

**TARGET MAINS 2022**

# **CSE MAINS QUESTIONS DISCUSSION**

## **SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY-2**

# Agenda

## Theme

Biotechnology

## Framework

- Status of Bioeconomy in India
- Evolution of modern BT
- Applications of modern BT
- Regulation of GMOs
- DNA/Gene Patenting

safety



1. What are factors responsible for growth of Bioeconomy in India?
2. What are the applications of modern biotechnology? What is the role of modern biotechnology in bringing about socio-economic development in the contemporary times?
3. Harnessing modern biotechnology tools is important to achieve sustainable agriculture production. Do you agree?
4. Gene therapy is said to revolutionise medicine in the contemporary times. What is gene therapy? What are some of the important advances in the field of gene therapy in the recent times?
5. What is the role of Genomics in recent advancements in modern biotechnology? What are the initiatives taken by government towards genomic research in India?



# Practice Questions

6. In light of the recent amendments to rules relating to regulation of GM crops in India, differentiate between R-DNA technology and gene editing techniques. Do you think regulatory discrimination between the two is necessary?
7. What is DNA/Gene patenting? What principles should guide the regulation of gene patenting in India in order to harness the potential of rising bioeconomy?
8. What is synthetic biology? What are the potential benefits of synthetic biology? What are the challenges for the growth of the discipline?



## Agriculture - Plant and Animal

- Conventional
- Impact of R-DNA: GM Crops
- Impact of genomics: Rice Genomic Chip
- Impact Gene Editing

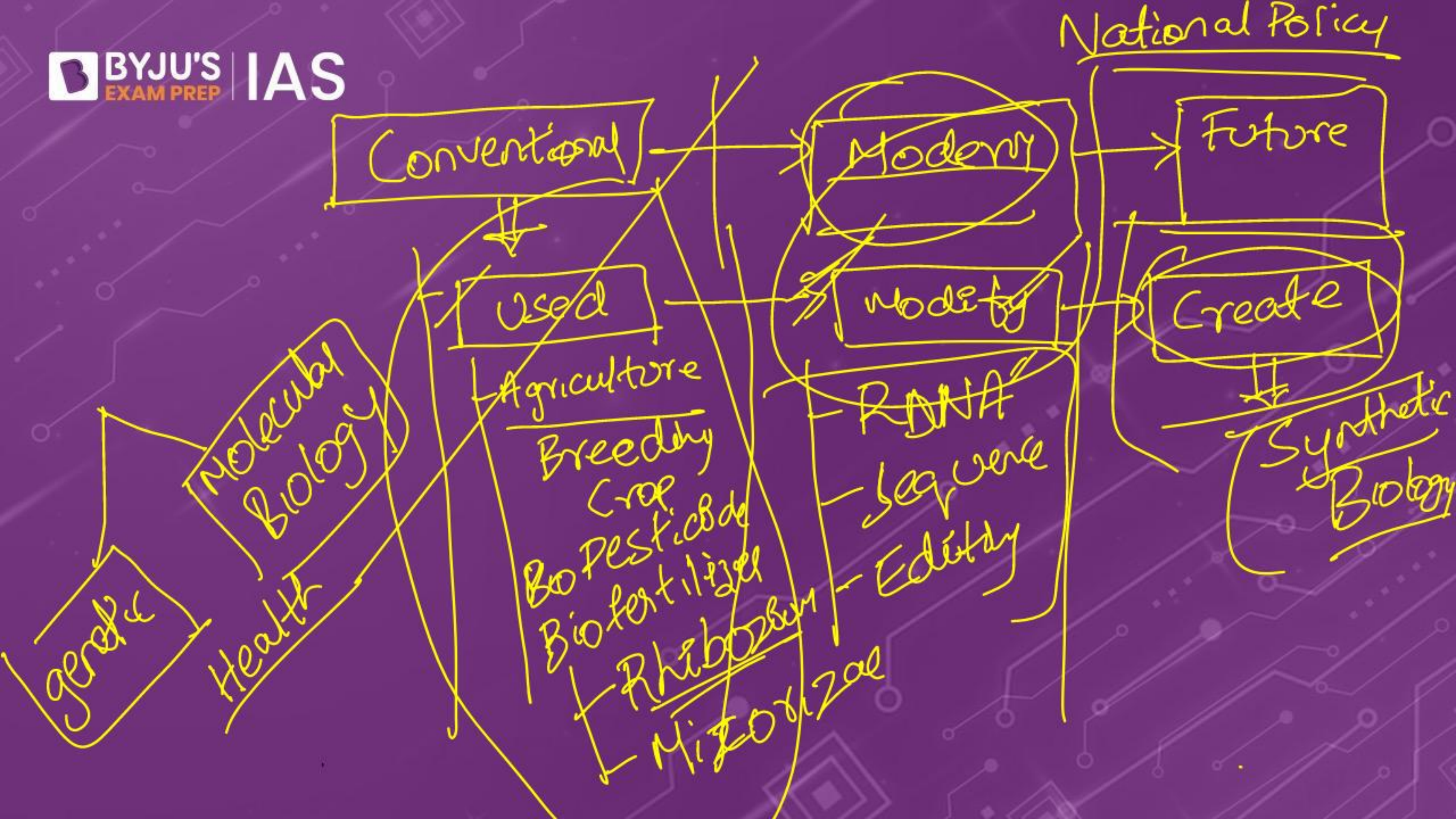
Bt cotton

Genome sequencing

## Health- Preventive, Diagnostics, Therapeutics

- Conventional
- Modern
- Impact of R-DNA: Insulin, Erythropoietin, HPV, Hep B Vaccine
- Impact of genomics: Gene Testing
- Impact of Gene Editing : CAR-T cell therapy







