

RESTRUCTURING OF THE PROGRAMME ADVISORY COMMITTEES (PACs) IN LIFE SCIENCES

Preamble

The Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB), has a legacy of promoting individual centric research and development activities over a decade in broad conventional subject areas in the field of science and engineering. So far research proposals in the areas of life sciences were evaluated independently under four different PACs structured around (i). Animal science (ii). Plant sciences (iii) Biochemistry, Biophysics, Molecular Biology and Microbiology and (iv). Health sciences.

Keeping in pace with advances in biological sciences, SERB has restructured the life sciences PACs into the following three thematic areas.

1) Biomedical and Health Sciences (BHS): The mandate of this PAC is to promote basic and applied research in all aspects of health, diseases, therapeutic interventions and mechanisms, drug discovery and development, vaccines, implants, tools and techniques, machine learning, artificial intelligence approaches for disease diagnosis.

2) Organismal and Evolutionary Biology (OEB): This PAC is mandated to promote research in the areas of biodiversity conservation and human conflicts, biology of organisms (microbes, plants and animals), genetics, breeding and evolution, behavioural and community ecology, ecosystem and organism interaction.

3) Interdisciplinary Biological Sciences (IBS): The mandate of this PAC is to promote interdisciplinary research at cellular, sub-cellular, molecular and gene level, structural & computational biology, Artificial intelligence based tool for biomolecular structure and dynamics.

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