



# KERALA MEDTECH BEAT

## EDITOR'S DESK



Mr. C. Padmakumar Special Officer, Kerala Medical Technology Consortium (KMTC)

**"The usefulness of knowledge is only realised when it is converted into a product"-** The name Kerala brings to mind many images. Temples, churches, mosques: no wonder it's God's Own country. Art and culture: kathakali, theyyam, chakyarkoothu, kalarippayattu, kathaprasangam, poetry, dance, music. Literature: home of great novelists and poets like Kunchan Nambiar, Vallathol, Kumaran Asan, Basheer, O V Vijayan and M T Vasudevan Nair. Beaches, mountains and backwaters that make the state one of the 50 destinations in the world on one's bucket list. Food: some of the best seafood and meat preparations in the world with the added spice of the world's spice capital.

### INDUSTRY SPEAK MEDICAL DEVICES

Mr. Himanshu Baid Chairman, CII-NMTF and Managing Director. Poly Medicure Ltd

India's MedTech Revolution: Poised to Become a Global Manufacturing Hub. The global Medical Devices industry was valued at USD 455.3 billion in 2021 and is expected to grow at a CAGR of 6 per cent wherein Indian medical devices industry was estimated to be USD 12 billion in 2020 and is expected to grow at a CAGR of 15 per cent. India is poised to become the 3rd largest economy by 2030.

### SHOWCASING KERALA'S MEDTECH ECOSYSTEM



EMPOWERING MEDTECH ENTREPRENEURS: SCTIMST-TIMED SPARKS INNOVATIONS IN HEALTHCARE.

Discover how SCTIMST-TIMed, a dynamic Technology Business Incubator, is igniting ... View More



#### KERALA RANKS 1ST IN STARTUP ECOSYSTEM-BYLIN MEDTECH: A SHINING STAR IN KERALA'S THRIVING STARTUP ECOSYSTEM

Uncover the development journey of Drizlin Oral Patches, Bylin's cutting-edge solution ... View More



#### KERALA'S NEW INDUSTRIAL POLICY 2023-2028: FOSTERING INNOVATION AND GROWTH IN MEDTECH AND EMERGING SECTORS

Introducing Kerala Government's new visionary Industrial Policy, prioritizing ... View More



#### INNOVATING FOR BETTER HEALTHCARE: AGAPPE DIAGNOSTICS LEADS THE WAY

Discover how Agappe Diagnostics has emerged as a key player in the diagnostics ... View More



INNOVATE, COLLABORATE, AND TRANSFORM: EXCITING EVENTS IN KERALA'S MEDTECH ECOSYSTEM

Explore the dynamic MedTech ecosystem of Kerala through a series of captivating events. View More



## EDITORS DESK



Mr. C. Padmakumar Special Officer, Kerala Medical Technology Consortium (KMTC)

### "The usefulness of knowledge is only realised when it is converted into a product."

The name Kerala brings to mind many images. Temples, churches, mosques: no wonder it's God's Own Country. Art and culture: kathakali, thevvam. chakyarkoothu, kalarippayattu, kathaprasangam, poetry, dance. music. Literature: home of great novelists and poets like Kunchan Nambiar, Vallathol, Kumaran Asan, Basheer, O V Vijayan and M T Vasudevan Nair. Beaches, mountains and backwaters that make the state one of the 50 destinations in the world on one's bucket list. Food: some of the best seafood and meat preparations in the world with the added spice of the world's spice capital.

You will notice that Kerala brings to mind many images in the public imagination; however, industry is not one that is common. That is strange considering that Kerala has some very successful industries which have been doing business for long periods of time with great success. Companies in the seafood industry, plantations, spice extracts, nutraceuticals, medical devices and biotechnology have not only excelled in the Indian market, they also do very good business in the global market. There are a few key drivers for the success of these industries. One, a strong research infrastructure built in the 1970's and strengthened over the past 50 years. Two, the highly educated populace boasts of the highest proportion of STEM graduates in India. Three, the focus of many of the industries on the global market has helped them achieve international standards of quality.

