

INDIAN COUNCIL OF MEDICAL RESEARCH (ICMR)

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

Touching Lives: ICMR releases a Coffee Table book on its landmark health research successes

Shri J.P. Nadda, Union Health Minister unveils the book which will inspire more such landmark achievements from Indian scientists

New Delhi, 2 May 2018: ICMR today released a coffee table book “Touching Lives” which includes 16 of its most path-breaking health research achievements which has left a positive impact on the lives of Indians. Be it the invaluable contribution in developing the highly effective DOTS treatment module for tuberculosis (TB) or micro-nutrient fortification of food products or life-saving interventions like oral rehydration solution and vaccines or fluorosis treatment to documenting rare blood-groups, ICMR has worked tirelessly towards achieving the vision for a healthy India. As a celebration of its more than a century-long journey and a recognition of the work performed by its researchers, ICMR has released this book as well as an animation film on its major achievements.

Shri J P Nadda, Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare at the launch of “Touching lives” congratulated ICMR for their tremendous contribution over the years working silently on various health issues that have touched the human lives. He said “With the changing demography and increasing burden of Non Communicable diseases in India, ICMR’s role as the apex organization for biomedical research is of tremendous importance in providing significant inputs to the national efforts on attaining sustainable development goals. Government is working to give an impetus to biomedical research particularly affordable innovations in the country focused on improving access to quality of health services to citizens.” He appreciated the research contributions of several ICMR institutes in ensuring a healthy India and said this will inspire future scientists to take health research in the country forward. He emphasized that outcome of research should be communicated and projected to the public through Media for which the Ministry will provide all the administrative, technical and financial support. Citizens should also be informed about such Health research achievements in an understanding language and essay writing/quiz competitions should also be held for the better understanding and information among science students, the Minister added.

Speaking at the occasion, Padma Shri Prof. Balram Bhargava, Director General of Indian Council of Medical Research and Secretary, Department of Health Research, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Govt. of India said, “Since ICMR’s inception more than 100 years ago, the Council’s focus has been on cutting edge research to generate evidence for health programs and address key public health issues that are of importance to India, such as diseases like tuberculosis and leprosy, child mortality and reproductive health, as well as its continued endeavor to improve and strengthen existing public health programs. The book showcases how ICMR has touched so many lives in India through its commitment to improve the health of our fellow citizens.”

Secretary Health Smt Preeti Sudan, appreciated the work of ICMR and suggested for a wider dissemination of information on research findings at various Media platforms including social media.

An animation film was also released on the occasion which traces the journey of ICMR since 1911 and its significant health research achievements. The 6-minute animation film showcases the activities, achievements, flagship programs and future vision of ICMR. It is designed to fill the gap between science and society and is an ideal tool for reaching masses through social media. The book and the film will be available online on ICMR website.

About ICMR: The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), New Delhi, is the apex body in India for the formulation, coordination and promotion of health research and is one of the oldest medical research bodies in the world. Visit us at: <http://www.icmr.nic.in/> for more details

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