Center for Augmenting WAR with COVID-19

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The Department of Science and Technology (DST), Government of India, has announced the setting up of CAWACH — a centre with Rs 56 crore fund to back more start-ups and more out-of-the-box ideas to beat coronavirus. CAWACH stands for Centre for Augmenting WAR with COVID-19 Health Crisis.

CAWACH

The centre will have the important task of **identifying up to 50 innovations and startups that can help in the current situation** and supporting them. The implementing agency will be **Society for Innovation and Entrepreneurship (SINEE), a business incubator at IIT Bombay. It is an initiative by the National Science & Technology Entrepreneurship Development Board** (NSTEDB), DST.

SINE will be supported by Indian STEPs and Business Incubator Association (ISBA) in implementation of the program. CAWACH supports innovations in the areas of diagnostics, devices, informatics including bio-informatics & information management systems, any intervention for the control of COVID-19 and/ or startup ideas to address/ mitigate various challenges faced by the country / society due to the severe impact of COVID-19.

Supported Products and Solutions

1. High thrust products and solutions
   - High impact products based on frugal innovations that address COVID-19 challenges

Ventilators and PPE

- Portable ventilators, Respirator, Resuscitator, Pulse oximeters, Oxygen concentrators and other peripheral medical equipment such as Contactless thermometers & Stethoscopes, Patient monitoring system, accessories
- Personal Protective Equipment (Masks, Shields, Suits, Goggles, Linen and disposable gowns, gloves, lab shoes), relevant medical accessories

- **Sterilizers and Disinfectants**: Sanitizers, Disinfectants and allied systems such as Booths / Community disinfectant stations / chambers, Bio-hazardous waste management solutions, Large scale sanitization and sterilization, Surface sterilization units (preferably automated & IoT enabled)

- **Diagnostic**: Rapid Antibody & Antigen diagnostic kits, Other diagnostic kits, Genomics based mapping solutions, Reagents, Safe sample collections

- **Informatics**: Health care information systems, Movement tracking & tracing, Crowd management, Geofencing, Logistics, any containment solutions involving software / mobile applications, Patient tracking / monitoring systems

1. Any solution that addresses / mitigates various challenges faced by country / society due to severe impact of COVID-19
2. Product / solution near-ready, ready for deployment or manufacturing scaleup or repurposing of existing products and services that can be quickly deployed