



सत्यमेव जयते

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21<sup>st</sup>, April, 2015

स्वा. अनुसंधान विभाग  
Department of Health Research  
प्राप्ति  
R. & I. Secy  
जारी क्रमा. 22/4/15  
Issued

In order to reduce the diagnostic time in various viral diseases e.g. H1N1, influenza, swine flu etc. and to put in place an early warning system for various viral epidemics, the Union Cabinet has approved a Centrally Sponsored Plan scheme on 27<sup>th</sup> June 2013 for establishing a network of regional, state and local Viral Research and Diagnostic Laboratories (VRDLs) across the country.

2. The Government of India will set up over 160 viral research and diagnostic laboratories across the country in this Scheme. Under the Scheme 9 VRDLs (one State Level and eight medical College Level) are to be established in your State. Once these laboratories will be functional, it is expected that any viral epidemic occurring in your State will be diagnosed quickly to improve the public health response to these viral diseases/epidemics.

3. The performance of this scheme with respect of Andhra Pradesh was reviewed and it was revealed that two locations have already been finalised for medical college level laboratories. The preparatory work at the other 7 VRDLs (one State Level and six medical college level) locations are yet to be finalised. Also, various administrative issues were found needing attention pertaining particularly to the procurement of the equipment, renovation/construction of buildings and other miscellaneous preparatory works. I am also attaching a list of such administrative issues pertaining Andhra Pradesh needing urgent attention.

4. Although most of the Viral Research & Diagnostic Laboratories are being established in the Medical Colleges and the involvement of Medical College administration has been encouraging, however, it is felt that involvement of the State Medical Education Department would help in accelerating the pace of the implementation of this scheme.

5. We are also planning a review of this schemes pertaining to Andhra Pradesh in near future and I would request for the time, date and venue of the review meeting shortly. Meanwhile, the issues identified may please be got addressed and a nodal officer from the state government to please be nominated for this scheme, with his full communication details. As such proactive involvement of the Medical Education Department of the State Government is solicited.

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6. For the sake of convenience, the approved guidelines for the further scheme can be accessed at the website of Department of Health Research at [www.dhr.gov.in](http://www.dhr.gov.in). For any clarification, the undersigned or Dr. Nivedita Gupta, Scientist E /Deputy Director, Indian Council of Medical Research, Ansari Nagar, New Delhi – 110029 (Mobile No.9313978049/ Office No.26589397) may also be contacted.

*With regards.*

Yours sincerely

*R. P. Meena*  
(R. P. Meena)

**Shri L. V. Subhramanyam**

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