## Industry - Synthetic Biology

- Conventional
- Modern
- Impact of R-DNA
- Impact of genomics
- Impact of Gene Editing

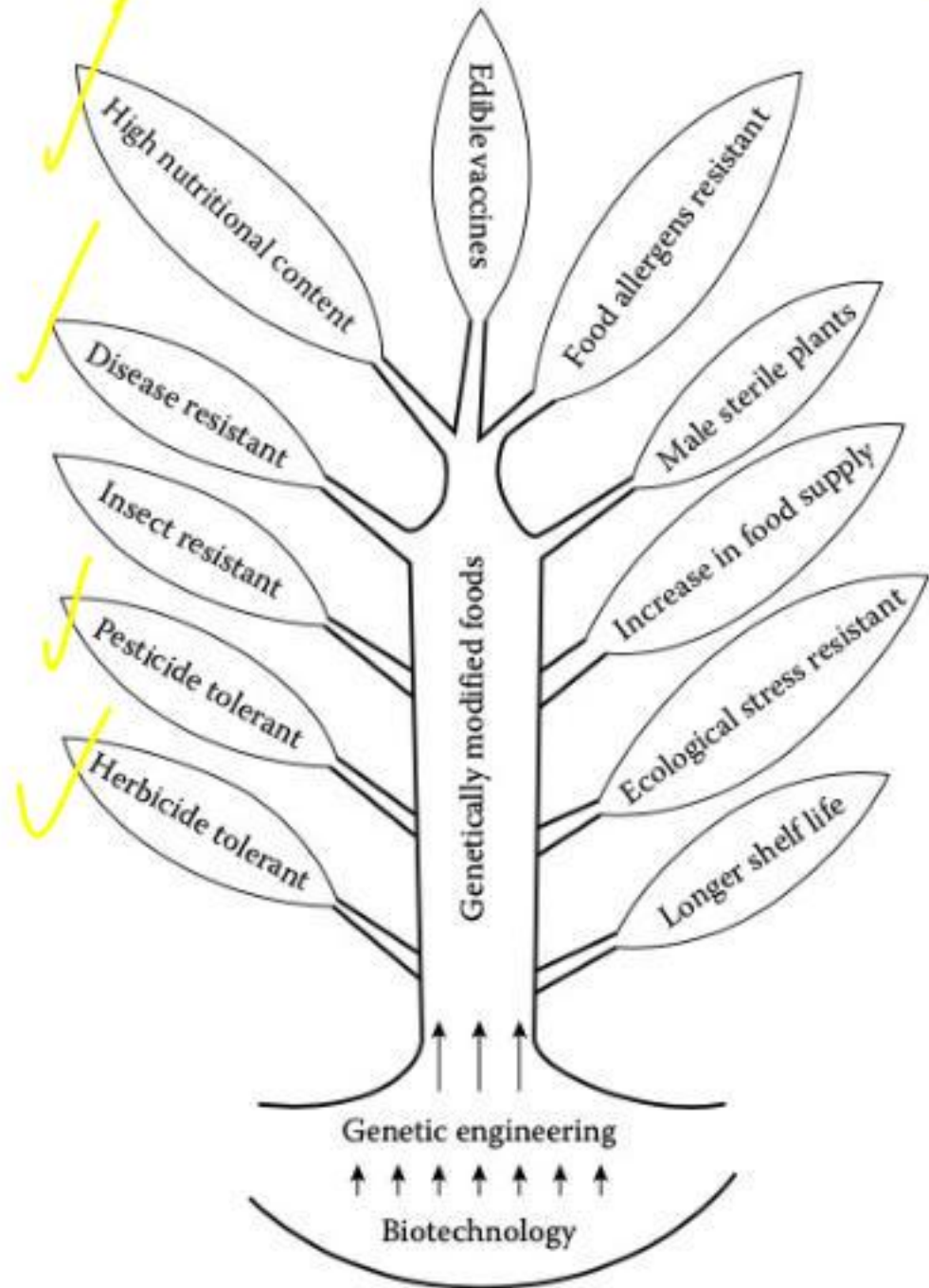
Eg: Pharma, Xenobots, Microbial fuel cells, Biofuels, lab-made meat

*Future*

## Environment

- Plastic pollution
- GE-bacteria for nitrogen fixation





# Agriculture & Environment

① Breeding Field [Crop pro]

- Breeding <sup>①</sup> Field (Crop pro)  
 - <sup>②</sup> Nutri <sup>Hunger</sup>  
 - <sup>③</sup> Core

```

graph TD
    GM_Crops[GM Crops] --> Golden_Rice[Golden Rice]
    GM_Crops --> Bt_Cotton[Bt Cotton]
    Golden_Rice --> Micro[Micro]
    Golden_Rice --> Macro[Macro]
    Bt_Cotton --> Protato[Protato]
    Bt_Cotton --> Bt_Cotton_2[Bt Cotton]
  
```

GM Crops

- Golden Rice
  - Micro
  - Macro
- Bt Cotton
  - Protato
  - Bt Cotton

Qyeth (Rice)



Conventional

Antibiotics, vaccines, antigens

Modern

Cell therapy

- Drug discovery and development

- Regenerative medicine

Gene therapy: CAR-T Cells

3D-printed biomaterials

- Cornea, heart, liver, kidney etc.

