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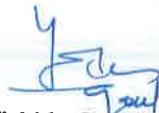
स्वास्थ्य अनुसंधान विभाग
Department of Health Research
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Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
(Department of Health Research)

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Dated the 13th June, 2018

Subject: Monthly Summary to the Cabinet for the month of May, 2018-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 May, 2018.


(V.K. GAUBA)
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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:

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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**

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Ministry of Health & family Welfare
Department of Health Research

MONTHLY SUMMARY FOR THE CABINET FOR THE MONTH OF MAY,
2018

An update on the principal activities and key initiatives undertaken by the Department of Health Research (DHR) during the month of April, 2018 is indicated below:

Important policy decisions taken and major achievements during the month:

- a. **Nipah virus outbreak in Kerala:** Conducted diagnostic testing and investigations of the outbreak, developed and published detailed guidelines on packaging and transport of clinical samples collected from suspected cases of Nipah virus infection, and about the referral laboratories, uploaded a note for public dissemination on ICMR website.
- b. Undertook **strengthening of laboratory quality management systems** including EQA of DHR/ICMR VRDL laboratories for laboratory confirmation of outbreaks including measles and rubella.
- c. **DST-ICMR Centre of Excellence for Climate Change & Vector Borne Diseases** at ICMR-NIMR was inaugurated on 28th May 2018, to determine link between disasters and VBDs, develop early warning system for outbreaks, and capacity building of stakeholders, in addition to identifying vulnerable areas.
- d. **National tobacco testing laboratory** inaugurated at ICMR-NICPR on 31st May, 2018.
- e. Released '**ICMR Coffee Table Book-Touching Lives**' on 16 success stories highlighting ICMR landmark achievements and '**Animation Film**' on ICMR activities and achievements
- f. Released book on '**Safety Review on Selected Indian Medicinal Plants**', (75 Monographs).
- g. Initiated new program: **Nurturing Clinical Scientists Scheme**- To foster high quality research opportunities to promising fresh MBBS degree holders.
- h. Initiated **new program of funding** by DHR-ICMR for 'Workshops on Clinical Training/Translational Research'.
- i. Published **39 research papers** in good impact journals in the areas of tuberculosis (8), HIV (3), malaria (3), JE/AES (2), chikungunya, antibiotic use in farm animals, enteric fever, malnutrition, obesity, Socio-behavioural research, cancer, Chandipura, Bacterial meningitis, leishmaniasis etc.

- j. Undertaken **20 major projects** including rifabutin drug trial for HIV-TB patients; utilization of school students as Ambassadors in TB sensitization (Chennai); Social Network analysis as a tool to improve active case finding(Chennai); patient's perceptions on quality of care in TB care settings(Chennai); prevalence of TB in Tiruvallur district; prevalence of TB in Mental Health Hospital (Chennai); Prevalence of Tuberculosis in Homeless population (Chennai); seven different trials in the area of TB drugs and vaccine; Early infant diagnosis study (Gujarat and Odisha); diagnostic facilities for haemoglobinopathies in 22 tribal districts (Madhya Pradesh); district level model to address under nutrition & hidden hunger; Antiviral profiling of Influenza viruses from India; Polio serology assays; bio-ecological studies on *Aedes aegypti* mosquito population (pilot scale);Hospital based sentinel surveilalnce for *S. pneumoniae* and other IBD (pan India); prevalence and predictors of Vit B12 deficiency(pan India); IMRVI Project (Kanpur).
- k. Conducted **34 training courses** for medical officers, health staff of Indian Air Force, clinical faculties, post-graduate doctors, research scientists, research assistants, laboratory technologists, Officer Trainees (Army, Air-force & Navy) in specific areas of health disorders ranging from writing project proposals to diagnostic testing techniques. Also, general lectures on importance of hand washing, oral, breast and cervical cancers, various viral disease and new technologies for general public for awareness were organized.