

MARG sets up science park near Chennai

fe Bureau

Chennai, Sep 9: MARG Limited, a diversified infrastructure development company, on Thursday announced the setting up of the MARG Science Park, a facility for cutting edge research in life sciences technologies at its Swarnabhoomi project, 100 kms from Chennai. The foundation stone for the park was laid by Rajendra Kumar Pachauri, chief, inter-governmental panel on climate change; director general, TERI and head - Yale Energy and Climate Institute.

Spread over 40 acre, the park will house world class ready-to-use wet laboratory space for research in various sectors of life sciences such as biotechnology, biopharmaceuticals, contract research, nanotechnology, agri technology and medical devices. The state-of-the-art facility will be complemented with excellent lifestyle amenities and business support services to make it a favoured destination for the

top players of the life sciences industry.

The science park will also house a technology incubator centre to support start ups in life sciences and a bio-IT zone suitable for bio informatics & data centre. The park has been envisioned as an 'innovation led futuristic research hub' set in an inspiring setting and will leverage the 'knowledge and innovation ecosystem' of MARG Swarnabhoomi.

GRK Reddy, chairman and managing director, MARG group, said, "The park is an important milestone in translating our vision into a thriving reality. We are happy to have Pachauri whose environmental contributions need no mention to do the honours. The park is ideally located at our Swarnabhoomi project which will have 24x7 inclusive facilities. The cleaner environment with lesser pollution and the tranquil surroundings will be an ideal platform for scientists to undertake research with

peace of mind. The park will therefore be an ideal breeding ground for a self sustaining and technologically fertile environment"

The park would be the first platinum rated science park in the country. It is already a member of the International Association of Science Parks (IASP), the largest global network of science and technology parks. The park will have a working alliance with International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (Icrisat), a United Nations agency, for setting up an integrated agro-processing zone in the science park consisting of an agro-incubation centre, testing lab. This would give impetus to agri-related research and commercialization of research outputs from Icrisat.

A technology incubation centre will be created with support from Centre to facilitate start-up incubation in life sciences research and would consist of laboratory modules for research.