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Government of India
Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
(Department of Health Research)

2nd Floor, Red Cross Building, New Delhi
Dated: 21st February, 2023

Subject: - Monthly Summary to the Cabinet for the month of January, 2023-Reg.

The undersigned is directed to circulate herewith a copy of the unclassified portion of the **Monthly Summary for the Cabinet** pertaining to the Department of Health Research (Ministry of Health and Family Welfare) for the month of January, 2023.



(H C Mondal)
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To

1. All members of Council of Ministers
2. Deputy Chairman, NITI Aayog, Yojana Bhawan, New Delhi.
3. The Principal Information Officer, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, New Delhi

Copy to:

The Director, Cabinet Secretariat, Rashtrapati Bhawan, New Delhi-110001

Copy also forwarded for information to:

1. Secretary to the Government of India, All Ministries/Departments.
2. The Chairman, UPSC, Shahjahan Road, New Delhi.
3. Secretary to the President of India (Rashtrapati Ke Sachiv), Rashtrapati Bhawan, New Delhi.
4. Secretary to the Vice-President of India (Up-Rashtrapati ke Sachiv), Rashtrapati Bhawan, New Delhi.
5. PS to Prime Minister of India, South Block, New Delhi
6. Secretary, Inter-State Council Secretariat, MHA, Vigyan Bhawan Annexe, New Delhi.

Monthly report in the format on important issues/ developments for the month of January, 2023 is submitted herewith for kind perusal.

1. Important policy decisions taken and major achievements during the month:

a) policy decisions

1. Inauguration of the Annex Building & laying the foundation stone for ICMR School of Public Health & BSL-3 Lab.
2. Following the Desktop Surveillance, the NABL sanctioned continuation of accreditation of ICMR-NIV laboratories under scope, till 21st September, 2025.
3. Zonal MRHRUs to investigate interventions in primary prevention of Dementia in 10,000 subjects via cmRCT design.

b) Major achievements:

i. Major publications with significant health impact: More than 72, some of the important topics are listed below:

1. Targeted next-generation sequencing identifies novel deleterious variants in ANK1 gene causing severe hereditary spherocytosis in Indian patients.
2. Role of microRNA in hydroxyurea mediated HbF induction in sickle cell anaemia patients.
3. Chronic Hepatitis B and Related Liver Diseases Are Associated with Reduced 25-Hydroxy-Vitamin D Levels: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis.
4. Cost Effectiveness of Rituximab Therapy for Rheumatoid Arthritis: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis of Cost-Utility Studies.
5. Evaluation of two short standardised regimens for the treatment of rifampicin-resistant tuberculosis (STREAM stage 2): an open-label, multicentre, randomised, non-inferiority trial.

ii) Major events hosted (Conferences, Workshops, and Meetings etc): More than 75 meetings, workshops, webinars and conferences were hosted by various ICMR Institutes, some of the important one listed below:

- 1) ICMR showcased its activities and achievements at G20 Expo as part of 1st G20 Health Working Group meeting being held at Trivandrum.
- 2) Participation of ICMR in 108th Indian Science Congress at Nagpur.
- 3) Participation of ICMR in India International Science Festival at MANIT Bhopal.
- 4) Hands-on-Training workshop on "*HPV sample collection on filter paper, DNA Extraction, PCR, and Typing*".
- 5) ICMR, Training Course on "CytoGenomics in Clinical Practice".

iii) Major projects undertaken: New major projects were undertaken. Some of them listed below:

1. Mapping the impact of birth mode on maternal and infant intestinal microbiome including virome and resistome development of allergic disorders and antimicrobial resistance.
2. Development and evaluation of simple surveillance tools for specific detection of ZIKA virus in field caught vector mosquitoes in India.

3. Study of genome wide expression profiling of long non coding RNAs (lncRNAs) and mRNA association with myelodysplastic syndromes pathogenesis.
4. Socio-ecological study of cervical cancer screening and treatment in India: A qualitative study.

iv) **Training and capacity building programmes, courses etc.:** More than 60 training and capacity building programs were taken for students, trainers, state level officer engaged in the health programs by ICMR and ICMR institutes. Some of them are listed below:

1. Training to state VBD consultants for Filariasis MDA TOT program.
2. Whole Genome sequencing of SARS-CoV-2 using iON Torrent platform.
3. 'ICMR- Scientific Proposal development and quality enhancement workshop'.

v) Three Medical College VRDL have been established at GMC, Karnal, AIIMS, Rajkot and AIIMS, Guwahati.

vi) The State Cancer Institute (Lucknow) has established the DHR-ICMR Advanced Molecular oncopathology Services for providing free diagnostic services for Breast & lung cancer patients.

vii) **MoU Signed: 1**

MoU for research collaboration between ICMR-NIRT and Sri Ramachandra Institute of Higher Education and Research for Research Collaboration.

2. **Important policy matters held up on account of prolonged Inter-Ministerial consultations:**
NIL

3. **No. of cases of 'sanction for prosecution' pending for more than three months:**

12 cases in Chennai CAT and 1 case in High Court

4. **Particulars of cases in which there has been a departure from the Transaction of Business Rules or established policy of the Government:** NIL

5. **Status of ongoing Swachhta Abhiyan (progress under Special campaign):**

Various aspects of the Swachhta like monitoring day to day cleaning work of office premises are regular activities of DHR and ICMR.

6. **Status of Rationalization of Autonomous bodies: – Action already taken.**

7. **Information on specific steps taken for utilization of the space technology based tools and applications in Governance and Development:** NIL

8. **Vacancy position of senior level appointments in the Ministry/Department, including Autonomous Bodies/PSUs:**

Positions for Additional Director General (ICMR), and Directors of the 4 ICMR institutes.

9. **List of cases in which ACC directions have not been complied with:** NIL