

**List of International Collaborative Research Projects Approved by HMSC
during meeting held on 25th February, 2026**

S. No.	Details of the Project	
1.	Diarrheal Disease risk scoring among children <5 in India	
	<p>Principal Investigator</p> <p>Dr Tintu Varghese</p> <p>Associate Professor Christian Medical College (CMC), Vellore-632004, Tamil Nadu</p>	<p>Funding/Collaborating Agency</p> <p>Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF), USA</p> <p>Date of approval February 25, 2026</p> <p>Total budget Rs. 95,51,808</p> <p>Duration 12 Months</p> <p>Subject area Diarrhoeal Diseases</p>
	Approved	
2.	Strengthening research capacity in government medical colleges to advance priority health programs by engaging Multi-disciplinary Research Units	
	<p>Principal Investigator</p> <p>Dr Tanu Anand</p> <p>Scientist E Indian Council of Medical Research- Hq (ICMR), New Delhi-110029</p>	<p>Funding/Collaborating Agency</p> <p>Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF), USA</p> <p>Date of approval February 25, 2026</p> <p>Total budget Rs. 8,90,14,307</p> <p>Duration 30 Months</p> <p>Subject area Capacity Building</p>
	Approved subject to the submission of Institutional Ethics Committee clearances for the studies selected under the program.	

S. No.	Details of the Project	
3.	Why are women at greater risk for multidrug-resistant tuberculosis?	
	<p>Principal Investigator</p> <p>Dr Sachin Ramchandra Atre</p> <p>Assistant Professor Dr. D Y Patil Medical College Hospital and Research Centre, Pune-411018, Maharashtra,</p>	<p>Funding/Collaborating Agency</p> <p>Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR), Canada</p> <p>Date of approval February 25, 2026</p> <p>Total budget Rs. 3,12,58,672</p> <p>Duration 60 Months</p> <p>Subject area Infectious Diseases</p>
	Approved	
4.	A systematic pilot feasibility project to develop newborn screening for cystic fibrosis (CF NBS) in a community in South India	
	<p>Principal Investigator</p> <p>Dr Sneha Deena Varkki</p> <p>Professor Christian Medical College (CMC), Vellore-632004, Tamil Nadu</p>	<p>Funding/Collaborating Agency</p> <p>Cystic Fibrosis Foundation , USA</p> <p>Date of approval February 25, 2026</p> <p>Total budget Rs. 3,17,28,668</p> <p>Duration 24 Months</p> <p>Subject area Cystic Fibrosis</p>
	<p>Approved subject to the submission of the following:</p> <p>i. Duly signed Data Sharing Agreement between Indian and Foreign Investigators.</p> <p>ii. DHR registration number of Institutional Ethics Committee of Government Medical College, Vellore.</p>	

S. No.	Details of the Project	
5.	Holistic investigation for Environmental presence of Mycobacterium leprae and its implications in leprosy transmission through WASH and One Health approach -2	
	<p>Principal Investigator</p> <p>Dr Aparna Srikantam</p> <p>Head LEPRA Society-Blue Peter Public Health and Research Centre, Hyderabad-501302, Telangana</p>	<p>Funding/Collaborating Agency</p> <p>Leprosy Research Initiative & Turing foundation, Netherlands</p> <p>Date of approval February 25, 2026</p> <p>Total budget Rs. 20,22,336</p> <p>Duration 36 Months</p> <p>Subject area Leprosy</p>
	Approved only for LEPRA Society-Blue Peter Public Health and Research Centre, Hyderabad after submission of revised summary sheet and research proposal.	
6.	Defining the extent of unrecognised brain injuries and neurocognitive sequelae in adult falciparum malaria	
	<p>Principal Investigator</p> <p>Dr Praveen Kishore Sahu</p> <p>Research Scientist Community Welfare Society Hospital, Dadposh-769042, Odisha</p>	<p>Funding/Collaborating Agency</p> <p>Medical Research Council (MRC), UK</p> <p>Date of approval February 25, 2026</p> <p>Total budget Rs. 3,67,29,226</p> <p>Duration 72 Months</p> <p>Subject area Vector Borne Diseases</p>
	Approved	

S. No.	Details of the Project	
7.	Reimagining the health system from the world view of indigenous communities: a practice model for a health system responsive to the indigenous communities in southern India (rTribe study)	
	<p>Principal Investigator</p> <p>Dr Prashanth Nuggehalli Srinivas</p> <p>Director Institute of Public Health, Sonipat-131001, Haryana</p>	<p>Funding/Collaborating Agency</p> <p>National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR), UK</p> <p>Date of approval February 25, 2026</p> <p>Total budget Rs. 8,95,57,787</p> <p>Duration 36 Months</p> <p>Subject area Public Health</p>
	Approved, subject to submission of approval letters from the respective State Governments. However, the DHR registration no. of IEC of Institute of Public Health, Bangalore should be submitted by the PI. It must be ensured that the funds for each participating site are received directly in their respective FCRA accounts and shall not be transferred to any other entity.	
8.	Building an India-Africa Network to Support Research and Control of Urban Malaria Transmission by Anopheles stephensi	
	<p>Principal Investigator</p> <p>Dr Praveen Kumar Bharti</p> <p>Scientist F ICMR-National Institute of Malaria Research (ICMR-NIMR), New Delhi-110077</p>	<p>Funding/Collaborating Agency</p> <p>National Institute of Health (NIH), USA</p> <p>Date of approval February 25, 2026</p> <p>Total budget Rs. 1,10,13,728</p> <p>Duration 60 Months</p> <p>Subject area Capacity Building</p>
	Approved. However, the committee suggested the following: i. It is recommended to develop 3 months capacity building program from public health program perspective only and deliver it across the countries.	

S. No.	Details of the Project	
9.	The Dynamics of Late Foetal and Neonatal Mortality in the Indian Context	
	<p>Principal Investigator</p> <p>Dr Abhishek Agarwal</p> <p>Deputy Director The INCLEN Trust International, New Delhi-110020</p>	<p>Funding/Collaborating Agency</p> <p>University of Pennsylvania, USA</p> <p>Date of approval February 25, 2026</p> <p>Total budget Rs. 4,49,83,492</p> <p>Duration 60 Months</p> <p>Subject area Maternal and Newborn Health</p>
	<p>Approved subject to the submission of the following:</p> <p>i. Duly signed MoU & Data Sharing Agreement between Indian and Foreign Investigators.</p> <p>ii. Administrative approval by NIE.</p> <p>iii. IEC clearances from JNMC Belagavi and NIE, Chennai.</p>	