

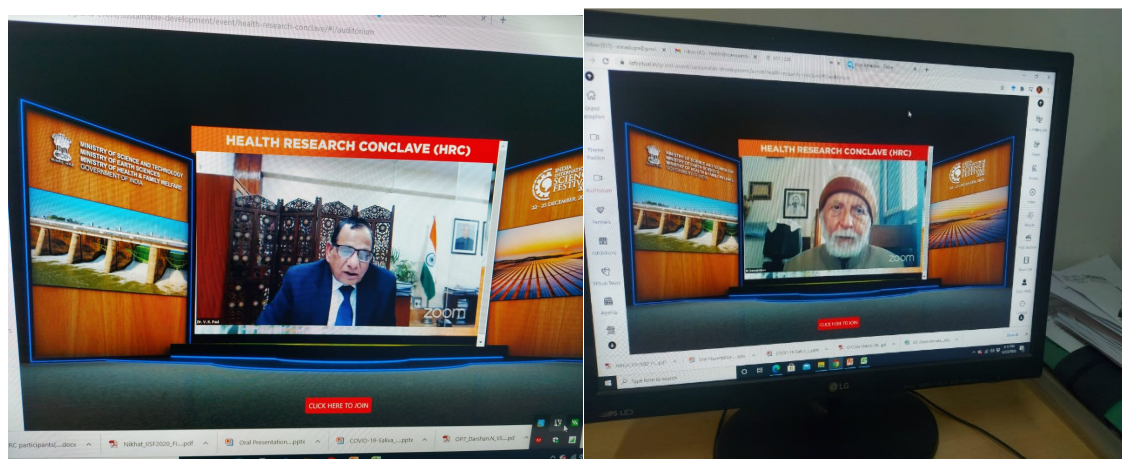
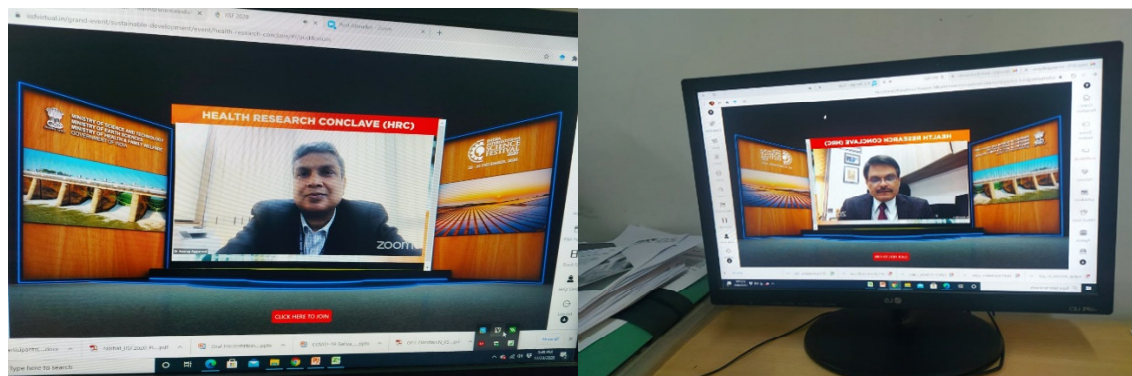
Health Research Conclave - 2020

Health Research Conclave was organized on 23-24th December 2020 with the theme '*Health Research for Happy, Healthy and Self-reliant India*'. Dr Harsh Vardhan, Hon'ble Union Minister of Health and Family welfare in his opening remarks highlighted the need of health research for the benefit of the population and said that it has paid dividend during the COVID-19 pandemic. Speaking on the occasion Dr Jayant Sahsrabudhe, National Organizing Secretary, VIBHA, highlighted the need for balance between mind, body and soul and advocated '*think global, act local*' as well '*from the region for the region*'. Dr Samiran Panda, Head ECD, ICMR suggested the importance of mental and spiritual health also as important as physical health.



Under the session on **emerging and re-emerging infections**, Dr Nivedita Gupta, Head, Virology, ICMR briefed about the laboratory network and its expansion from one lab to more than 2000 labs in short span of time that has helped in tackling various outbreaks and epidemics in last few years. Dr D. T. Mourya, ICMR Chair, One Health, stressed the need for research on one health to understand the relationship between human, animal and environment that is essential to understand the epidemiology of various emerging infections in today's fast changing time. There was an interesting panel discussion on Race for COVID-19 vaccine under the session on '**Atma-nirbhar Bharat**' where the