The Government of Kerala has been focusing on a few thrust sectors with the emphasis on knowledge-based industries as part of its drive to transform the state into a knowledge economy. Life sciences and medical devices are among the 21 thrust sectors identified by the Kerala government. The presence of the Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute of Medical Sciences and Technology (SCTIMST), an Institute of National Importance created by an Act of Parliament in 1980, is a huge force multiplier for the Kerala MedTech ecosystem. Trivandrum is the closest to an ideal medical device cluster in the country with its research institutions, teaching hospitals, universities, medical device companies, startups and scientific, medical and engineering talent available in abundance. The time is right for industry and research across the country and the world to take advantage of the solid foundation that exists in Kerala.

KMTC welcomes entrepreneurs, industrialists, research organizations, funding organizations, consultants and startups to come to Kerala and see firsthand what the state has to offer.

## INDUSTRY SPEAK – MEDICAL DEVICES





Mr. Himanshu Baid Chairman, CII-NMTF and Managing Director, Poly Medicure Ltd.

### "India's MedTech Revolution: Poised to Become a Global Manufacturing Hub"

The global Medical Devices industry was valued at USD 455.3 billion in 2021 and is expected to grow at a CAGR of 6 per cent wherein Indian medical devices industry was estimated to be USD 12 billion in 2020 and is expected to grow at a CAGR of 15 percent. India is poised to become the 3rd largest economy by 2030. Its GDP is expected to grow at 7.8 percent in FY 23. This growth in its GDP is expected to percolate to some of the priority sectors like healthcare and medical devices.

Med Tech has catapulted India into the top 20 global medical devices market over the past decade. The recently launched government schemes such as PLI (Production Linked Incentive), medical devices parks, improved regulatory approval processes like single window clearance, perpetual license, etc. are steps in the right-direction to support domestic manufacturing.

The Prime Minister's call for Atmanirbhar Bharat (self-reliant India), is just the right step for our domestic manufacturing. Self-reliance means strengthening the country's competitive power in the long run.

Indian Govt. announced 4 MedTech parks to spur investment in medical devices manufacturing. Under Make in India initiative, several state governments have taken up the onus of setting up medical device manufacturing parks in their respective states. These clusters would enable domestic manufacturing of high-end medical devices at a lower cost and significantly enhance job creation.

Also, 2 Product Linked Incentive schemes,100% FDI and Export Incentive Scheme by the Govt. will attract companies to manufacture in India not just to meet domestic demand but also to export from India in the other markets.

The MedTech industry is import dependent on other countries for raw materials and now is the right time to challenge this arrangement, as companies are looking for alternative manufacturing hubs. The imperative to change the prevalent circumstances requires a robust strategy, a stable policy environment and a well-advised comprehensive plan. The need of the hour for med-tech industry is to closely work in collaboration with policy makers to revive the provision of healthcare in the context of the economic, demographic, and social transformations across the globe.

The past years saw many foreign players enter the Indian market under the automatic route bringing in Innovative products and setting up manufacturing units in the country. Highly skilled & economical workforce both in the software & hardware space, Low-cost R&D infrastructure, World-class physical and digital infrastructure, and opportunity for all is a bold and exciting proposition for the country to transform into a global manufacturing hub.

This will also help attract foreign capital, latest technology, create jobs and boost our exports. Skill and Scale should be the primary focus to be both quality and cost competitive and serve a global customer base. Huge scope exists in MedTech sector, not only to be self-reliant but also capture a considerable share of the global supply chain.

Lately recognising the potential of the medical devices sector, the Indian government has introduced various new policy measures and other initiatives keeping in mind the needs of domestic manufacturers. Common platforms shared by different innovation-centric companies such as shared raw material supplier base, testing services, shared infrastructure etc., could also help promote domestic manufacturing.

The per capita income of the Indian population is expected to increase to USD 2,730 by 2025 from USD 1,875 in 2016. The rising income levels have led to increased spends percolating to healthcare & medical devices sector.

