

OPPORTUNITY LANDSCAPE PANEL Q&A

SEPTEMBER 25, 2021

Q. Please talk a little bit about moving back to India and setting up independent research lab in India. challenges and personal experience (Asked by Khaja Shameem)

A. All academic labs in India well equipped. if you want to set up small lab, you need to depend yourself. Alternatively, today virtual lab with your ideas using outsourcing model is way forward.

Q. Big fan Dr. Ella. You are a true hero. What was the motivation for starting a company and not an academic lab as most people do while going back to India? How was the experience for the funding and logistics while setting up the company initially? Was your initial fundings from Indian VCs or your contacts in US?(Asked by Swarup Dey)

A. indian vc is vulture. my contacts in usa helped me to get some angel investor that facilitated for my survival during two years without any funding outside

Q. Hi Dr. Krishna Ella, thanks for your insight. My friend's tell me that not to come back to India without a job in hand. What are your thoughts on this?. (Asked by Anbarasu Karthikaichamy)

A. You can take industry job and then look for academic job if you still want to pursue academic

Q. Dr.Ella: May I request you to kindly share how much did you invest when you started the Bharath Biotech, and how your professional network including your friends helped to set up your great vision. How did government assisted your bold initiative. What are the initial setbacks you overcame and when you have started reaping the rewards of the great risk you have undertaken with a great vision and self faith. Thank you very much. (Asked by Raja Ragupathy)

A. I put up 1 crores and two friends gave me 2 crores, Took 3 crores IDBI VC and 6,5 crores as a loan. I took the loan only when I completed phase 2 trial

Q. Food security is an important area for India. In my view, translational research is needed in food production. Any support from policy makers in this regard, to implement state of the tools like Gene-editing to modify traits like salinity tolerant plants etc. please advise. Why IITs and IISERs view translational research as inferior and only focus on paper publications. (Asked by Raja Ragupathy)

A. Gene editing has some social and political questions in India. We are going for irradiation of food

Q. I am interested in looking at how sRNA regulates bacterial pathogens in responding to nutrient stress and how that can used to develop antimicrobial therapies. I would appreciate if anyone can elaborate on the opportunities related to that. (Asked by Rhishita Chourashi)

A. Please look at siRNA field in Cotton - changing

Q. Dear Panelists, Thank you for the good discussion. I have a question that I am increasingly getting worried about : Why are there age limits for positions in India?

A. No limits to the Industry job. it is only skill and passion