



सत्यमेव जयते

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Department of Health Research

प्रति और प्रेषण अनुभाग

R. & I. Section

जारी दिनांक 11/05/15

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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 27th June 2013 for establishing a network of regional, state and local Viral Research and Diagnostic Laboratories (VRDLs) across the country.

2. At the State level, NEIGRIHMS, Shillong has been assigned the important role of keeping surveillance on existing as well as new strains of viruses. Accordingly it is proposed to establish a VRDL equipped with BSL-2 facilities.

3. Although as a State level VRDL, NEIGRIHMS is eligible only for 90% funding from the Scheme, NEIGRIHMS being an Institute of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, it may seek remaining 10% may be reckoned as the land cost as per the provisions of the scheme. A total assistance of Rs.9.08 crores would be available for setting up the VRDL which includes cost of civil works/ furnishing and equipment etc. for microbiological and epidemiological diagnosis for serology, polymerase chain reaction, isolation, tissue culture and sequencing for all viruses, in addition to equipment like DNA sequencer, Advanced flowcytometry, Confocal Microscope, etc., and staff and consumables for a period of 5 years to carry out basic and applied research. As a start-up, funds to the tune of Rs.2.97 crores on 21st March, 2014 have already been released Institute on to take up civil works/renovation and procurement of equipment in a phased manner.

4. A review meeting held on 18th February, 2015 emphasised that the speed of implementation of the scheme, particularly civil works and procurement of equipment may be given a fresh thrust. I hope considerable progress might have been achieved by now and the funds also might have been utilised. During the review meeting various administrative issues were found needing attention. I am attaching a statement of these issues for quick settlement. We are planning a second review of this scheme pertaining to the Institute in near future and I would request for the time, date and venue shortly.

5. For the sake of convenience, the approved guidelines for the scheme can also be accessed at the website of Department of Health Research at 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.


Yours sincerely

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(R. P. Meena)

Dr. A. G. Ahangar
Director
NEIGRIHMS
Mawdiangdiang
Shillong-789018
Meghalaya, India

✍ Copy to:
Shri K.C Samaria
Joint Secretary, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
Govt. of India
Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi

✓ Copy also to:
✓ Nivedita Gupta, Scientist E /Deputy Director,
Indian Council of Medical Research,
Ansari Nagar, New Delhi – 110029


(R.P. Meena)
Joint Secretary.

ISSUES TO BE ADDRESSED IN RESPECT OF NEIGRIHMS,
SHILLONG

	FUNDS RELEASED	ISSUES TO BE ADDRESSED
1.	DHR has already released first instalment of Rs. 2,97,00,000/- 1. Renovation- Rs. 25 lakh. 2. Equipment - Rs. 2.72 crore	Hopefully, the delivery of equipment ought to have been completed by now and the laboratory might have been made function.
		Nodal Officer, Prof. A.C Phukan may please be advised to take suitable steps for making the laboratory functional at the earliest a confirmation to this effect may please be sent.
		Utilisation Certificate may please be sent at the earliest so that next instalment of funds could be released.
		Data on various viral tests conducted in the VRDL may please be furnished to DHR as well as it may be uploaded on the portal of NIE, Chennai