

**List of International Collaborative Research Projects Approved by HMSC  
during meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> May, 2026**

| S. No. | Details of the Project                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
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| 1.     | Salt Fortification for Nutritional Enhancement and Hematologic Advancement (SNEHA) Trial: A Randomized Controlled Study to Evaluate the Efficacy of Quadruple Fortified Salt |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|        | <b>Principal Investigator</b><br><br>Dr Samarasimha Reddy N<br><br>Scientist E<br>ICMR-National Institute of Nutrition (ICMR-NIN), Hyderabad-500007, Telangana               | <b>Funding/Collaborating Agency</b><br><br>ASNF-NNF Henrik Dam award for science discovery via Cornell University, USA (sub grant awarded to ICMR NIN)<br><br><b>Date of approval</b> May 26, 2026<br><br><b>Total budget</b> Rs. 2,23,48,096<br><br><b>Duration</b> 24 Months<br><br><b>Subject area</b> Nutrition |
|        | Approved subject to submission of the signed Data Sharing Agreement.                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 2.     | BREATHE: Building Respiratory Evidence for AI Tools and Health Equity: Research Protocol                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|        | <b>Principal Investigator</b><br><br>Dr Devasahayam Jesudas Christopher<br><br>Professor<br>Christian Medical College (CMC), Vellore-632004, Tamil Nadu                      | <b>Funding/Collaborating Agency</b><br><br>Gates Foundation, USA via Qure.ai<br><br><b>Date of approval</b> May 26, 2026<br><br><b>Total budget</b> Rs. 62,743,222<br><br><b>Duration</b> 18 Months<br><br><b>Subject area</b> Respiratory Health                                                                   |
|        | Approved subject to submission of CTIRI registration number to ICMR.                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |

| S. No. | Details of the Project                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|--------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 3.     | Effectiveness of Antenatal Yoga for Prevention of Gestational Diabetes Mellitus (GDM) and Improving Fetomaternal Outcomes in Pregnant Women                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|        | <b>Principal Investigator</b><br><br>Prof Vijaya Majumdar<br><br>Professor<br>Swami Vivekananda Yoga<br>Anusandhana Samsthana,<br>Bangalore-560004, Karnataka | <b>Funding/Collaborating Agency</b><br><br>Gates Foundation, USA<br><br><b>Date of approval</b> May 26, 2026<br><b>Total budget</b> Rs. 5,46,13,304<br><b>Duration</b> 36 Months<br><b>Subject area</b> Maternal Health                                                          |
|        | Approved.                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 4.     | Passive Cooling for Heat Protection: A Perception and Social Acceptability Study on Cool Roof Interventions in India                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|        | <b>Principal Investigator</b><br><br>Prof Deepak B Saxena<br><br>Director<br>Indian Institute of Public Health<br>Gandhinagar-382042, Gujarat                 | <b>Funding/Collaborating Agency</b><br><br>Heidelberg University, Heidelberg Institute of Global Health (HIGH), Germany<br><br><b>Date of approval</b> May 26, 2026<br><b>Total budget</b> Rs. 18,07,525<br><b>Duration</b> 9 Months<br><b>Subject area</b> Environmental Health |
|        | Approved, subject to submission of renewed DHR Registration no. of IEC of Indian Institute of Public Health Gandhinagar.                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |

| S. No. | Details of the Project                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|--------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 5.     | Assessing dengue transmission risk and severity in Vellore and surrounding areas, using data from Christian Medical College (CMC), Vellore: a modelling study                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|        | <b>Principal Investigator</b><br><br>Dr Amita Jacob<br><br>Associate Professor<br>Christian Medical College (CMC),<br>Vellore-632004, Tamil Nadu                                    | <b>Funding/Collaborating Agency</b><br><br>Imperial College, UK<br><br><b>Date of approval</b> May 26, 2026<br><b>Total budget</b> Nil<br><b>Duration</b> 48 Months<br><b>Subject area</b> Dengue                                                 |
|        | Approved. The Committee advised that efforts may be made to build modelling-related research capacity among investigators of CMC Vellore.                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 6.     | Evidence generation to enable new TB vaccine introduction and uptake in India                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|        | <b>Principal Investigator</b><br><br>Dr Srinath Satyanarayana<br><br>Director<br>ICMR-National Institute for Research<br>in Tuberculosis (ICMR-NIRT),<br>Tamil Nadu, Chennai-600031 | <b>Funding/Collaborating Agency</b><br><br>International AIDS Vaccine Initiative<br>(IAVI), USA<br><br><b>Date of approval</b> May 26, 2026<br><b>Total budget</b> Rs. 28,00,440<br><b>Duration</b> 12 Months<br><b>Subject area</b> Tuberculosis |
|        | Approved.                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |

