

## Press release

Your contacts

Vaijayanti Karande  
Tel. +91 98207 96857 / +91 22 6660 9194  
[vaijayanti.karande@merck.co.in](mailto:vaijayanti.karande@merck.co.in)  
Karishma Gundewadi  
Tel. +91 98675 20712 / +91 22 4353 0269  
[karishma.gundewadi@edelman.com](mailto:karishma.gundewadi@edelman.com)

September 26, 2011

### ‘Merck Millipore India Innovation Awards’ to encourage Scientists

- **Three winners will receive a total of 6 million rupees (EUR 90,000) from India’s first awards programme in the life science sector**
- **Scientists from government-funded and not-for-profit public research institutes are eligible**

New Delhi, September 26, 2011: Merck Millipore, the life science division of Merck KGaA of Darmstadt, Germany, today announced the launch of the **Merck Millipore India Innovation Awards (MMIIA)**. The programme is the **first-of-its-kind** and is intended to recognize exemplary research undertaken by scientists from government-funded and not-for-profit public research institutes in the field of life science, i.e. green chemistry, medicinal chemistry, chemical and bioanalytics, proteomics, genomics, drug discovery and delivery, biomanufacturing, biomarkers and synthetic biology.

Unlike other awards, MMIIA hopes to celebrate, encourage and inspire innovation amongst the Indian scientific community in the life science sector. The awards aim to acknowledge efforts of scientists who are working tirelessly to produce innovative research outside of commercial research centres.

A jury comprising seven eminent scientists from India and Germany will select three winners from a shortlisted group of candidates. In addition to a certificate of merit, **the three winners will receive a cash reward of Rs. 3 million, Rs. 2 million and Rs. 1 million, respectively to help further their research prospects.**

“India comprises one of the world’s fastest growing pharmaceutical markets and possesses a huge potential to become a global frontrunner in biotech, medical and public health research”, **Dr. Marek Dziki, Managing Director, Merck Limited**. “By instituting the Merck Millipore India Innovation Awards we hope to provide Indian scientists with the necessary resources and recognition to fulfil their research aspirations and enable them to excel.”

**Mr. Prantik Mukherjee, Head, Merck Millipore in India** added, “The Merck Millipore India Innovation Awards programme is an apt reflection of our global vision of unleashing the potential of science for life. We believe we are strategic partners to our customers, and through, this award programme, are one step closer to delivering on our commitment to advance the promise of life science.”

Remarked **Dr. Theodor Dingermann, Director of the Institute of Pharmaceutical Biology at the Goethe-University in Frankfurt** and a member of MMIIA’s Scientific Advisory Board: “The scientific community in India is amongst the best in the world but often does not have access to world-class resources and facilities like its global counterparts. The Merck Millipore India Innovation Awards will provide scientists in the public sector with the opportunity to strengthen their research. The selection criterion is based on the innovation impact level, scientific creativity, industrial scalability and sustainability. We are looking for a scientific innovation that contributes towards improving the quality of life, helps in employment generation and facilitates economic transformations.”

Besides Dr. Dingermann, the other members of MMIIA’s Scientific Advisory Board are:

- Dr. Dhrubajyoti Chattopadhyay, Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Academic), Calcutta University | Director, Centre for Research in Nanoscience and Nanotechnology at Calcutta University
- Dr. Karl-Heinz Derwenskus, Senior Vice President, Head of Innovation Strategy, Technology Office Chemicals, Merck KGaA
- Dr. Yamuna Krishnan, Senior Assistant Professor, National Centre for Biological Sciences, TIFR, Bengaluru, India
- Dr. Ramesh Chander Kuhad, Professor at the Department of Microbiology in University of Delhi South Campus, New Delhi
- Professor G. D. Yadav, Vice Chancellor and R. T. Mody Distinguished Professor of the Institute of Chemical Technology, Mumbai | J.C. Bose National Fellow

- Dr. J. S. Yadav, Director Indian Institute of Chemical Technology, Hyderabad, India

The deadline for submissions to the Merck Millipore India Innovation Awards is January 15, 2012. The selection process will run from January 16 to May 31, 2012 and the winners will be announced at a scientific symposium in mid-2012. For more information on Merck Millipore India Innovation Award, please visit our websites: [www.merck.co.in](http://www.merck.co.in) / [www.merck-chemicals.com/in](http://www.merck-chemicals.com/in)

#### **About Merck Millipore**

Merck Millipore is the Life Science division of Merck KGaA of Germany and offers a broad range of innovative, performance products, services and business relationships that enable our customers' success in research, development and production of biotech and pharmaceutical drug therapies. Through dedicated collaboration on new scientific and engineering insights, and as one of the top three R&D investors in the Life Science Tools industry, Merck Millipore serves as a strategic partner to customers and helps advance the promise of life science. Headquartered in Billerica, Massachusetts (USA), the division has around 10,000 employees, operations in 67 countries and 2010 revenues of EUR 1.7 billion.

#### **About Merck**

Merck is a global pharmaceutical and chemical company with total revenues of €9.3 billion in 2010, a history that began in 1668, and a future shaped by approximately 40,000 employees in 67 countries. Its success is characterized by innovations from entrepreneurial employees. Merck's operating activities come under the umbrella of Merck KGaA, in which the Merck family holds an approximately 70% interest and shareholders own the remaining approximately 30%. In 1917 the U.S. subsidiary Merck & Co. was expropriated and has been an independent company ever since.

**Merck in India** Merck Limited (formerly E. Merck Limited) was set up in India as the first Merck subsidiary in Asia in 1967. The Merck Group has been operating in India through appointed agents since a little before the turn of the twentieth century. The Company operates both its Pharmaceuticals and Chemicals businesses in the country. Merck was also the first Merck Group Company to go public in the year 1981. The Merck Group now holds 51.8% of the share capital in Merck Limited, while the remaining 48.2% is traded on the Bombay Stock Exchange Ltd. and National Stock Exchange of India Ltd. Merck Specialities Pvt. Ltd., the wholly owned Indian subsidiary of Merck KGaA, was incorporated in 2005.

Following the acquisition of Millipore, a leading life science company in USA, in 2010; the resulting entity, Merck Millipore is now a leading in the field of life sciences. Prior to that, in 2009, Merck acquired Bangalore Genei to become one of the leading bioscience entities in India. In 2010 (January – December), the turnover of Merck Limited totalled Rs. 5090.8 million.

Merck, through its manufacturing facility at Goa, is the only manufacturer of Guaiazulene, Thiamine Disulfide (TDS) and Oxynex ST, in addition to being the largest manufacturer of Vitamin E in India. Merck in India also produces injectables and soft gel capsules; its Dehydrated Culture Media plant is the first for Merck outside Germany.

---