Biosimilars

BioInt

Modern  
BT

Lab  
Thera

RNA

DNA RNA Pro

Genomic  $\Rightarrow$  { genotype - phenotype  
HGI 2001 } 20000 gene

Gene Expression  $\Rightarrow$  2-3 L pro

Epigenetic  $\Rightarrow$  Gene therapy  
Cell therapy

(CR-Editing)

BRCA1  
2



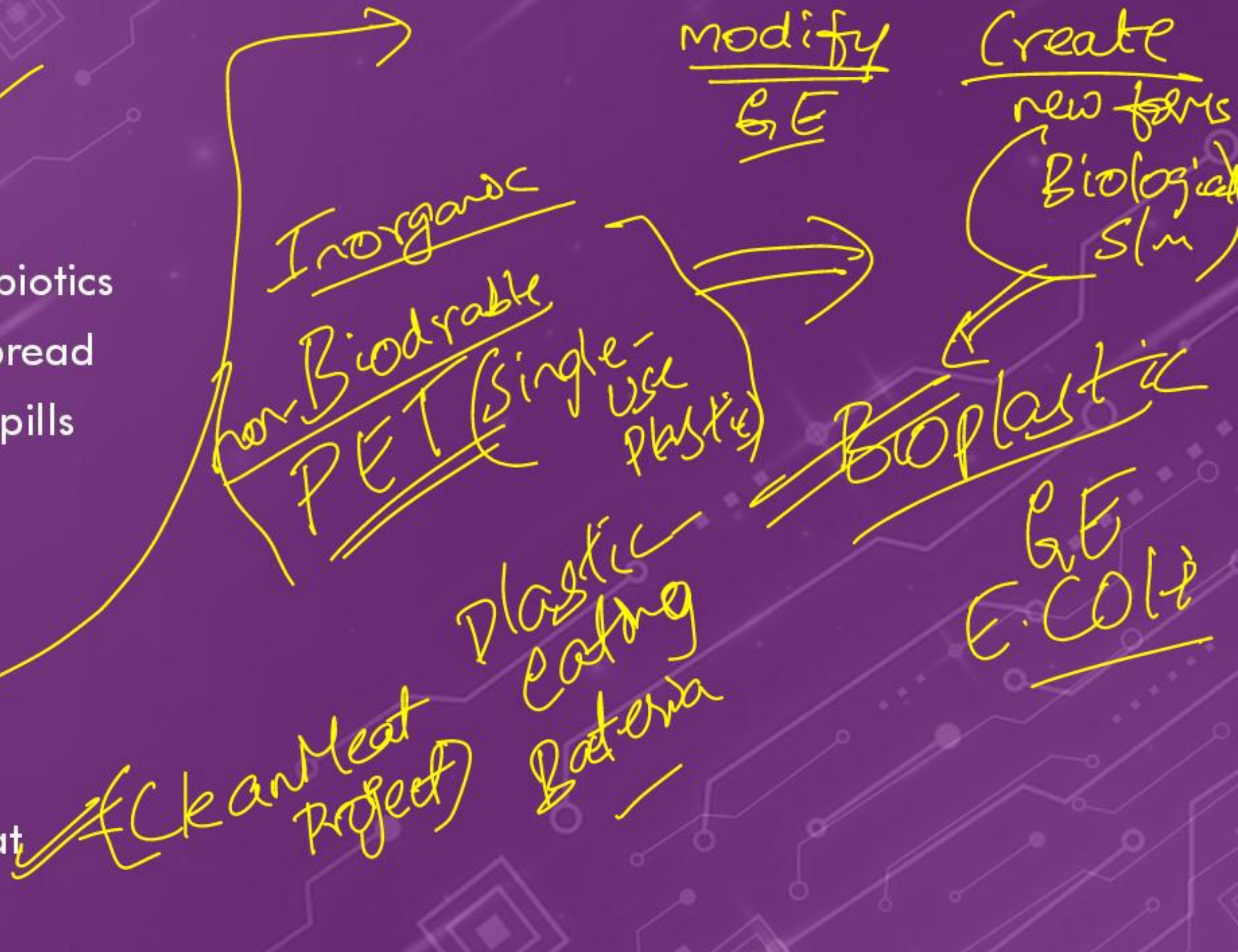
## White Biotechnology

### Conventional

- Pharmaceuticals: antibiotics
- Food: Alcohol, curd, bread
- Waste treatment: oil spills
- Fuels
- Metallurgy

### Modern

- Synthetic biology
- Biomaterials
- Food: Lab-grown meat
- Xenobots





2. What are the applications of modern biotechnology? What is the role of modern biotechnology in bringing about socio-economic development in the contemporary times?

## Applications

- Agriculture
  - GM crops
- Healthcare
  - Gene therapy
- Industry
  - GE algae for biofuels, synthetic biology for modern materials
- Environment
  - Plastic pollution

## Role

- Food Security
- Environment sustainability
- To make novel materials
- To make novel fuels

*create*



# Synthetic Biology

modify

Q. What is synthetic biology? What are the potential benefits of synthetic biology? What are the challenges for the growth of the discipline?

