

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 944
TO BE ANSWERED ON 22ND JULY, 2016**

AGREEMENT FOR HEALTH SECTOR

944. SHRI RAJENDRA AGRAWAL:

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

(a) whether the Government proposes to collaborate with other countries in healthcare sector for research and development, capacity building, increasing efficiency and providing accessible and affordable healthcare services; and

(b) if so, the details of agreement already signed or proposed to be signed in this regard as on date?

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND
FAMILY WELFARE
(SMT. ANUPRIYA PATEL)**

(a) & (b): As informed by Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), there are several bilateral Science & Technology (S&T) cooperation agreements with other countries to facilitate cooperation in the area of biomedical research. The International collaborations are sought by ICMR under bilateral and/or multilateral collaborative framework for facilitating and strengthening interactions among international agencies and institutions in the research areas of mutual interest. ICMR operates in close cooperation with the Indian Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Ministry of Science & Technology, Ministry of External Affairs, Indian missions abroad and foreign missions in India for international collaborations.

Various collaborative programmes are ongoing/proposed under bilateral agreements/MoUs/Joint Statements in various areas of health sciences by ICMR either directly or through Ministry of Health & Family Welfare with various international organizations and institutions. Details are placed at Annexure.

INDIAN COUNCIL OF MEDICAL RESEARCH

Details on MoUs of ICMR/DHR for Bilateral/Multilateral Co-operation

Sr. No.	Country	Ministry/Deptt. involved	Brief objectives of MoUs	Year of signing	Validity
1.	USA	Joint Statement on HIV / AIDS & STDs between Ministry of Health and F.W., Govt. of India and DHHS, USA	To promote and develop cooperation in the field of STDs and HIV / AIDS basic, clinical, translational, prevention research training and infrastructure strengthening.	Signed on 13 June, 2000. Renewed on 29 June, 2006 by the then Hon'ble Minister for Health and Family Welfare, GoI during his visit to USA. Further renewed from US side on 20 October, 2011 at Bethesda, Maryland, USA and from ICMR side signed on 25 October, 2011 at New Delhi. Renewed in June,2015	Up to June, 2020
2.	USA	Joint Statement on Diabetes Research between Ministry of Health and F.W., Govt. of India and DHHS, USA	To generate a better understanding of the molecular and biological mechanisms underlying diabetes, to characterize the genetics, social and environmental determinants and to identify innovative approaches for improving prevention and treatment of diabetes, developing cost effective tools and approaches to translate research results into policies and actions to improve public health.	Signed on 12 June, 2012 in USA by the then Hon'ble Minister of Health and F.W. Govt. of India during his visit to USA	Up to June, 2017
3.	USA	ICMR and International AIDS Vaccine Initiative (IAVI) on cooperation in AIDS Vaccine Development, USA	To collaborate and contribute their experience and resources on AIDS vaccine development and evaluation of one or more safe and effective AIDS vaccines primarily for use in, but not limited to, India and other biomedical tools for prevention of AIDS based on mutual agreement. The collaboration will in the form of specific research projects.	Signed on 15 Oct,2014 from IAVI side at New York and on 10 Nov ,2014 from ICMR side at New Delhi	Up to October 2019

4.	USA	ICMR, Department of Health Research, Ministry of Health and F.W., Govt. of India and DHHS, USA	To promote and develop cooperation in the field of Environmental and Occupational Health, Injury Prevention and Control research, education and training, infrastructure development and capacity building.	Signed in 2002 as indo-US Joint Statement Renewed in June, 2006 by the then Hon'ble Minister for Health and Family Welfare, Gol during his visit to USA. Renewed as MoU in June, 2015 at New Delhi	Up to June,2020
Sr. No.	Country	Ministry/Deptt. involved	Brief objectives of MoUs	Year of signing	Validity
5.	USA	The National Cancer Institute of AIIMS,, MOHFW; The ICMR, Department of Health Research, MOHFW; DBT,, Ministry of Science & Technology, Gol and National Cancer Institute of NIH, Department of Health and Human Services, Government of USA	Cooperation on Cancer Research Prevention Control and Management was signed in June, 2015 at New Delhi for establishment of the general framework of collaboration for promoting and conducting high quality research to strengthen evidence base necessary for cancer prevention, treatment and management.	Signed at New Deli in June,2015	Up to June,2020

