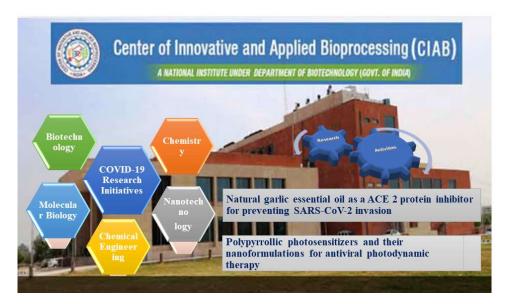


Agri-biomass utilization in fighting COVID-19

Center of Innovative and Applied Bioprocessing (DBT-CIAB) Knowledge City, Sector-81 Mohali, Punjab-140306



At DBT-CIAB the research activities mainly consist of valorizing agricultural biomass. Given the current scenario, channelizing these activities towards antiviral efficacy indeed is a challenging task. However, faculties at CIAB have taken up this challenge to address this pandemic via converting agri-products into therapeutics.

In this regard, the following research activities have been initiated which apply multiple research expertise including chemistry, chemical engineering, biotechnology, molecular biology, and nanotechnology available at DBT-CIAB.

Research activity 1 - Polypyrrollic photosensitizers and their nanoformulations for antiviral photodynamic therapy

Research activity 2 - Natural garlic essential oil as a ACE 2 protein inhibitor for preventing SARS-CoV-2 invasion

Products of the proposed research outcome are expected to be biocompatible, low cost and scalable. Most importantly, the research objectives proposed have deliverables planned to be completed in less than a year timeframe. The potential antiviral molecules which are identified in this work will be tested for their ability to act against SARS-Cov-2 in collaboration with Regional Centre for Biotechnology, Faridabad.

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