

- The Department of Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR) was created in February 1992 through the initial capital investment from the Department of Science and Technology (DST), Department of Biotechnology (DBT), and the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India during the 8th plan period.
- The Department was formally inaugurated in March 1993 by the Nobel Laureate Prof. Richard R. Ernst.
- Phase-I of the development of the Department involved procurement and installation of -
 - (i) Biospec 47/40 animal research MRI/MRS scanner (Bruker), which became operational in March 1993.
 - (ii) Magnetom 63/84-SP whole body clinical MRI/MRS scanner (Siemens), which became functional in October 1993.
- Under phase-II, a vertical bore 9.4 Tesla (T) FT NMR spectrometer (Bruker) was installed in 1996 for multidisciplinary molecular level NMR investigation of cells, tissues, proteins, biofluids, etc.
- During phase-III of the infrastructural development, the department procured and installed the second MR scanner, a 1.5T Sonata MRI/MRS scanner (Siemens) in 2002.
- Phase-IV involved upgradation of the Magnetom MR scanner to a 1.5T Avanto MRI/MRS scanner (Siemens) in 2005 and purchase of a 3T Achieva MR scanner (Philips) in 2009.
- In Phase-V, the 1.5T Sonata MR scanner was upgraded to a 3T Ingenia scanner (Philips) in 2014 and the 1.5T Avanto to a 1.5T Aera MR scanner (Siemens) in 2017.
- The Department has now two 3T and one 1.5T whole body MRI scanners for patient care and research. A joint meeting of the expert and management committees set the guidelines for use of time of the MR scanners - 60% for clinical work and 40% for developmental MRI/MRS research work.
- The Department now has a 7.0T animal MR scanner (Bruker), which is an upgrade of the Biospec 47/40 in 2014. Imaging and spectroscopy of small animals (rodents, mice, etc) can be carried out in this scanner.
- The currently available 16.4T vertical bore high resolution NMR spectrometer (Agilent) is an upgrade of the 9.4T NMR spectrometer in 2009.