



INDIAN COUNCIL OF MEDICAL RESEARCH

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

Press Release

ICMR Awards for excellence in Biomedical Research distributed by Hon'ble Health & Family Welfare Minister Dr. Harsh Vardhan

16 October 2019, New Delhi

The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), Department of Health Research, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, today organized an award presentation ceremony for distinguished contributions in the area of Biomedical Research. Hon'ble Minister for Health & Family Welfare, Government of India, Dr. Harsh Vardhan was the Chief Guest and Hon'ble MoS Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, Shri Ashwini Kumar Choubey was the Guest of honour.

ICMR awards recognise the contributions of Indian biomedical scientists undertaking pioneering work in various fields of health sciences and finding solutions for the health problems of the country. A total of 39 awards (2017 & 2018) were presented to 46 scientists including 14 women scientists and two awards for scientists belong to under privileged communities and scientists working in under-developed areas. The awardees belongs to Institutes of ICMR, CSIR-labs, AIIMS, New Delhi, PGI, Chandigarh, SGPGI, Lucknow, IIT's, JIPMER, Puducherry, SCTIMST, Thiruvananthapuram, Lady Hardinge Medical College, New Delhi, State and Central Universities and other reputed Institutions across the country.

On the occasion; Hon'ble Minister congratulated the awardees for their contribution in the area of health research and said, "ICMR has contributed a lot in solving the health problems and uplifting the health status of the country providing new ways and means to solve various health issues. He also highlighted the need to strengthen innovation for developing new technologies as well as to carry out research to reduce "out of pocket expenditure" and "disease burden".

Dr. Harsh vardhan suggested to dream for a vision to work hard to achieve that; as cited his dream of eliminating polio from India and later with the support from multiple partners it was realised. He also appreciated the work done by earlier stalwarts like Prof V. Ramalingaswamy, Dr C. Gopaln and Dr Ranjit Roy Choudhary and advised youngsters to follow their footsteps. Hon'ble Minister also appreciated the ICMR efforts in tackling the emerging and re-emerging infections like ZIKA and NIPAH in the country.

Hon'ble MoS Shri Ashwini Kumar Choubey also congratulated the awardees during his address for the first time at ICMR and mentioned the contribution of ICMR on the research of Zika and Nipah Virus control.

Secretary Department of Health Research and DG-ICMR Prof. Balram Bhargava said, "It has been ICMR's endeavour for over a century now to promote scientific research as well as provide scientists with the necessary platform and tools to find solutions to the most difficult health challenges. It is indeed heartening to see the talent pool available in our country today - it gives us immense hope for the future. It will be our constant endeavour to create an enabling environment for the Next Generation scientists to help them achieve their full potential and serve the nation."

On the Occasion A book "*Gandhi and Swasthya*" Hindi version of the special issue of IJMR to mark the 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi and Centenary Stamp of National Institute of Nutrition (NIN), Hyderabad was also released by Hon'ble HFM. He also gave away the ICMR-NIN Centenary Award to Late Dr C Goplan, former DG ICMR.

About ICMR: The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), New Delhi, is the apex body in India for the formulation, coordination and promotion of biomedical research, is one of the oldest medical research bodies in the world. ICMR's research priorities align with the National health priorities. These efforts are undertaken with a view to reduce the total burden of disease and to promote health and well-being of the population. ICMR promotes biomedical research in the country through intramural as well as extramural research. Visit us at <http://icmr.gov.in/>

For more details: -

Syed Adil Shamim Andrabi

Information Interface Officer/PRO
Indian Council of Medical Research
Department of Health Research
Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
New Delhi - 110029
proicmr@gmail.com
9599332718