

# Publication, Information and Communication

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The Council's monthly journal, the Indian Journal of Medical Research (IJMR) now has an improved cover page design and the full text is accessible free on the web ([www.icmr.nic.in](http://www.icmr.nic.in)) since January 2004. The IJMR recorded the highest ever impact factor of 0.452 for the calendar year 2003.

During the year the Bioinformatics Centre has launched a web portal which offers among others, comprehensive information related to bioinformatics.

The Council participated in 'Vigyan Rail' exhibition organized by Vigyan Prasar, Department of Science and Technology and Pride of India Science Expo-2004 held at Chandigarh.

## PUBLICATIONS

### PERIODICAL PUBLICATIONS

#### *Indian Journal of Medical Research*

The IJMR continued to be indexed and abstracted by all major global current awareness and alerting services. The layout of the Journal has been improved and new sections (Editorials, Commentaries and Correspondence) have been introduced from the year 2004 as also the revamped Editorial Board with 22 members with Prof. N.K. Ganguly, Director-General, Indian Council of Medical Research as the Chairman. Review articles on topics of current relevance are also published in each issue of the Journal. Guidelines for Contributors and other relevant information including downloadable Undertaking Form and Copyright Transfer Form are also available on the website.

#### *Journal of Vector Borne Diseases*

Since 2003, the Indian Journal of Malariology, published from MRC, Delhi has been re-named as Journal of Vector Borne Diseases to widen the scope of the journal.

#### *ICMR Bulletin*

The ICMR Bulletin, brought out as monthly house periodical of the Council completed 31 year of its publication. Some of the important topics published in the Bulletin during the year included Tea Consumption on Oxidative Damage and Cancer; Prospects of using Herbal Products in the Control of Mosquito Vectors; Determinants of Development of Food Behaviours and Nutrition; Epidemiological and Etiological Factors associated with Nasopharyngeal Carcinoma; Health Status of Primitive Tribes of Orissa; A National Priority of Occupational Health and Safety Management System and Tribal Malaria.

#### *ICMR Patrika*

The publication of this monthly newsletter, the Hindi version of ICMR Bulletin was continued. Efforts were made to simplify the language further and to make it attractive by incorporating more illustrations. During the year important subject areas such as Nutrition, Cancer, Mosquitoes and Malaria Control and Tribal Health *etc.* were covered in the *Patrika*.

#### *Annual Report*

The English and Hindi versions of the Annual Report of the Council for the year 2002-03 were brought out in 4-colour with quality paper, improved cover page design and multi colour illustrations. The ICMR website (<http://www.icmr.nic.in>) can be accessed for Annual Report of Council's Headquarters as well as its institutes.

#### *Other Periodical Publications of the ICMR*

Other important periodical publications of the ICMR in English [CJIL Quarterly Bulletin, Immunohaematology Bulletin, Nutrition, Nutrition News, RMRC News Bulletin, RMRC



(North East) Bulletin, Tribal Health Bulletin, TRC Bulletin] as well as in Hindi (*Aadivasi Swasthya Patrika*, *CJIL Traimasik Patrika*, *Malaria Patrika*, *Poshan*, *Prerna*) were also brought out regularly. The popular Telugu quarterly publication, *Poshana* of the National Institute of Nutrition, Hyderabad also maintained its punctuality.

## NON-PERIODICAL PUBLICATIONS

A book titled 'Communication for Biomedical Scientists' was published by the Council during the year.

## INFORMATICS AND COMMUNICATION

### *Biomedical Information*

The ICMR-NIC Centre for Biomedical Information (<http://indmed.nic.in>) provided information to medical community in response to search requests (2210) received by post and e-mail.

Indexing of 77 journals for IndMED database is an ongoing activity; this bibliographic database can be accessed from the Centre's website. The medIND database (full text) was launched from an independent site <http://medind.nic.in> and covers 22 journals of the IndMED database. The Union Catalogue of Biomedical Periodicals was updated to include the latest data from 31 libraries. This Catalogue is web-searchable (<http://unecat.nic.in>).

Three workshops on "Biomedical Research and Internet" were held during the year at NIC, New Delhi and Bangalore. The participants were medical/library professionals. One training programme was conducted on "ONLINE Searching of Biomedical Databases" at NIC Hqrs., New Delhi in July 2003. The 5-day programme covered lectures on information retrieval techniques and extensive hands-on sessions. The participants were from medical colleges as well as from NIC district centres. The training manuals were made available from the Centre's website and the CD version was distributed to the participants. A three-day workshop on "Indian Biomedical Journals in

Digital Library Era" was organized for the editors/publishers of medIND participating journals in March 2004.