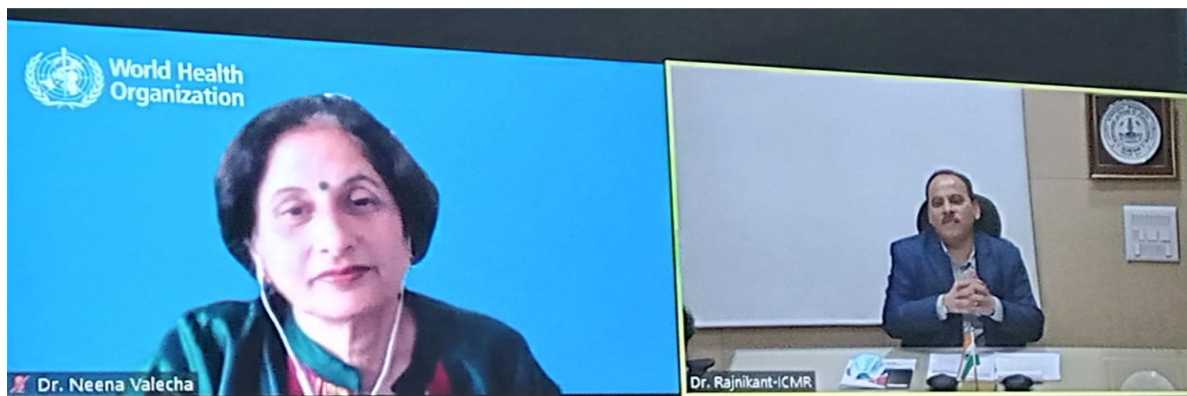
panelist like Dr Priya Abraham, Dr Gagandeep Kang, Dr Sanjay Mehendale and Dr Sanjay Rai, discussed about ongoing vaccine development programs and appreciated the efforts towards made in India vaccine for COVID-19. **Holistic Health** was also an important area of interest under the Health Research Conclave and experts like Prof V. K. Paul, Dr V. M. Katoch, Dr Anurag Agrawal and Dr Y. K. Gupta emphasized the need for integration of various pathies while understanding their strength and weaknesses and highlighted that research can provide the evidence and bridge the gap.

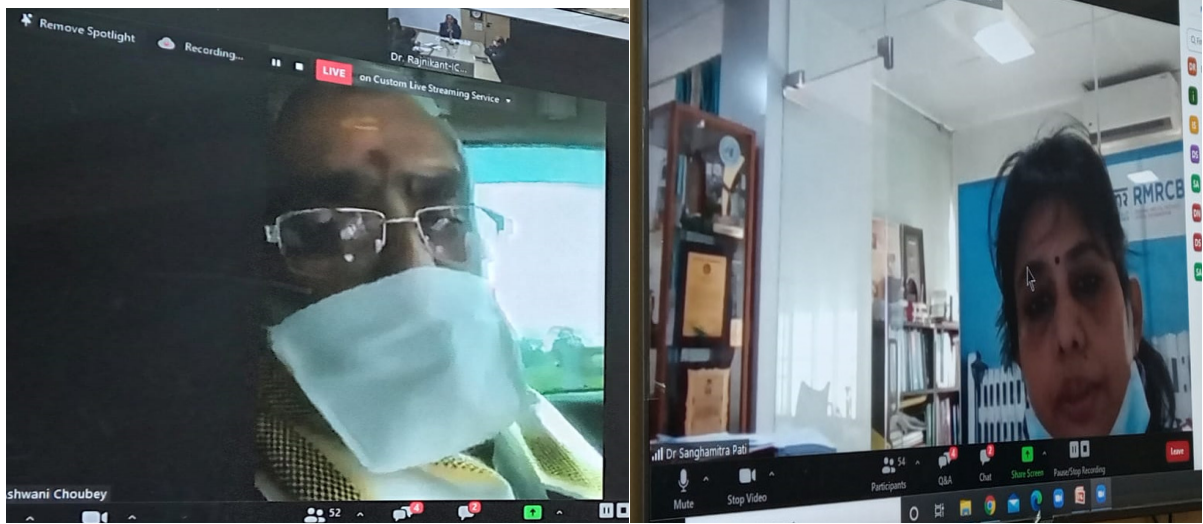


Experts under the session on **'Healthy India - Fit India'** stressed the need for balanced diet to remain fit and panelists like Dr Umesh Kapil, Shri Sanjeev Kapoor and Shri Madan Lal advised for local, seasonal and fresh food as well as make it a habit to remain physically fit which may help in long run to prevent many disease conditions.



Under the session on **Disease Elimination**, Dr Soumya Swaminathan, Chief Scientist, WHO elaborated the global efforts being made in the area of **end TB by 2025** and how its progress was affected during COVID-19 pandemic. Dr Neena Valecha, Advisor, WHO,, SEARO explained in detail about **malaria elimination** efforts and highlighted the challenges and opportunities on road to achieve elimination target by 2030.





The 2 day's event concluded on 24th December 2020 with the valedictory address by Hon'ble MoS for Health and Family Welfare Shri Ashwini Kumar Choubeyji. He appreciated the efforts made by ICMR as well as stressed the need to disseminate and enhance awareness among the masses for disease prevention and control. He also announced the names of the winners of the young researchers and students who had participated in oral, poster and speech competition during the event. The Health Research Conclave was coordinated by Dr Rajni Kant who also narrated the success stories and milestone discoveries in health. The event was a great success and attended by more than thousand participants across India and abroad.