## Defn

- Construction of biological systems
- Bottoms-up approach

## Approaches

Simple systems Eg: Artificial leaf

Combination of 2 or more biological systems Eg:

Engineering genes Eg:

Creating Genes Eg: Antibiotic, Anti-malarial drug

## Potential Applications

Novel materials Eg: bioplastics, Bio-PET

Novel drugs

Novel food Eg: Lab-grown meat

Create

Biological stuff

Engineers + Biotech

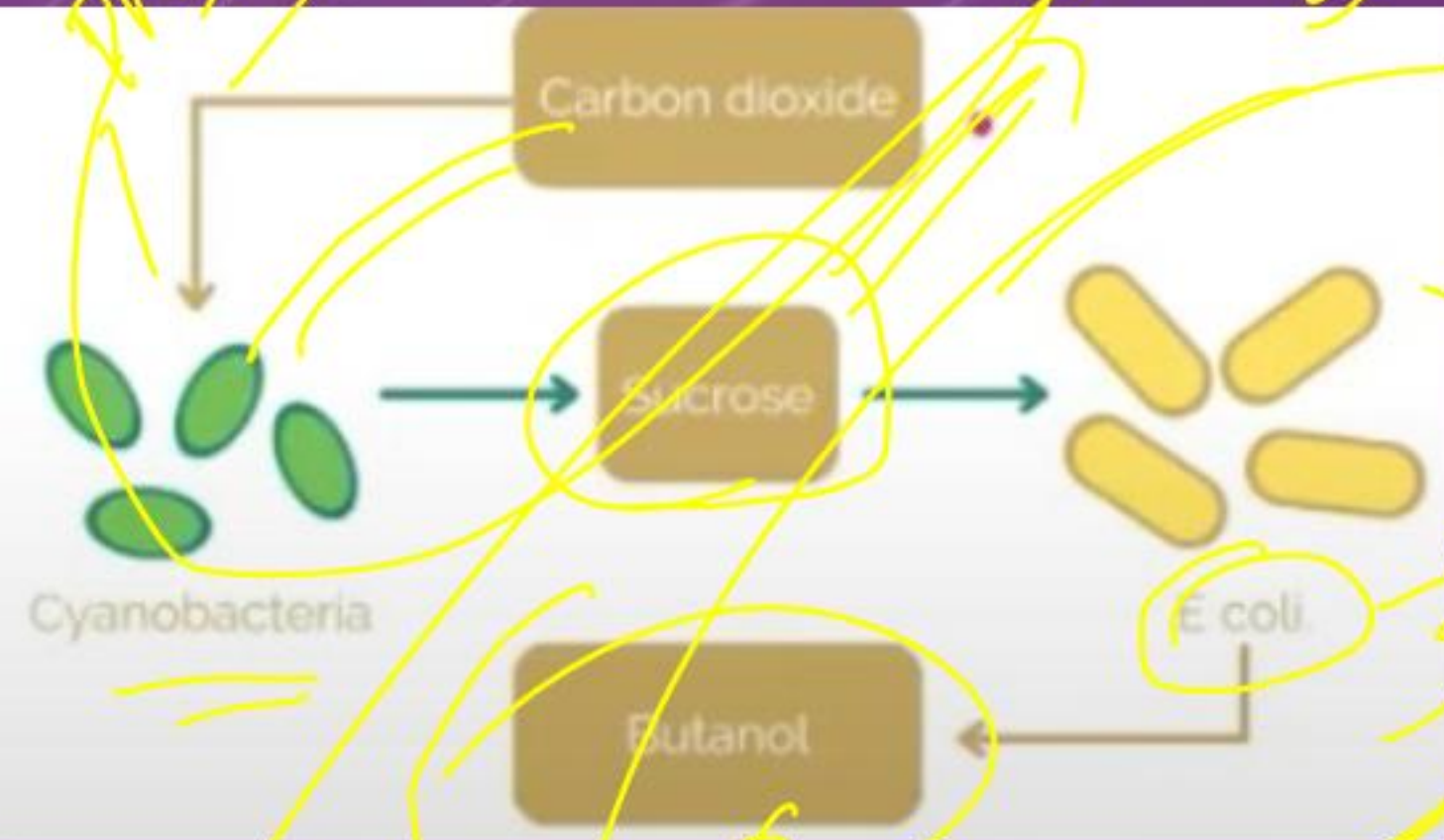
Artemisinin



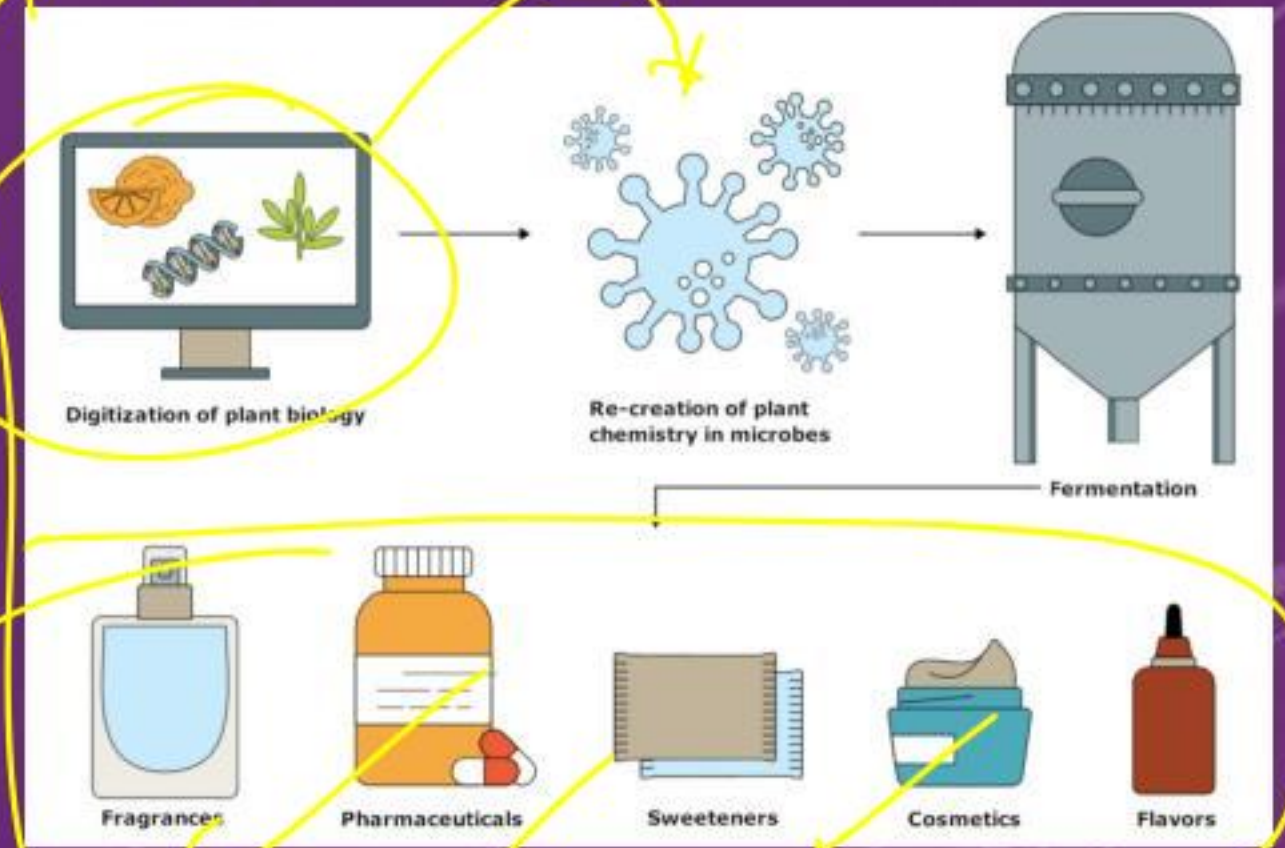
# Synthetic Biology

Combination of biological systems

Engineering genes



*Bacterial*





ZME Science

### A novel synthetic antibiotic shows promise in destroying even drug-resistant bacteria

A novel synthetic antibiotic shows promise in destroying even drug-resistant bacteria. New, efficient antibiotics are sorely needed in the...

1 week ago



News-Medical.net

### New method could lead to more efficient production of next-generation antibiotics

We had been analyzing fatty acid synthesis for several years when we ... be used for directed biosynthesis of these modified antibiotics,...

11 hours ago



Interesting Engineering

### A novel synthetic antibiotic can kill even drug-resistant bacteria

Scientists from Rockefeller University have synthesized a novel antibiotic with the help of computer models of bacterial gene products. It turns...

1 week ago



modify

**World's first living organism with fully redesigned DNA created**

enzyme



# Practice question on Genomics

What is the role of Genomics in recent advancements in modern biotechnology?

What are the initiatives taken by government towards genomic research in India?

## Introduction

Database mapping genotype and phenotype  
Potential in Agri, Health and Environment

## Role

- Susceptibility to disease
- Genetic factors for behaviour
- How one reacts to treatments
- Faster breeding (Marker-assisted selection)

Rice Genome

BRCA1

- Biosensors in pandemics: SARS COV-2
- reference genome
- Gateway to genetic modification
- Drug discovery
- Personalised treatments