In India, the population covered under various health insurance schemes has increased from 17 percent in 2014 to 47 percent in 2020. Government sponsored schemes like Ayushman Bharat (universal healthcare scheme), Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojna (RSBY), etc. have been instrumental in increasing health insurance penetration especially in the low-income segments and rural population.

The new policy regime or new draft bill on medical device will drive the growth of Medical Sector. It proposes an overall structural change on import, manufacturing, sale, distribution and clinical investigation of medical devices, the authorities had set the stage for a quality-driven, safety-led, performance-oriented, and above all, transparency-focused medical device sector in the country.

Under this bill, relevant constitution of Medical Devices Technical Advisory Board has been proposed to advise the government in technical matters. There is also a provision of setting up of medical devices testing centres for testing and evaluation of medical devices. Clinical trials or clinical investigations of medical devices will need compulsory permission from the central licensing authority.

With a futuristic and collaborative approach, India will be poised to exponentially grow its medical devices sector to its full potential not only to improve standards of healthcare in India but also to emerge as a trusted partner to the world for healthcare transformation.

The medical devices sector in India has the potential to grow 4x the current market size by FY30, backed by growing healthcare needs and government's commitment to facilitate growth.

Lastly, the roadmap should focus on innovation and research & development as a strong pillar of building India's best-in-class manufacturing ecosystem. I am sure India can emerge as a significant medical device manufacturer and become a factory for the World like the Pharma Industry.



### SHOWCASING KERALA'S MEDTECH ECOSYSTEM

### **RESEARCH INSTITUTION**

EMPOWERING MEDTECH ENTREPRENEURS: SCTIMST-TIMed SPARKS INNOVATIONS IN HEALTHCARE

SCTIMST-TIMed is the Technology Business Incubator of Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology, Trivandrum established in 2015. TIMed has been established for encouraging innovation and entrepreneurship in medical technologies through technology business incubation support to innovators, startups and industry. TIMed provides much needed mentorship, funding, networking opportunities, clinical and investor connects as well as basic facilities and services that a Medtech or healthcare startup requires.

TIMed is funded and supported by Department of Science & Technology, Government of India. The innovators and startups of TIMed are supported through various programs funded by Government of India like the flagship NIDHI Program of DST, SIIP program and BIG funding of BIRAC, Technology Transfer Office of NBM, BIRAC. TIMed also strives to support its startups through corporate social responsibility funds.

Startups and innovators go through a selection process before they are admitted to TIMed. Constant need-based support and mentoring is provided to healthcare innovators at various stage of entrepreneurship. Some of the startups supported by TIMed have won accolades at National level and the recent ones include:

- National startup award in Health & Wellness sector, 2021 - won by Sascan Meditech Pvt. Ltd. given by Department of Pharmaceuticals, Govt. of India.
- Sascan Meditech bagged the best startup in medical devices category in the pharma and medical device startup challenge conducted by startup India, 2021.
- Anjali Mashelkar award for social innovation to Dr. Subash Narayanan, founder of Sascan Meditech, 2021.
- Ms. Sonia Mohandas, Co-founder of Wafer Chips won the women entrepreneur grant from KSUM, 2021.
- Evelabs Pvt. Ltd. bagged innovations award at PHIC Expo, Chennai, November 2021.

TIMed extends incubation support to startups and entrepreneurs who are involved in medical device or healthcare technology development. Both physical and virtual mode of incubation are promoted at TIMed. Incubatees also include startups who have taken the technology transfer from SCTIMST. TIMed thus extends support and services to entrepreneurs and also facilitating faster bench to bedside translation of the technologies developed at SCTIMST through its incubation activities.

Incubatees are provided with mentoring support on various aspects including idea validation, technology and technical assessment, business plan development, preparation for fundraising, pitch deck preparation and also providing clinical, industry and vendor connects Incubatees gets the opportunity to access and avail the infrastructure including clean room (class 10,000) for pilot production, 3D printers, laser cutters, design software, high end workstations etc.

