Note of Submission

We are privileged to submit the report of the High Power Committee (HPC) constituted by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India to evaluate the performance of the ICMR with reference to the research activities initiated during XI plan and are being continued in XII Plan.

The role of ICMR is crucial to supplement the national health programmes and provide cost effective solutions. The global health research is a challenge in view of the emerging and re-emerging infections like H1N1, SARS, Crimean Congo virus, the spread of older diseases like dengue, chikungunya, Japanese Encephalitis (JE), rising lifestyle diseases, urbanization related accidents and trauma and expected climate-change related diseases.

The HPC obtained information/documents from ICMR's 32 institutes and 13 Technical Divisions at Headquarters on existing programmes, ongoing activities and discussed the proposed XII Plan in series of meetings. The HPC in its report highlights the important achievements of ICMR and identified studies to be dropped. The HPC also identified certain essential areas/activities which cannot be discontinued.

HPC noted with satisfaction the significant achievements made by the ICMR during XI plan:

- Diagnostic and other support for the new H1N1 infection
- Formulating draft bills for Department of Health Research for research governance
- Expanding research initiatives to medical colleges
- Launching of flagship programmes

HPC, however, felt that appreciable work undertaken by ICMR, has not been projected adequately to reach a wider audience. Many technologies/strategies evolved by ICMR have not been adopted by the state governments. There is a felt need for synergy and commercialization of the promising leads for the benefit of the society. HPC strongly recommends greater cohesiveness amongst the ICMR institutions; better co-ordination for tackling individual diseases by different institutions with diverse skills.

HPC strongly recommends the speedy implementation of the report in order to give a fresh impetus to ICMR to attain the national health mission and goals for Health for All.

(Prof. P N Tandon) Chairperson

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Pr. S K Joshi)

(Dr. M Gourie Devi)

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(Prof. Indira Nath)

(Dr. S Hasnain)

(Lt Gen D Raghunath)

(Dr. K Mohan Das)

(Dr. G K Rath)

(Dr. D R Ayapati)

(Dr. J M Tharakan)

(Dr. W Selvamurthy)

(Dr. Dwarka Nath)*

(Shri S K Srivastava) (AS&FA, MOHFW)

(Dr. V M Katoch) (Member Secretary)

^{*} Represented Dr W Selvamurthy in initial 6 meetings