Human Genome Project

20060 genes

gene expression

DNA - RNA - Protein

20000

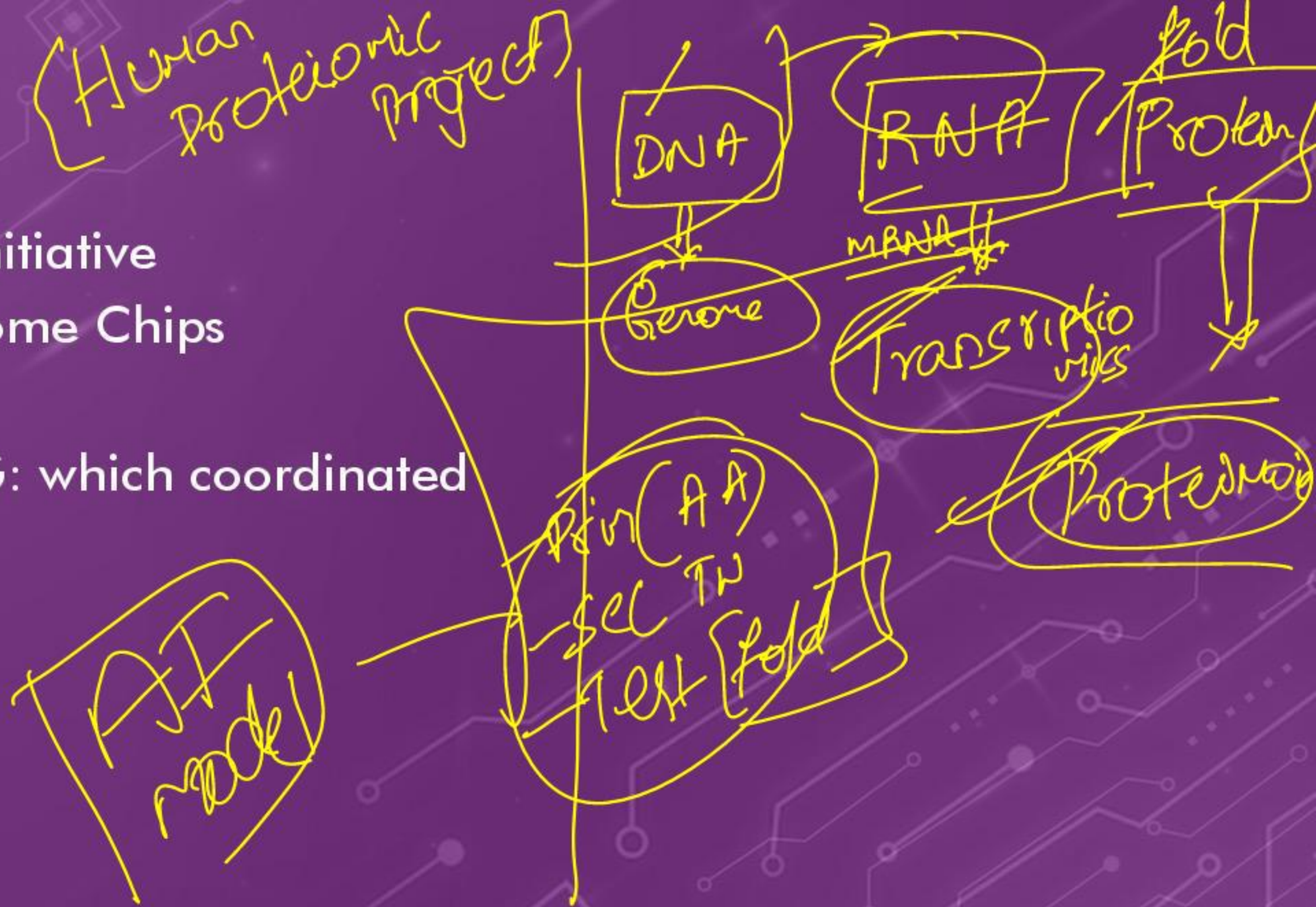
21

ENCODE  
(1000)



## Initiatives

- Indigen Initiative
- Rice Genome Chips
- IndiGAU
- INSACOG: which coordinated





# Gene Therapy

Q. Gene therapy is said to revolutionise medicine in the contemporary times. What is gene therapy? What are some of the important advances in the field of gene therapy in the recent times?