Some of the products developed by our startups and launched in the market include the Telemedicine cart (by Mobilexion Technologies), OralScan for oral cancer screening (by Sascan Meditech), Dripo – smart drip infusion monitor (by Evelabs), and Biocalculus remote cardiac monitoring (by Wafer Chips Technosolutions).

TIMed is partnering with various national funding agencies such as DST and BIRAC in implementing some flagship schemes. This includes:

NIDHI PRAYAS PROGRAM OF DST, GOI: This program caters to idea-stage entrepreneurs with a physical product offering. Innovators will be provided with technical mentorship, access to core facilities, networking, other services include patent search and filing, clinical connects, developing business plan etc. A DST PRAYAS SHAALA has also been set up with high end equipments required for medical device development and assembly which includes 3D printers, laser cutters, pick and place machine, 3D design softwares, high end workstations etc. Several prototypes have been developed and many of the innovators have received follow up funding support and also filed or granted Indian and international patents.

### The main objectives of TIPS are:

• Enhance academia-industry inter-linkages

- Creation of IP awareness Program
- Provide increased opportunities for academia to translate knowledge into products and technologies
- Developing linkages with academic centers for setup of TTOs

NIDHI SEED SUPPORT SCHEME OF DST, Gol: NIDHI SSS provide early-stage funding support to TIMed incubatees. This would enable them to take their venture to next level and facilitate towards their success in the marketplace. The start-ups would be supported primarily for Product development, Testing and Trials, Test Marketing etc.

SOCIAL INNOVATION IMMERSION PROGRAM OF BIRAC, Gol: The programme is aimed at creating a pool of biotech and biomedical "Social Innovators" who can identify needs and gaps within communities and then can bridge the gaps either through an innovative product development or services. Most of the Social innovators who are mentored through the program are successful in raising the follow-on funding or starting their own enterprise.

TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER OFFICE (TTO) OF NBM, BIRAC, Gol: A TTO named TIPS@TIMed has been set up at TIMed to facilitate research, development, collaborations and technology commercialization in Kerala, Tamil Nadu (except Chennai) Pondicherry and Andaman regions. Several IP & TT awareness workshops for Academic Institutions in the region are being conducted regularly and partnerships inked with several Institutions in the region.





### **MEDTECH COMPANY**

## INNOVATING FOR BETTER HEALTHCARE: AGAPPE DIAGNOSTICS LEADS THE WAY

Agappe Diagnostics, a thriving manufacturing company in MedTech and a leading player in the diagnostics industry having its manufacturing base in the state of Kerala, is making a difference through innovation, quality, and affordability. From their humble beginnings in Mumbai to relocating in Kerala for potential growth and their current position as a trusted global supplier of reagents and diagnostic machines, Agappe Diagnostics has built a strong foundation and an outstanding reputation over the years.

Located in the vibrant state of Kerala, Agappe Diagnostics benefits from being part of a thriving MedTech ecosystem. This innovative hub has provided them with a conducive environment for growth and collaboration, allowing them to harness the power of collective knowledge, expertise, and resources to drive their remarkable success.

Agappe Diagnostics manufactures a range of products in the in vitro diagnostics segment under the product categories of Lab diagnostic and Point of Care Devices. Through their unwavering commitment to innovation, research, and development, they have been at the forefront of driving advancements in diagnostics. Their relentless pursuit of excellence has earned them the trust of medical professionals worldwide, positioning them as a reliable partner in the industry. By continuously expanding their product range and venturing into new segments, such as Point of Care, they have shown that embracing innovation is key to staying ahead in a rapidly evolving industry.

One aspect that sets Agappe Diagnostics apart is their dedication to providing total solutions to clinical labs, particularly in rural India. Their flagship product, Mispa i2, a patented Nephelometry equipment, has revolutionized rural laboratories by enabling them to detect 26 blood protein parameters. Even small labs can now perform tests with ease, thanks to the availability of smaller packs tailored to their needs.

Their cartridge-based fully automatic Nephelometer, Mispa i3, introduced in 2015, requires no manual intervention and ensures error-free results. Their commitment to innovation has earned them esteemed accolades, including the Most Innovative Product in the Healthcare segment awarded by the President of India in 2028.