6.	USA	The ICMR, Department of Health Research, MOHFW; DBT, Ministry of Science & Technology, Gol and National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases of The National Institute of Health, Department of Health and Human Services, Government of The United States of America - LOI	Letter of Intent on Antimicrobial Resistance Research.	Signed at New Deli in June,2015	Up to June,2020
7.	USA	ICMR –University of Minnesota (UoM), USA	Joint research in identified mutual areas of interest – Epidemiology, cardiovascular medicine, cancer, infectious diseases, immunology, metabolic diseases, obesity, diabetes and public health initiatives.	Signed in October, 2006 at New Delhi. Renewed in Nov., 2011 at New Delhi.	Up to Oct, 2016
Sr. No.	Country	Ministry/Deptt. involved	Brief objectives of MoUs	Year of signing	Validity
8.	Germany	ICMR-BMBF, Germany	Joint research in identified mutual areas of interest – Infectious diseases including AIDS, oncology, family planning and reproduction with special emphasis on birth control, health for mother and child, prenatal medicine, research on scientific basis of traditional medicine with emphasis on composition and pharmacological properties of natural	Signed in January/Feb., 1976 and renewed in 1990 under Indo-FRG Agreement on Science & Technology cooperation of January/March, 1974 Addendum signed in 2005 at Bonn / New Delhi	Continuing at present. It is part of Indo-German Committee on S&T(IGC) coordinated by DST, Ministry of S&T, Gol

			products, environmental toxicology, drug development related to tropical diseases/infectious diseases, bioethics and other biomedical research aspects related to human health.		
9.	Germany	ICMR –Helmholtz Association (HGF), Germany	<p>Joint research in identified mutual areas of interest – Infectious diseases, oncology & biomedical research related to health, translational research.</p> <p>A virtual Indo-German Science Center for Infectious Diseases (IG-SCID) was jointly inaugurated at ICMR Hqrs, New Delhi by the then Director General, ICMR and President of the Helmholtz Association on April 3, 2007 at ICMR Hqrs., New Delhi. IG-SCID completed its tenure on 31st Dec, 2013.</p>	<p>Signed on 24 April, 2006 at Hannover, Germany during the visit by the then Prime Minister of India to Germany.</p> <p>Renewed on May 31, 2011 and signed by the former Secretary, DHR, MOH&FW, GOI & DG, ICMR and the Scientific Director, Helmholtz Centre for Infection Research (HZI) at New Delhi in the presence of the then PM of India and H. E. Chancellor of Germany.</p>	<p>Up to May, 2016</p> <p>Being renewed</p>
10.	United Kingdom	ICMR-Medical Research Council (MRC), UK	<p>Joint research in identified mutual areas of interest – Persistent, new and emerging infections; Chronic non-communicable diseases; Impacts of environmental change (including climate) on health.</p> <p>Renewed for research on Antimicrobial Resistance, Dementia, Maternal and Child Health, Impacts of environmental change (including climate) on health</p>	<p>Signed on 17 February, 2010 at New Delhi</p> <p>Renewed at New Delhi on 10th November, 2015</p>	<p>Up to November, 2020</p>
Sr. No.	Country	Ministry/Deptt. involved	Brief objectives of MoUs	Year of signing	Validity
11.	United Kingdom	DHR –National Institute for Health Care Excellence	For strengthening evidence based clinical policy making in our health care system through Medical Technology Assessment	Signed on 14 June, 2013 at London.	Up to June, 2018

		(NICE)MoU, UK	Board (MTAB.) Under MTAB an Advisory Group has been constituted to advise the development framework for establishing MTAB. The advisory group has suggested a three phase Action Plan such as inviting suggestions from various stake holders to identify medical technologies/treatment methods/diagnostics / vaccines etc., then its evaluation followed by techno-economical feasibility analysis and medico-social acceptability.		
12.	United Kingdom	ICMR and London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine (LSHTM), MoU UK	Joint research in identified mutual areas of interest -Public Health, including evaluation and health systems research; Disabilities(Prevention and Rehabilitation) and Impact of Environment on Health; Infectious Diseases including vector borne diseases; Maternal and Child health; Nutrition (under- and over-nutrition), including the role of Agricultural policy and practices; Statistics and methodology; Research support to National Health Mission of India	Signed on 8 th December, 2015 at London.	Up to December,2020
13.	Switzerland	ICMR and Foundation for Innovative New Diagnostics(FIND), Switzerland	Joint research in identified mutual areas of interest – Tuberculosis, Malaria, HIV, Leishmaniasis and other communicable diseases.	Signed on 7 July, 2011 at New Delhi.	Up to July, 2016 Being renewed
14.	Switzerland	The Indian Council of Medical Research and Drugs for Neglected Diseases Initiative	Cooperation in neglected diseases	Signed at New Delhi in October, 2015	October,2020