2019  
National Guidelines  
for Gene Therapy

2017 → Gene therapy  
USA  
#aerodil



# Gene Therapy: What?

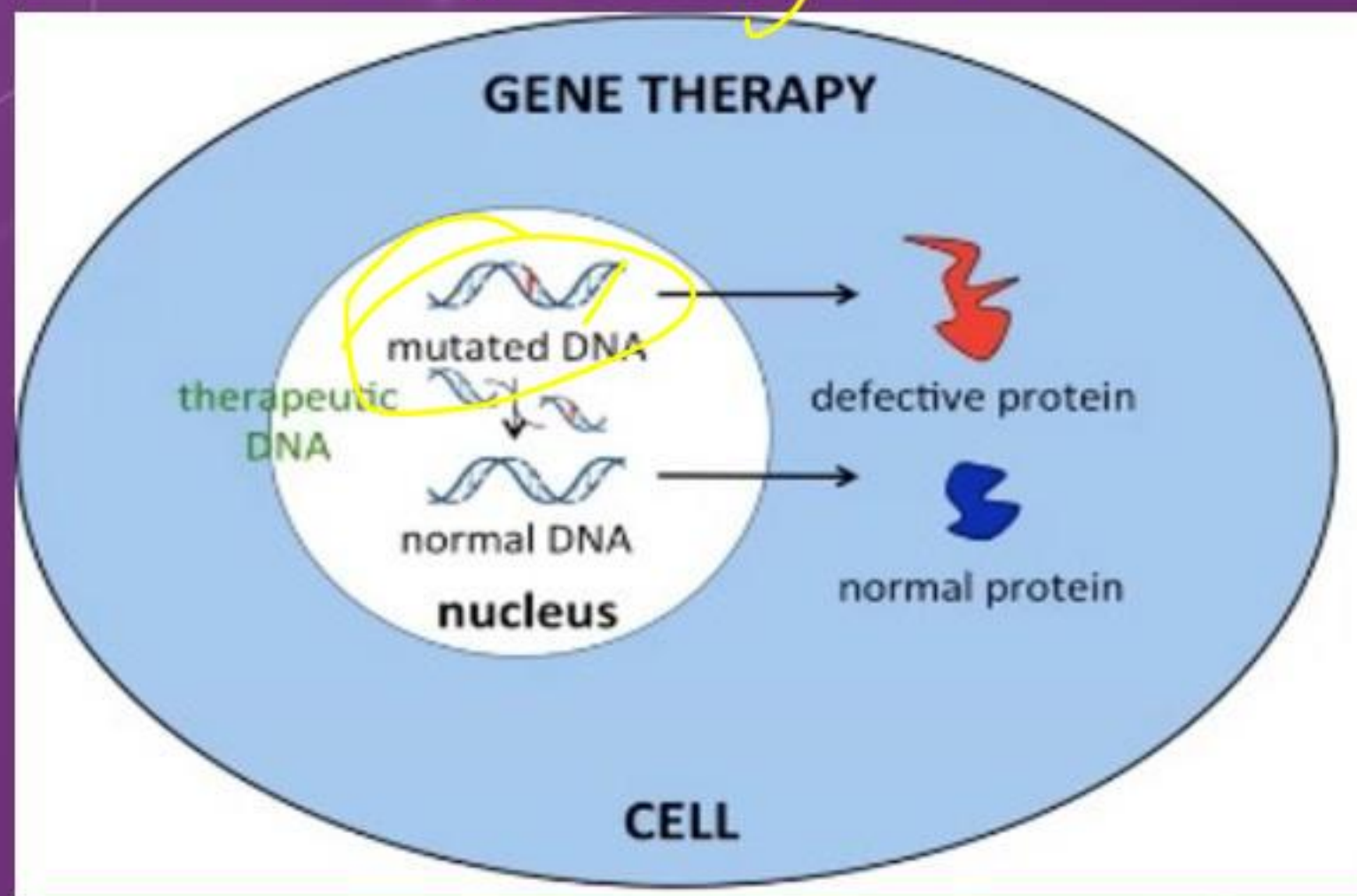
- Correct a defective gene
- Alter gene expression
  - Translation
  - Transcription

*Handwritten note:* Transcription

## Types of Genetic Diseases

- Somatic diseases
- Inherited diseases

*Handwritten note:* Somatic diseases





# Gene Therapy: Types

(CRISPR Cas9)

## Types

- Gene replacement
  - Gene silencing *RNA-int*
  - Gene editing
  - Gene addition/augmentation (CAR-T cell therapy)
- New gene*



# Advantages and Challenges

- Monogenic diseases

- Specific cells

- Long-lasting

- Delivery mechanism

- Disruption normal genes

- Immune response

Challenge

Rare disease

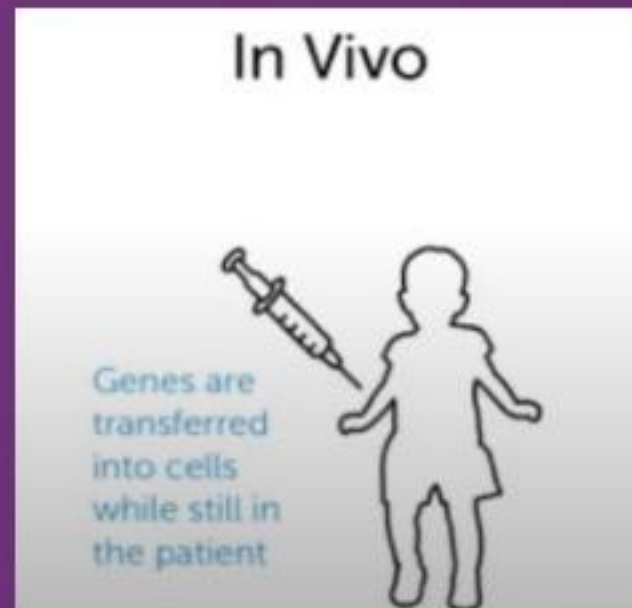
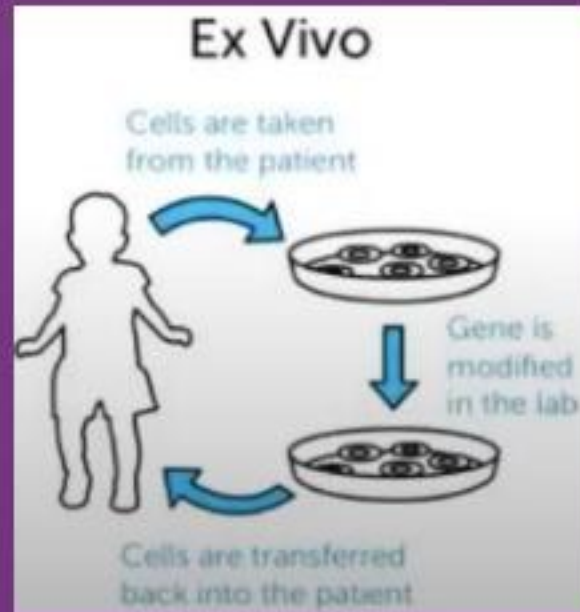


# Gene Delivery: Vectors

- Where?

- In-vivo

- Ex-vivo



- How?