What truly sets Agappe Diagnostics apart is their unwavering focus on quality, affordability, and accessibility. While other multinational companies primarily cater to tier 1 cities and A-class labs, Agappe Diagnostics has directed chemiluminescent immunoassay (CLIA) systems, they are at the forefront of technological advancements. They have also ventured into the Point of Care segment, providing fast and immediate testing gadgets for ICUs, operation theaters, and emergency departments. Their collaborations with institutes in India exemplify the value of working together to drive innovation and deliver the best solutions to customers.

Agappe Diagnostics has pioneered indigenous technology in India. In 2020, they introduced the first-ever indigenously manufactured 3 Part Hematology Analyzer, developed in technical collaboration with LT Medical Services. This achievement showcases their commitment to developing cutting-edge products and their dedication to pushing the boundaries of innovation.



During the Covid-19 pandemic, Agappe Diagnostics swiftly responded to the need for COVID-19 testing equipment. Their RT-LAMP analyzer, MispaLume, and LumeScreen n-Cov have significantly reduced testing time, providing confirmatory results in less than 35 minutes. They continue to invest in research and development in the Molecular Diagnostics domain, eagerly anticipating the introduction of new products in the MDx sector. Their ability to adapt to emerging needs highlights the importance of staying proactive and agile in a rapidly changing world. Agappe Diagnostics strongly believes in the power of collaboration. They have partnered with prestigious institutes of national importance and industrial giants, resulting in groundbreaking products and technologies that benefit customers worldwide. By driving growth through quality and service, Agappe Diagnostics has earned a place of trust and reliability in the industry.

Quality has been at the core of Agappe Diagnostics' success. Their commitment to delivering reliable, accurate, and error-free results has earned them the trust of medical professionals worldwide. They have set high standards for themselves, as evidenced by their recognition as the Most Innovative Product in the Healthcare segment. This dedication to quality serves as a reminder that it is the foundation on which long-term success is built.

For the future, Agappe Diagnostics has ambitious plans for expansion and growth. With a vision to achieve a turnover of INR 1000 crores within the next three years, they are commissioning their second Equipment Manufacturing Plant. This expansion will increase their production capacity for machines and reagents, allowing them to better serve your needs and ensure uninterrupted supply chain management.





### MEDTECH STARTUP KERALA RANKS 1ST IN STARTUP ECOSYSTEM-BYLIN MEDTECH: A SHINING STAR IN KERALA'S THRIVING STARTUP ECOSYSTEM



### Dr. Lini Basil Founder & CEO at ByLin MedTech Private Limited

I had a wonderful professional life for around 11 years as a dentist. Being a dentist was an honorable, satisfactory and a noble matter in my life. My career took a turn in 2017, when I had a weakness of my right arm and I found out that it was indeed an occupational hazard which usually dentists face. I had to stop practicing dentistry owing to the weakness. At that point of life, either I could live as a "Retired hurt" dentist- house wife or I could use my skills to be of use for society in any other way. I selected the second option and joined "Social Innovation Immersion program "- SIIP Fellowship of BIRAC, DBT in 2018 at TIMedthe business incubator of Sree Chitra Thirunal Institute of Medical Science and Technology, which is an institute of national importance. The fellowship was meant to create innovative medical devices for elderly health and solve unmet needs of aged population. The intent of the program was to create entrepreneurs in India as a part of Make in India program. Through this program I travelled all over Kerala, met aged people among tribal communities, old age homes, hospitals, care homes and studied the medical needs. We took inputs from Social Security Council, Dept. of Social Justice, Kerala and found out details of aged community that needs help. I was able to submit 10 unmet medical needs to the DBT and the expert committee which included members from TISS Mumbai, BIRAC, IIT B, IIT D,



Xerostomia/Dry Mouth is a condition in which the salivary glands doesn't function/ degrade and as a result of this, people experience severe dryness, burning sensation, bad breath, speech difficulties, multiple infections, swallowing difficulties. The major reasons for this condition are radiotherapy and chemotherapy for different cancers especially Head and Neck Cancers, Auto immune diseases like Sjogren's syndrome, Scleroderma, SLE, Severe diabetes mellitus, elderly who take a lot of medications.

