breakup of resources required.
 - Detail CapEx and OpEx for 5 years.
- What is the plan for financial sustainability?
 - Discuss strategies for securing ongoing funding (e.g., grants, collaborations, consultancy).
- Are you CSR-compliant and open to receiving CSR funds?
- Do you accept **FCRA funding**, international grants, or contributions from foundations?
- What tax benefits are available for donors (individual and organizational)?

18. Monitoring and Evaluation

- Define up to five key performance indicators (KPIs) such as the number of commercialized technologies, partnerships formed, or societal benefits achieved.
- Provide a 5-year roadmap, listing major milestones and their expected timelines (e.g., pilot testing by Year 2, commercial launch by Year 5).
- What role will **industry partners** play in governance, licensing, spinouts, and project monitoring?

19. Institutional Strengths and Scalability

- What demonstrated institutional strengths make the institute suitable for hosting this centre?
 - Highlight existing expertise, infrastructure, or past achievements.
 - Who are the lead faculty for the proposed centre, and what are their key accomplishments?
- What additional resources does the institute plan to secure?
 - Describe strategies for raising funds or expanding resources for the centre.

20. Intellectual Property Management

- How will the IP & Licensing mechanisms at the institute support this centre for the technology commercialization?
- How will the entrepreneurship cell of the institute support the proposed centre for launching successful spinouts from the proposed centre.
- What is the IP policy of the institute?
 - How IP will be managed if the technology being developed is originated (TRL 2-3)
 1. At your institute
 2. At another academic institute
 3. By the industry where the industry funding the research project