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

2nd Floor, Red Cross Building, New Delhi

Dated: 22nd November, 2022

Subject: - Monthly Summary to the Cabinet for the month of October, 2022-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 October, 2022.



(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 October, 2022 is submitted herewith for kind perusal.

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

a. Policy decisions

1. The 'WHO Regional Manual for Laboratory Diagnosis of Nipah Virus' was revised as per the comments of experts from SEAR countries.
2. The non-conformities raised during the Internal Audit for Kyasanur Forest Disease and Crimean Congo Hemorrhagic Fever testing under NABL Scope were closed.
3. Memoranda of Understanding were signed with three companies for the validation of the Nucleic Acid Amplification Test kits for Monkeypox.

b. Major achievements:

i) Some of the important publications by ICMR with significant health impact are listed below:

1. Improving reproductive health of women; Evaluating the effect of measles and rubella mass vaccination; Associations between contraceptive decision-making and marital contraceptive communication; Exome sequencing; cervical cancer cells; complement system in *Aspergillus fumigatus* infection etc.
2. First report of the whole genome of *Moraxella bovoculi* genotype 1 from India and comparative genomics of *Moraxella bovoculi* to identify genotype-specific markers, Association and Outcome of Intracranial Haemorrhage in Newborn with Fungal Sepsis, Human Monkeypox,
3. Diagnostic Accuracy of Human Immunodeficiency Virus In Vitro Assays, Antiviral and Antioxidant Potential of C-Phycocyanin against HIV-1 Infection, HIV-exposed infants, Highly active antiretroviral therapy (HAART) and outcome of cervical lesions and high-risk HPV in women living with HIV (WLHIV)

Reports Released:

1. Situational analysis of childhood cancer care services in India.
2. Monograph of ICMR-NCDIR: A decade of research: impacting NCD public health actions.
3. ICMR Bioethics Unit Capacity building interactives such as FAQs, animated videos and educational movies.
4. Monitoring Survey of Cancer Risk Factors and Health System Response in North East Region for Sikkim

ii) More than 80 meetings, workshops, webinars and conferences were hosted by various ICMR Institutes, some of the important ones are listed below-

1. Hon'ble President of India Smt. Droupadi Murmu laid foundation stone of ICMR-NIV Central Zone at Jabalpur and ICMR-NIV East Zone at Dibrugarh.
2. Establishment of Indian HIV Bank at NARI
3. 4th Expert Group Meeting for the Task Force on Gene Therapy Research
4. 76th Expert Committee Meeting on Biological Standardization
5. Hands-on workshop on writing research projects

iii) More than 10 major projects were undertaken. Some of them are listed below.

1. Development of a Poliovirus-Essential Facility (PEF) in line with the GAP III at ICMR-NIV, Pune
2. Initiated "3HP scale-up" Demonstration Project for TB Prevention Therapy (TPT) in Tuticorin District of Tamil Nadu
3. "A paper based analytical tool for the detection of N-acetyl-beta-D-glucosaminidase biomarker and creatinine in urine for the diagnosis of kidney diseases due to occupational exposure to nephrotoxic agents"
4. "An explorative study to assess the arsenic, iron and fluoride contents of drinking water in entire state of Tripura.

iv. **Patent filed/Approved: 6**

1. Patent granted by the Indonesian Patent Office for ICMR Patent Application entitled "A novel molecular diagnostic technique for detecting the different species of Plasmodium".
2. ICMR, filed Application for patent for "Transdermal patch for analytes. Inventors"
3. Patent application filed on September 29, 2022 for "Novel bone graft to be used as scaffold in bone tissue engineering in critical sized defects".
4. Patent application filed on October 04, 2022 for "LAMP assay for rapid detection of Monkeypox virus";
5. Patent application filed on October 10, 2022 for "Microwave assisted screw conveyor for rice fortification".
6. Patent application filed on October 13, 2022 for "Visual and simple detection system for BK Virus".

v. **MoU Signed: 2**

1. Project Collaboration Agreement between DHR and WHO on Assistive Technology.
2. MOU signed between Pondicherry University and ICMR-VCRC on behalf of five Institutes of ICMR to facilitate affiliation of MSc Public Health Entomology under the National Public Health Entomology Program.
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:
10 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 Swachta Abhiyan (progress under Special campaign):
Various aspects of the Swachhta like monitoring day to day cleaning work of office premises, weeding out and recording of files and document were carried out in DHR and ICMR.
6. Status of Rationalization of Autonomous bodies: NIL. 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:
Vacancies advertised for Additional Director General (ICMR), and Directors of the 3 ICMR institutes (ICMR-NIMS, ICMR-JALMA, ICMR-NIV Pune).