### *Scientometric Studies*

The annual document '2002 Research Output of ICMR Institutes' with analysis of publications from all the institutes/centres was brought out during 2003-2004. The exercise of normalization of impact factor (IF) has been done for all the institutes. A total of 321 papers were published by the ICMR institutes during the calendar year 2002. The IIH, Mumbai topped the tally with 38 papers followed by TRC, Chennai (34), NICED, Kolkata (27) and NIN, Hyderabad (27). Of the total, 63.86% were covered by SCI/JCR during 2002 while during 2001 only 57/23 were covered. In this category, IIH remained at the top with 27 papers. A total of 168 journals of which 103 were covered in SCI/JCR were used for publishing 321 papers. *The New England Journal of Medicine* had the highest IF (31.736) among the SCI/JCR covered journals whereas *Annals of Arid Zone* had the lowest (0.054). There has been an improvement in the average IF/paper of the Council from 1.661 to 2.030. The top five Institutes in terms of total IF were IIH (76.325), NICED (64.685), TRC (48.520), RMRC, Bhubaneswar (31.087), and NIN (29.633). Around 61% of the total papers had more than 3 authors. The scientometric analysis including citation analysis of research papers of the NICED, Kolkata since inception is being finalized.

The DST project "Priority setting in medical research in India – A bibliometric study" has been completed. Based on the results of the study mapping of five major communicable diseases of India (diarrhoeal diseases, tuberculosis, HIV/AIDS, malaria and filariasis) in three databases, Medlars, SCI and Tropical Diseases Bulletin (1990-99) and its comparison with USA and People's Republic of China has been done.

### *Bioinformatics Centre*

The Centre has launched a web portal which offers comprehensive information related to



bioinformatics. The educational resources, listed on the site are useful in understanding and implementing genomic revolution in basic research. A discussion forum has been designed to help scientists exchange thoughts, ideas and problems. The discussion forum offers *online* chat and polls for registered users. More than 60 users have registered since January 2004. Registration to the site is free. A searchable database of biomedical software available free on the Internet has been developed. Online sequence analysis tools such as SEWER, JamBW, and BioMail have been developed, which can be accessed from the site. These provide interface for analyzing experimental data from multiple web based services.

ICMR website is being updated regularly for features like ICMR news, training programmes, employment opportunities, grants, ICMR awards, scientist's profiles, Institutes details, *etc.* The design of the home page is changed from time to time. New features are added as per requirements.

During 2003-2004 following new features were added in the website: Full text articles of the IJMR (since January 2004); Bioinformatics page; A Webpage on Bioethics and Graphical analysis of IX Five Year Plan (1997-2002).

A project for installing/expanding local area network (LAN) in all ICMR institutes and Centres has been approved. Under the project, Internet connection will be provided to all ICMR institutes as per their needs as also uniform e-mail addresses to ICMR scientists.

The Centre maintains and updates regularly the databases on extramural and intramural research information of the Council.

## DISSEMINATION OF BIOMEDICAL INFORMATION

The Council and its Institutes/Centres participated in and organized various programmes with the objective of disseminating biomedical information as well as contributions/achievements/important activities of the Council to people.

The ICMR Hq. and its network of Institutes/Centres celebrated National Technology Day (May 11) by organizing lectures, discussions/demonstrations, open houses, elocution/debate competitions/exhibitions, *etc.* The ICMR Hq. organized an oration on "Nutrition genomics: Chasing the dream" by Prof. Asis Datta, National Centre for Plant Genome Research, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi on May 12, 2003.

The ICMR Hq. also organized an oration on "*Escherichia coli* 0157:H7: A pathogen's climb to notoriety" by Prof. Yoshifumi Takeda, Jissen Women's University, Japan on January 27, 2004 to celebrate Council's Foundation Day.

ICMR Institutes/Centres celebrated the National Science Day in February 2004 by organizing various activities with focus on the theme "Increasing scientific awareness in the Community".

The NIN, Hyderabad celebrated the National Nutrition Week (September 1-7, 2003) by organizing week long activities which included (i) Inter-school elocution competitions in Urdu and Hindi on Nutrition and National Development; (ii) Quiz competition on Health and Nutrition; (iii) Nutrition and health education camps; (iv) Radio talks on Nutrition and (v) Workshop on Nutrition and Development.

The Council organized a week long (December 14-21, 2003) biomedical exhibition in its campus during Prize and Awards Presentation function depicting significant achievements/contributions of the Council.

The Council also participated in the *Vigyan Rail* project (Exhibition on Wheels) organized by Vigyan Prasar, Department of Science & Technology, Government of India and mounted an exhibition depicting Council's achievements/contributions inaugurated by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India on December 15, 2003.

The Council participated and won appreciation in the S&T Exhibition "Pride of India Science Expo-2004" organized as part of the 91<sup>st</sup> annual session of the Indian Science Congress at Chandigarh during January 3-7, 2004.