- Viral

- Retrovirus

- Adenovirus

- AAV

- Non-viral

- Naked DNA

- Platforms



# Current state and the future

• Haematological diseases (Haemophilia, Thalassaemia)

• Eye Diseases (Corneal diseases)

• Degenerative Neurological Diseases

• Immunological Diseases (SCID, HIV)

• Rare Diseases

• Oncology

• Dermatology

• Metabolic diseases

• Nucleic acid vaccines

Sickle cell

2017

(Blood clotting factor)

missy

mRNA Vaccine

HIV

Cancer

Alzheimer

Parkinson's



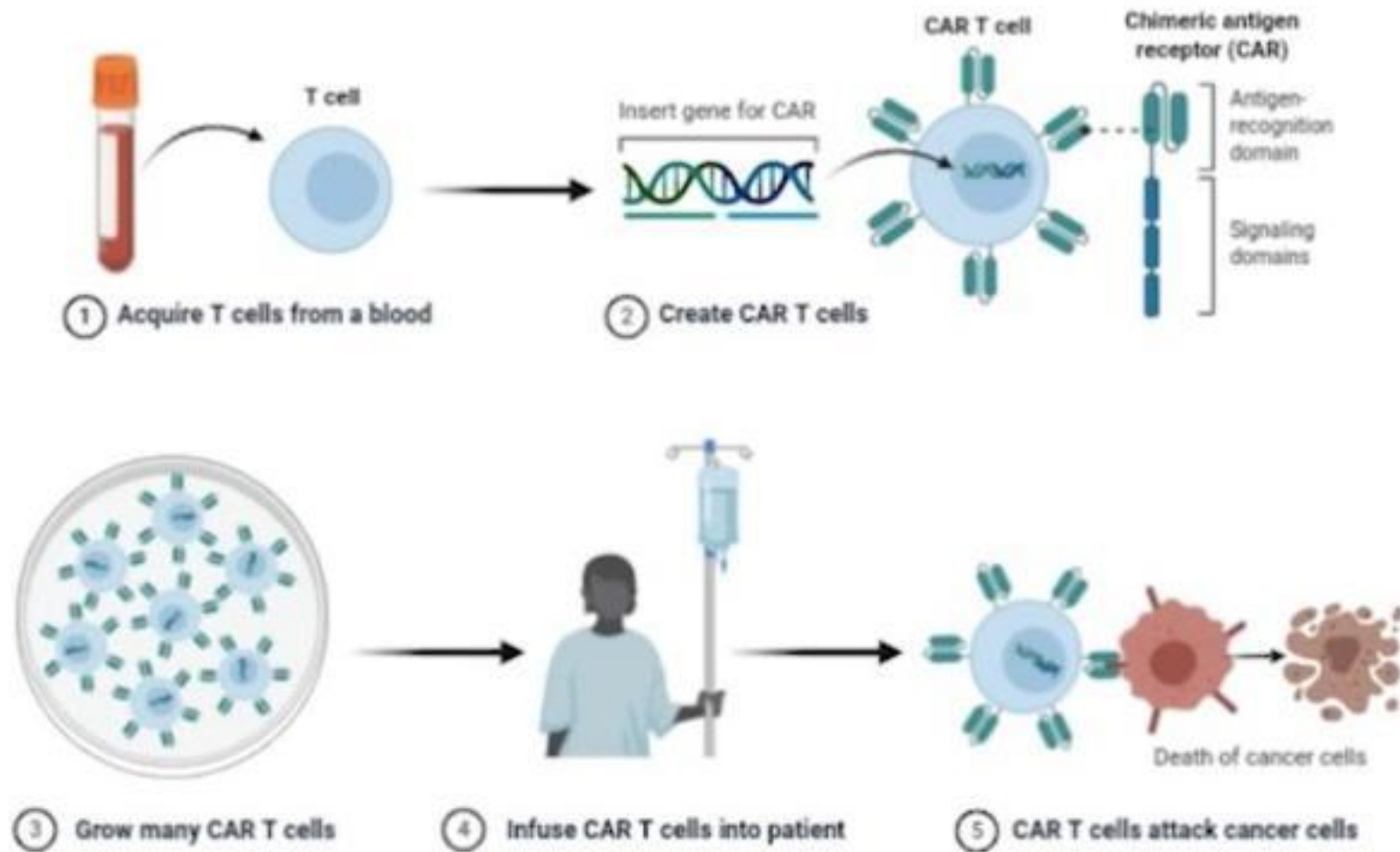
# CAR-T cell therapy

Department of Biotechnology supported First CAR-T cell therapy conducted at ACTREC, Tata Hospital in Mumbai

DBT/BIRAC-NBM Supported Phase I/II Clinical Trials

Posted On: 08 JUN 2021 11:12AM by PIB Delhi

## CAR T Cell Therapy: An Overview





## Primary Law

“Rules for the manufacture, use, import, export & storage of hazardous microorganisms, genetically engineered organisms or cells, 1989” under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

## Institutional framework

- Institutional Biosafety Committee
- Review Committee on Genetic Manipulation
- GEAC
- Monitoring is done by Committees at District, State and Central level.

## Other legislations

- Plant Quarantine Order, 2003
- Biological Diversity Act, 2002
- Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006
- ICMR guideline related to biosafety of GM food in 2008.



- Section 3(c)
- Section 3(i)
- Manual of Patent Practice 2005 (BT inventions)
  - Novel
  - Significant human intervention
  - Industrial application
- SC decision in Monsanto Case 2019