

India's genome valley

The Chatterjee Group of Kolkata, India, is planning to set up a globally compatible genome valley in Delhi, India. The proposal by Chatterjee Management Services has been approved in principle by the screening committee of the Department of Science & Technology (DST), Government of India. DST is expected to fund up to 50 per cent of the total project cost under its drugs and pharmaceutical research programme. The Group has a presence in drug research at present through ChemBiotech Research, a leading CRO that supports pharma companies in frontier R&D areas such as molecular medicine and bioinformatics. Under the proposal, the genome valley would come up on the premises from where the Central Road Research Institute (CRRI) currently operates on Mathura Road in Delhi. It would be supported by the Council of Scientific & Industrial Research, which would allot the required land in CRRI compound and lend technical and human resource support. The genome valley will be designed to deliver a comprehensive package of services to pharma companies desirous of augmenting their R&D using tools of genomics. It will have instrumentation facilities for a slew of genomic projects like mapping of genes and pharmaco-genomics. The first phase of the project is to be completed in one year at a cost of Rs. 25 crore. (Website: www.bioview.com)