		(DNDi), Switzerland			
15.	Finland	ICMR- Academy of Finland (AF), Finland	Joint research in identified mutual areas of interest – Chronic Non-Communicable Diseases, Diabetes and Challenges in Health Services Research.	Signed in Nov., 2012 at New Delhi.	Up to Nov., 2017
Sr. No.	Country	Ministry/Deptt. involved	Brief objectives of MoUs	Year of signing	Validity
16.	Norway	ICMR and Research Council of Norway (RCN) on Health Research, Norway	Encouraging research in a range of health areas of mutual interest, these may include Human Vaccines; Infectious Diseases; Antimicrobial resistance and any other area of mutual interest.	Signed on 14 October, 2014 at Oslo, Norway by Indian Ambassador to Norway and Director General of RCN during the visit of Hon'ble President of India to Norway.	Up to October 2019
17.	Sweden	ICMR and Swedish Research Council for Health Working Life and Welfare (FORTE), Sweden-Mol	Bilateral cooperation between Sweden and India in the field of Ageing and Health between two countries to enhance the understanding of demographic change and impact of migration on physical and mental health and well-being of the elderly forms and systems of care of the elderly and use of ICT assistive technology and addressing issues related to nutrition in elderly.	Signed on 1 st June, 2015 at Stockholm, under India -Sweden agreement on cooperation in the field of healthcare and public health during the visit of Hon'ble President to Sweden.	Up to June, 2020
18.	Russia	ICMR and the Russian Foundation for Basic Research (RFBR), Russia	Envisages programme of cooperation in specific areas of health research such as oncology, bioinformatics and bio-imaging, neurosciences, new generation vaccine research and research in HIV/AIDS.	Signed on 11 December, 2014 at New Delhi by the Secretary, DHR, MOH&FW, GOI & DG, ICMR and the Chairman, RFBR at New Delhi in the presence of the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India and H.E. the President of Russia.	Up to December, 2019
19.	Multi-Countries Alliance	ICMR and Global Alliance for Chronic Diseases (GACD)	Joint research in identified mutual areas of interest – Control of diabetes and obesity; characterization, quantification of risk	Signed on 4 April, 2011 at New Delhi. The addenda- one, two, three as GACD secretariat funding and collaboration	Continuing

		among -Australia, Canada, China, UK, USA, India, South Africa, European Union, Mexico and Thailand	factors (tobacco and environmental pollution), and development of control measures for chronic obstructive airways disease, cancer cardiovascular disease and other disorders; and implementation research of interventions to address these and other priorities.	agreement signed by ICMR on 20th Nov., 2012,; March, 2014 and 17 June, 2014 at New Delhi	
20.	Australia	ICMR –University of Sydney (UoS), Australia	Joint research in identified mutual areas of interest – Public health and clinical aspects of chronic diseases, HIV/AIDS, road traffic injuries, maternal and child health, health systems.	Signed in Nov., 2007 at Hyderabad. Renewed from ICMR side on 25 January,2015 at New Delhi and from UoS side on 9 March,2015	Up to March,2019
Sr. No.	Country	Ministry/Deptt. involved	Brief objectives of MoUs	Year of signing	Validity
21.	European Union, Belgium	Letter of Intent (LoI) between ICMR and European Union	Research is expected to contribute to the bilateral S&T agreement of Nov., 2007. Letter of Intent is in identified areas of mutual interest – Cancer & Neurodegenerative Diseases	Signed in March/April, 2011 at New Delhi/Brussels	Continuing at present. It is part of Indo-EU S&T agreement coordinated by DST, Ministry of S&T
22.	Australia	ICMR- National Health And Medical Research Council (NHMRC), Australia	The focus areas - Infectious diseases, Oncology, Chronic diseases pursued via each Party's membership of the <i>Global Alliance for Chronic Diseases</i> , Public health and clinical aspects of chronic diseases, HIV/AIDS, Road traffic injuries, Maternal and child health, Health systems	Signed on 28 th January,2016 from ICMR side and on 10 th February,2016 by NHMRC	Up to February,2021
23.	Japan	ICMR and National Institute of Infectious Diseases (NIID), Japan- LoI	On Antimicrobial Resistance Research. The collaboration is in the area of Development of integrated surveillance program covering epidemiology data and genomic data of antimicrobial resistance in each country and	Signed on 16 th April 2016 at Japan	Up to April,2021

			Mutual exchange of information of molecular and epidemiological data of antimicrobial resistance by developing of comparable surveillance program in each country		
24.	Canada	Department of Health Research and The International Consortium on Anti-Virals (ICAV), Canada	Cooperation and the acceleration of the development of anti-infective therapies with a particular focus on those for neglected, newly-emerging and re-emerging viral, bacterial and parasitic threats to the population of India	Signed on 10 th June,2016 at New Delhi	Up to June,2021
25.	USA	MoU between The National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, NIH,USA and ICMR for Cooperation on an International Centre of Excellence in Research in Chennai, India	The scientific focus of the agreement is to continue ongoing activities and to expand cooperation in the areas of epidemiology, molecular biology, medical entomology, parasitology, immunology bacteriology, microbiology, virology etc. with emphasis on techniques for the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of tropical infections and allergic diseases.	Signed in June, 2003 and extended in May, 2008 up to May, 2013. Further renewal is under consideration of Gol	
Sr. No.	Country	Ministry/Deptt. involved	Brief objectives of MoUs	Year of signing	Validity
26.	USA	DHR and Bill Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF), USA	Purpose of the collaboration is to build upon the synergy of expertise of each Party for the development, conduct and promotion of health research. Scientific and technological cooperation is proposed in the areas of Communicable diseases;Surveillance of communicable diseases, particularly those responsible for mortality in children under five years of age;Family Planning;Disease modeling;Telemedicine for rural/remote health improvement and for making	Proposed MoU. Approval under consideration of Gol	

			healthcare available to rural/remote communities;Other areas of mutual interest including innovations in routine immunizations, as well as Information Technology applications for health care		
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