Covid also caused permanent dry mouth in a lot of people. Around 253 Million people in India are affected due to this condition. All the treatment options available are not affordable or not giving the adequate moisturisation that the patients need. Meeting with dry mouth patients was an eye opener for me as a doctor. The patients we treated with the present solutions were not satisfied with the treatment which they never revealed to the doctors and even if they complained doctors couldn't prescribe a better solution. We identified this opportunity and the need and decided to work on it. I met Dr. Senthilkumar M, a Ramalingaswami fellow of DBT in SCTIMST in 2019. Dr. Senthil understood the medical need and he had the knowledge about the biomaterials which could provide moisturisation to oral cavity. I collaborated with Dr. Senthil and we made a Hydrating patch which can be kept inside the mouth, glued on to cheek using a biocompatible material. This patch absorbs water taken by the patient and releases moisture slowly giving continuous moisturisation to mouth. The patch can be thrown away as a biodegradable waste at the end of the day. We were successful in creating a patch which doesn't have any artificial chemicals or sugars, a patch with unique combination of biomaterials and which is of affordable cost. We found out that our patch has the ability to inhibit harmful microbial infections that are very common in dry mouth patients due to the presence of the biomaterials in it. We interacted with a lot of patients who had dry mouth. We took inputs from our end users to create the design and to make the patch more user-compatible. We are the first movers in this area globally because there is no hydrating patch for dry mouth condition in the whole world.

After making a working prototype, the way forward for me was crystal clear. I knew that I wanted to create a company. I wanted to make more medical devices which will be beneficial for people of my country. Bylin Medtech Pvt. Ltd. was thus born on 18-11-2020 as a result of this self-realization. A team was needed. Dr. Senthil and myself had very clear alignment about the way forward as a startup and Mrs. Asha V Nath joined as the first project associate. We raised funds of Rs 1.5 Crore through BIRAC BIG grant, BIRAC SBIRI grant, KSUM Productization grant & KSIDC seed funding.

In 2021 we got our Indian patent granted and in 2022 our USA patent was filed. This was a big milestone for the company. Today we are an ISO 13485:2016 certified company which has an established quality management system.

We proved that Hydrating patch which we named as Drizlin oral patches were safe, biocompatible, eco-friendly, and inhibited the microbial infections. As a novel medical device we had to get the regulatory approvals from DCGI and we could prove to DCGI that this is a simple Class A medical device which is very safe to patients. We are in collaboration with eminent national institutes like Tata Memorial Hospital, Mumbai and Nairs dental College, Mumbai for conducting clinical trials in 100 subjects as advised by the Hon. DCGI.

The Government of Kerala has framed and adopted a progressive new Industrial Policy on 1st April 2023. Recognizing the immense potential of the MedTech sector, the Government of Kerala has introduced a series of incentives and initiatives to attract investments and foster growth in this domain. In line with Kerala's transition to a high-value, knowledge economy, Emerging Technology sectors like Artificial Intelligence (AI), Electric Vehicles (EVs) have identified as thrust sectors. Medical Technology, Medical Devices & Equipment, Biotechnology and Life-sciences as well as high-value rubber technology products are also priority sunrise sectors. A policy approach that is cognizant of the need for the preservation of rich natural resources and the vibrant community in Kerala, the new policy aims to establish sustainable businesses and industries in strong Environment-Social-Governance а (ESG) context.



Recognizing the potential of the medical devices industry, the Kerala Industrial Policy 2023 puts significant focus on promoting innovation, research, and development in this sector. The policy aims to establish medical device parks and innovation centers to support the manufacturing of high-quality and affordable medical devices. It encourages collaboration between industry and research institutions, fostering translational research and technology transfer. Additionally, the policy provides incentives such as tax. We are a 6 member team with me and Dr. Alexander K A as directors, Dr. Senthil as Chief scientific advisor, Shahana N as project Associate, Dr. Aiswarya Anil as QA/QC manager, Ashby Rajan as Project manager. We are mentored by C Balagopal IAS (Business), Dr. Balagopal Nair (Clinical trials mentor) and Mr. Roy Varghese (Finance).

