**Observance of AIDS Day at ICMR- National AIDS Research Institute Pune**

As it has been done every year, ICMR- National AIDS Research Institute Pune held an ‘Open-Day’ in observance of AIDS Day. In order to facilitate visits from school and college students it was marked on Monday 2nd December 2019.

The ICMR- NARI open house activities included –

Display of educational posters and video; visits with experts to the dedicated HIV museum at ICMR-NARI; Question-Answer sessions with a panel of experts ( 4 sessions ) and laboratory visits. Tour of laboratories at ICMR-NARI included visits to the special state of the art HIV diagnostic, Immunology, Molecular Biology, Virology, Microbiology and HIV-Drug Resistance laboratories where students could see different technologies and get information on how they are used in HIV.

The ‘Open-day’ helped in education of large numbers of students and general public on HIV transmission, prevention, treatment, immunology, virology and recent advances. The findings of research conducted by NARI were disseminated through the use of simple posters and panel discussions and one-to one discussion with institutional volunteers.

By 3.00pm, over 1250 individuals from more than 18 colleges and schools from Pune, PCMC and Mumbai had visited ICMR-NARI and benefited from AIDS day activities. Nursing students, including students from the Armed Forces Nursing College, DY Patil and DES society, students of community medicine, pharmacy, microbiology, para-medical courses, biological sciences and members of general public benefited from these educational activities.

Dr. Sara Khan, Assistant Prof. Biochemistry at Mithabai College Mumbai, said “this was a great experience for all our students and they learnt many things in this visit and panel discussion was very informative.. ”

Major S Nadiyal AFMC Pune, appreciated the well conducted and informative sessions.

Mrs. B Joseph Clinical Instructor at Dr. D.Y.Patil College of Nursing exclaimed that “it was indeed remarkable experience on ‘AIDS Awareness Program’. Students gained in-depth knowledge about testing for AIDS”.

#ICMR-NARI interacts with student community for HIV/AIDS education #AIDS Awareness

# taking research to the community @ICMR-NARI