

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH RESEARCH**

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5650  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 27<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2026**

**HEALTH EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE TRUST FUND**

**5650. SHRI LAVU SRI KRISHNA DEVARAYALU:  
SHRI BASTIPATI NAGARAJU:**

Will the Minister of **HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE** be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of the funds allocated and utilised under the Health Emergency Preparedness and Response (HEPR) Trust Fund in India, year-wise since its inception;
- (b) the details regarding the list of activities undertaken and infrastructure created or funded through the HEPR Trust Fund;
- (c) whether projects have been approved under the said Trust Fund and if so, the details thereof including year-wise approvals since inception, State-wise and district-wise for Andhra Pradesh; and
- (d) the current physical progress of such projects along with the timelines likely to be taken for the completion of ongoing projects?

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE  
(SHRI PRATAPRAO JADHAV)**

(a) to (d): Government has approved a total of one million dollars budget for Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) under the World Bank supported Health Emergency Preparedness and Response (HEPR) trust fund project starting from year 2025-26. The following activities have been envisaged for enhancing innovation in ICMR through HEPR trust fund:

- (i) supporting ecosystem development to promote translation of promising research done by ICMR institutions to products and services accessible to vulnerable populations building on the MedTech Mitra initiative;
- (ii) supporting bio-repositories of ICMR bio- materials coming out of research;
- (iii) capacity building of ICMR scientists and staff in critical areas of market access for promising innovations arising out of its research.

There is no provision of physical infrastructure development in the HEPR Trust Fund Project. However, under the Viral Research and Diagnostic Laboratories (VRDL) Scheme of Department of Health Research (DHR), a total of 167 VRDLs have been approved in different States and Union Territories which undertake the task of research, surveillance and diagnosis of viral pathogens, thereby playing a significant role in health emergency preparedness and response. Among these, 9 VRDLs have been approved in the State of Andhra Pradesh.

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