As the woman founder of a biotech company which is doing a commendable project to solve a major disease, I was selected as one among the 75 women founders all over India and was felicitated by Hon. Prime minister of India in the 10th anniversary of BIRAC in New Delhi. I represented TiE Kerala for the Global women pitchfest as finalist in the global competition. Bylin Medtech came in the second position in startup pitching competition at Bio connect, conducted at Kovalam in May 2023. I was selected as Best woman entrepreneur by MG University in 2022. Drizlin Oral patches was selected as one of the best innovations at OHIC, conducted in AIIMS, New Delhi.



### **NEW INDUSTRIAL POLICY**

## KERALA'S NEW INDUSTRIAL POLICY 2023-28: FOSTERING INNOVATION AND GROWTH IN MEDTECH AND EMERGING SECTORS

The Government of Kerala has framed and adopted a progressive new Industrial Policy on 1st April 2023. Recognizing the immense potential of the MedTech sector, the Government of Kerala has introduced a series of incentives and initiatives to attract investments and foster growth in this domain. In line with Kerala's transition to a high-value, knowledge economy, Emerging Technology sectors like Artificial Intelligence (AI). Electric Vehicles (EVs) have identified as thrust sectors. Medical Technology, Medical Devices & Equipment, Biotechnology and Life sciences as well as high-value rubber echnology products are also priority sunrise sectors. A policy approach that is cognizant of the need for the preservation of rich

natural resources and the vibrant community in Kerala, the new policy aims to establish sustainable businesses and industries in a strong Environment-Social-Governance (ESG) context.

Recognizing the potential of the medical devices industry, the Kerala Industrial Policy 2023 puts significant focus on promoting innovation, research, and development in this sector. The policy aims to establish medical device parks and innovation centers to support the manufacturing of high-quality and affordable medical devices. It encourages collaboration between industry and research institutions, fostering translational research and technology transfer. Additionally, the policy provides incentives such as tax exemptions, subsidies, and venture capital support to attract investment and promote the growth of the medical devices sector.

To attract investments and facilitate the growth of industries, the policy offers a range of incentives and support mechanisms. It includes subsidies for land acquisition, infrastructure development, and utilities. Special provisions are made for micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) to encourage their participation in the industrial ecosystem. Financial incentives such as interest subsidies, venture capital funds, and tax exemptions are provided to promote entrepreneurship and innovation. The policy also emphasizes skill development programs and capacity-building initiatives to create a qualified workforce aligned with industry requirements.

The Kerala Industrial Policy 2023 is a forward-looking and comprehensive roadmap for the states industrial growth and economic development. With a focus on priority sectors such as medical devices, IT and electronics, tourism, healthcare, and agriculture, the policy aims to attract investments, foster innovation, and create employment opportunities. By providing incentives, infrastructure support, development initiatives. skill and the government endeavors to transform Kerala into a thriving industrial destination, promoting sustainable and inclusive growth. The policy sets the stage for Kerala's emergence as a hub for innovation, entrepreneurship, and industrial excellence in the coming years.

### **EVENTS**

## "INNOVATE, COLLABORATE, AND TRANSFORM: EXCITING EVENTS IN KERALA'S MEDTECH ECOSYSTEM"

#### STAKEHOLDERS CONNECT MEET

KMTC as a facilitator in the MedTech ecosystem, aims to catalyze/ accelerate the research, innovation, development in and manufacturing of Medical Devices in the State of Kerala, by bringing together all stakeholders – Research, Academia, Industry, Startups, Healthcare Providers and Government, in meaningful and value-adding interactions. KMTC conducts monthly Stakeholders Connect Meet at various locations across Kerala on different themes and till now we organized 7 meets at National Institute of Technology, Calicut, Kerala University of Health Sciences, Kerala Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, Cochin University of Science and



Technology, Mahatma Gandhi University,

Central Laboratory for Instrumentation and Facilitation, and Malabar Cancer Centre The themes of these meets cover diverse aspects, ranging from "Advancing Medical Device Development: From Animal Studies to Preclinical Success," "Navigating Clinical Trials For Successful Development Of Medical Devices / Medical Technology," "Translational Research in MedTech: From Concept to Manufacturing" and beyond.

