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

2nd Floor, Red Cross Building, New Delhi
Dated: 10th April, 2024

Subject: - Monthly Summary to the Cabinet for the month of March, 2024-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 March, 2024.


(B.B. Senapati)
Director,

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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 (RashtrapatiKeSachiv), Rashtrapati Bhawan, New Delhi.
4. Secretary to the Vice-President of India (Up-RashtrapatikeSachiv), 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.

Subject: -Detailed report on the significant developments of the Department of Health Research (DHR) for the month of March, 2024 in the prescribed format.

Monthly report in the format on important issues/ developments for the month of March, 2024 is submitted herewith for kind perusal.

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

a) Policy decisions:

1. The Union Health Minister launched Ayush-ICMR Advanced Centre for Integrative Health Research (AI-ACIHR) at AIIMS.
2. DHR-ICMR mPRAGATI's Metal Additive Manufacturing (M-AM) Facility inaugurated.
3. Union Cabinet approved the creation of a post of Director of National Institute of One Health, Nagpur at the level of Scientist H (in the level 15) to spearhead National One Health Mission for integrated disease control and pandemic preparedness by bringing human, animal, plant and environmental sectors together.
4. ICMR has signed a Letter of Agreement with Bill Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF).
5. Inauguration of new Haematology & Nutrition clinics at the existing facility in a temporary space provided to MRHRU in Vani, Maharashtra by State Health Department.

b) Major achievements:

i) Major publications with significant health impact: (More than 35, some of the important publication topics listed below):

1. Convalescent millets combating against non-communicable diseases.
2. MicroRNA Mediated regulation of oxidative stress and cytokines in Chlamydia trachomatis-infected recurrent spontaneous abortion.
3. Computational and Experimental Studies in Alzheimer's Disease.
4. Assessment of the inhibitory activity of hydroalcoholic extract for the development of anti-filarial drug.
5. Assessing the Global Impact of Ambient Air Pollution on Cancer Incidence and Mortality.
6. District-Wise Heterogeneity in Blood Pressure Measurements, Prehypertension, Raised Blood Pressure.
7. Detection of the infective *Plasmodium falciparum* gametocytes by RT-qPCR assay from a malaria-endemic region of North-Eastern India.
8. Strengthening global snakebite data for WHO's goal for 2030.

ii) Major events hosted (Conferences, Workshops, and Meetings etc): More than 44 meetings, workshops, webinars and conferences were hosted by various ICMR Institutes, some of the important one listed below:

1. Workshop on Tribal Health, webinar on Implementation Research.
2. 164th Meeting of Health Ministry's Screening Committee (HMSC).
3. 6th Meeting of the ICMR network for Phase I clinical Trial CAR Advisory Committee (CAC).
4. Review meeting of Taskforce on Rare Disease.
5. 7th Meeting of the ICMR network for Phase I clinical Trial CAR Advisory Committee (CAC).

iii) Major projects undertaken: more than 5 new project initiated.

1. Development of blood-based molecular test for early detection of gallbladder cancer.
2. Exploring the Landscape of the Mosquito Genome and its Functional Relationship with the Human-Mosquito Microbiome in the Mosquitoes Behavioral Physiology.
3. Tailored interventions for vector surveillance and control.
4. Multi-Location field testing to assess acceptability of bottle bio-assay to monitor susceptibility in prevalent vector species with WHO discriminating concentrations of different insecticides.
5. Development of antigen-based and molecular diagnostic tools for improved detection of malaria and its genetic mutants.

iv) Training and capacity building programmes, courses etc.: More than 30 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. Webinar on "Understanding the role of social media in scientific and research communication".
2. Training on mosquito colony maintenance, mosquito identification, mosquito prevention etc for junior Entomologist.
3. MPHE - Multicentric Project Nodal officers Meeting.
4. One Day Interactive Training program for Veterinary Faculty.
5. Training on virus and parasite detection using molecular techniques for VBDs was organised .

v) Patent filed/Approved: 1

"An Intravenous Pharmaceutical Medicament for Candidiasis Infection" has been filed on March 18, 2024.

vi) MoU Signed: 2

1. ICMR & NIHFV join hands for Strengthening Healthcare: Signing of MoU between ICMR and NIHFV on 15.03.2024 at the ICMR Hqrs, on Standard Treatment Workflows (STWs) and other Academic & Research Collaboration, fostering cooperation to advance vital health research on India's priorities identified by ICMR.
2. An MoU with NHA to extend cashless healthcare services to about 30,000 ICMR serving employees, pensioners & their dependents. The beneficiaries can avail the benefits in AB PM-JAY empanelled hospitals in all the States and UTs.

vii) Meeting of the Technical Evaluation Committee held on 12.03.2024 to consider and evaluate cases relating proposal for establishment of Laboratories under DHR-ICMR Advanced Molecular Oncology Diagnostic Services (DIAMONDS) Project.

viii) Review Meeting of Health Technology Assessment Resource Centres was held on 19th - 22nd March, 2024.

ix) One Model Rural Health Research Unit (MRHRU) has been sanctioned for establishment at PHC, Thoppur, Thubariman, Madurai.

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

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

4. No. of cases of 'sanction for prosecution' pending for more than three months: NIL

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

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

6. Status of Rationalization of Autonomous bodies: NIL.

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: Sr. Financial Advisor Vacancy announced.

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