



INDIAN COUNCIL OF MEDICAL RESEARCH

Department of Health Research – Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
Government of India

Press Release

Union Health Minister Dr. Harsh Vardhan visits ICMR, Jodhpur Institute

Shifting its focus from Regional to National level research the Institute will now be called by the name National Institute for Implementation Research on Non-Communicable Diseases (NIIRNCD)

11th December 2019, New Delhi

Dr. Harsh Vardhan, Hon'ble Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare, Science and Technology and Earth Sciences and Sh. Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Hon'ble Union Minister of Jal Shakti visited ICMR's -Desert Medicine Research Centre (DMRC), Jodhpur as Chief Guest for the renaming ceremony of DMRC Jodhpur Institute to **National Institute for Implementation Research on Non-Communicable Diseases (NIIRNCD)**. This National Institute will now focus on National level research with field stations located in other parts of the country. The Hon'ble Ministers also laid the foundation stone of the administrative block of the Institute.

At the event Dr. Harsh Vardhan, Hon'ble Union Minister appreciated the research work being done by the Institute and said that generally any institute is named first and its action plan is prepared later; but this Institute has demonstrated the advantages of implementation research; made an action plan and now it is named after its work. In the coming years, this institute will work

for the people of the country by facilitating and carrying research in the area of Non Communicable diseases.

Hon'ble Union Minister further mentioned that Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), along with all its institutes, have been working since 1911 for the betterment of health of the people.

Sh. Gajendra Singh Shekhawat, Hon'ble Union Minister of Jal Shakti said that I am happy to know that ICMR has taken this important initiative and has chosen Rajasthan for the same. He also said that after becoming a national Institute, its reputation has not been confined to Jodhpur or Rajasthan, but the Institute will serve the needs of the entire nation with respect to NCDs. He wished the Institute all the best for its future activities.

Addl. DG ICMR and Director NIIRNCD Dr. G.S.Toteja, briefed the Ministers about the research activities of the institute since its inception in 1984. He informed that under the **mega community based study on sickle cell anaemia**, more than one lakh tribal population have been screened and cards related to their status as normal/ carrier or diseased have been distributed to them. He also informed that under **another project for early detection of breast cancer in women**, about 84,000 women have been trained for breast self-examination and out of these women, 489 were found to be suspected of breast cancer, out of which 9 women have been confirmed with breast cancer cases and are currently undergoing treatment. Dr. Toteja said that the Institute will continue to work in collaboration with the State Government for the community so that effective health care reaches to the poorest.

Dr Harsh Vardhan congratulated Dr. G.S. Toteja, for not confining only to collecting data or publishing research papers but also educating masses on prevention of diseases.

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