

## 'CSIR has to rise as a force of development'

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"Our country is being positively swept by a current of change, looking beyond a segmented mind set. CSIR cannot be left behind and has to rise to the occasion to align itself with the force of development as a catalyst and front runner. With the clout embedded in its laboratories, CSIR has to achieve its mission and mandate to impact the industrial, societal and environmental sectors to fulfill the aspirations of the people of India," mentioned Dr P S Ahuja, director general, CSIR in his recent message.

Dr Ahuja who was earlier the director of the Institute of Himalayan Bioresource Technology (IHBT). During the year 2008-09, he also had additional charge as director, Central Institute of Medicinal & Aromatic Plants (CIMAP), Lucknow. He was the head of the Department of Plant Tissue Culture at CIMAP Lucknow wherein his Department became a Center of Excellence. Thereafter, he joined as head, Plant Biotechnology and Biodiversity Conservation Division, CSIR Complex, Palampur now known as IHBT.

"CSIR has proven worth which needs positive projection and realization. For this, a concerted efforts are required both at the laboratory level as well as by the CSIR headquarters. The Industrial Sector also needs to be encouraged by policy and regulation to spur itself in partnership with the R&D potential within the country. We look towards to a forward-looking policy

that promotes public-private partnership in R&D domain with a perspective to growth, development and employment generation. The science and technology (S&T) sector, just as any other has been tied down in a morass of constraints and procedures which need to be liberated forthwith. The sector requires an infusion of fresh blood and quality manpower to a much higher extent than the sanctioned strength today," said Dr Ahuja.

"Those who are entrenched in scientific pursuits need to rise above themselves and move towards teamwork so as to achieve national goals. It is a time to deliver and stand shoulder to shoulder to rise to the soaring expectations," he concluded.