#### November 2022

### MEDICA 2022 - The World's Largest Medical Sector Event

KMTC participated in the prestigious MEDICA 2022 conference held in Dusseldorf on 14th November. This premier healthcare conference featured an extensive exhibition and an ambitious program, presenting the entire spectrum of innovations for outpatient and clinical care. KMTC engaged in fruitful discussions with focus country delegations, trade bodies, universities, component suppliers, and start-ups, exploring collaborations and investments in MedTech for the state of Kerala.



### January 2023 ARAB HEALTH 23' - Showcasing Kerala's MedTech Ecosystem

KMTC, in partnership with the Kerala State Industrial Development Corporation (KSIDC) and Kerala Startup Mission (KSUM), showcased Kerala's thriving MedTech Ecosystem at the prestigious Arab Health conference and trade show in the Middle East from 30th January to 2nd February 2023. The Kerala pavilion offered a holistic cross-section of the state's opportunities for manufacturing, research, innovation, and development in the medical technology field.





#### March 2023

### JAPAN MELA 23' - Fostering Indo-Japan Collaboration

KMTC attended the INJACK organized by INDO JAPAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE (KERALA) in collaboration with KSIDC, organized the JAPAN MELA at Ramada Resort by Wyndham, Kochi from 2nd March to 4th March 2023. The event aimed to strengthen ties between India and Japan across various sectors, including



medical equipment, maritime/shipping, IT robotics, agriculture/food processing, and more. Over 50 industry experts led panel discussions, fostering knowledge exchange and collaboration opportunities.

#### March 2023

### KMTC-KSHEC-SCTIMST Hand-on Workshop-Translational Research in MedTech

KMTC, in collaboration with the Kerala State

Higher Education Council KMTC. in collaboration with the Kerala State Higher Education Council (KSHEC) and the Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute of Medical Sciences and Technology, organized a one-day Hands-On Workshop on Translational Research in MedTech. The keynote address by Dr. Harald Peter, Head of IVD-Platform / Point-of-Care Technologies at the Fraunhofer Institute for Cell Therapy and Immunology, Germany, was the highlight of the event. Dignitaries such as Dr. R Bindu, Dr. Rajan Gurukkal, Dr. Saji Gopinath, Prof. Samir Kumar Brahmachari, Dr. Sanjay Behari, and Mr. C Padmakumar also participated, sharing their insights and motivating participants to transcend academic research.

### April 2023

### Investment Promotion Event - Showcasing Opportunities in Life Sciences

KMTC took a lead role in organizing and also attended a successful Investment Promotion Event in Bengaluru on 28th April 2023, agencies, startups, and potential investors gathered to explore the opportunities and incentives available in Kerala's life sciences sector. Prominent representatives from industry, banks, financial organized by Kerala Life Sciences Industries Parks (KLIP) and Kerala State Industrial Development Corporation (KSIDC).

### May 2023

### BIOCONNECT KERALA '23- A Conclave & Expo for Lifesciences

The two-day international conclave and expo, BIOCONNECT KERALA'S on 25th & 26th May 2023, held at The Leela, Kovalam, aimed to position Kerala as a hub for nutraceutical and life sciences industries. KMTC, along with other MedTech companies, startups, and life sciences organizations, showcased their products and services, participated in interactive sessions, workshops, panel discussions, and networking events.









Second Floor, T.C. 27/1951/6, Sopanam, Thumpara Lane, Chirakulam Road, Vanchiyoor, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala 695035

www.kmtc.in | linkedin.com/company/keralamtc