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भारतीय आयुर्विज्ञान अनुसंधान परिषद  
स्वास्थ्य अनुसंधान विभाग, स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार  
कल्याण मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार

Indian Council of Medical Research  
Department of Health Research, Ministry of Health  
and Family Welfare, Government of India

No. 16/31/2020-Admin-II

Dated: 22<sup>nd</sup> December, 2020

**Office Order**

**Subject: Office order regarding maintaining appropriate level of Arthropod Containment Laboratory in ICMR institutes working in Vector Borne Diseases -**

Sir/Madam,

Indian Council of Medical Research's Institutes concerned with laboratory research that involves arthropods of public health importance and risks associated with pathogen transmission are herewith advised to maintain appropriate level of Arthropod Containment with a particular view to prevent inadvertent escape and establishment of vectors of human diseases. Many of these organisms are associated with potential risks should they escape. When they are experimentally infected with a human pathogen, the arthropods represent an immediate risk to those to the community if, by escaping, they become the crucial link in completing the transmission cycle for a pathogen.

In view of above, ICMR Institutes must henceforth enforce strict adherence to appropriate level of Arthropod Containment of ACL I, II III and IV (as per DBT guidelines on "Regulations and guidelines for recombinant DNA Research and Biocontainment 2017 (URL: [http://www.nii.res.in/pdf/Biosafety\\_Guidelines.pdf](http://www.nii.res.in/pdf/Biosafety_Guidelines.pdf))) for all its laboratory facilities that deal with pathogen-infected or uninfected material and rely on feeding experiments in mosquitoes or otherwise. These facilities will be subjected to periodic inspections. ICMR institutes and their Field Units, if present in same vicinity should also try to share resources including infrastructure of insectaries to maximize utilization of existing facilities. Please ensure that a certifiable assessment is made immediately in regard to ACL in respective institutes and keep DG's office fully informed on this.

The above order is effective from the date of issuance and is circulated with the approval of the Competent Authority.

(Jagdish Rajesh)

Assistant Director General (Admn.)

All the Directors/Directors-in-charge of  
ICMR Institutes/Centres of ICMR

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