| S. No. | Details of the Project                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|--------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 7.     | Clinical Feasibility of Living Donor Liver Transplantation in Patients with Acute-on-Chronic Liver Failure: An International Multicenter Study                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|        | <b>Principal Investigator</b><br><br>Prof Subhash Gupta<br><br>Professor & Head<br>Max Super Speciality Hospital,<br>New Delhi-110017                                                                                                                     | <b>Funding/Collaborating Agency</b><br><br>Korea University College of Medicine,<br>South Korea<br><br><b>Date of approval</b> May 26, 2026<br><br><b>Total budget</b> Nil<br><br><b>Duration</b> 12 Months<br><br><b>Subject area</b> Liver<br>Transplantation |
|        | Approved. It is suggested that the Indian PI should participate in joint analysis and interpretation. HMSC also encourages the practice that the combined dataset from all sites are accessible to Indian PIs and not just the data from the Indian site. |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 8.     | Model-based geostatistical analysis and simulation of secondary soil-transmitted helminth prevalence data for improved precision and scenario planning to inform national strategy                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|        | <b>Principal Investigator</b><br><br>Dr Shanmugasundaram Devika<br><br>Scientist D<br>ICMR-National Institute of<br>Epidemiology (ICMR-NIE),<br>Chennai-600077, Tamil Nadu                                                                                | <b>Funding/Collaborating Agency</b><br><br>Lancaster University, UK<br><br><b>Date of approval</b> May 26, 2026<br><br><b>Total budget</b> Nil<br><br><b>Duration</b> 19 Months<br><br><b>Subject area</b> Neglected<br>Tropical<br>Disease                     |
|        | Approved, subject to submission of the signed Data Sharing Agreement.                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |

| S. No. | Details of the Project                                                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
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| 9.     | How do students from MAHE University and Maastricht University experience the AI mental health app Wysa, particularly regarding cultural sensitivity?     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|        | <b>Principal Investigator</b><br><br>Dr Asha Albuquerque Pai<br><br>Assistant Professor<br>Manipal Academy of Higher Education, Manipal-576104, Karnataka | <b>Funding/Collaborating Agency</b><br><br>Maastricht University, Netherlands<br><br><b>Date of approval</b> May 26, 2026<br><b>Total budget</b> Nil<br><b>Duration</b> 6 Months<br><b>Subject area</b> Social & Behavioural Research |
|        | Approved subject to submission of the signed Data Sharing Agreement.                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| 10.    | Investigation of optimism biases in dietary, value-based decision-making                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|        | <b>Principal Investigator</b><br><br>Dr Varsha Singh<br><br>Associate Professor<br>Indian Institute of Technology Delhi (IITD), New Delhi-110016          | <b>Funding/Collaborating Agency</b><br><br>Paris Brain Institute, France<br><br><b>Date of approval</b> May 26, 2026<br><b>Total budget</b> Nil<br><b>Duration</b> 24 Months<br><b>Subject area</b> OneHealth                         |
|        | Approved.                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |

| S. No. | Details of the Project                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
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| 11.    | A mixed methods study to evaluate an intervention with Adolescent Girls for social transformation and with young ever-married women and mothers of young children to evaluate the effect of Pre-Conception Care and Nurturing Care strategies in better pregnan |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|        | <b>Principal Investigator</b><br><br>Mr Arin Kar<br><br>Consultant<br>Karnataka Health Promotion Trust (KHPT), New Delhi- 110029                                                                                                                                | <b>Funding/Collaborating Agency</b><br><br>Sir Horace Kadoorie<br>International Foundation, Hong Kong<br><br><b>Date of approval</b> May 26, 2026<br><b>Total budget</b> Nil<br><b>Duration</b> 36 Months<br><b>Subject area</b> Public Health           |
|        | Approved.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 12.    | Developing DLP (Digital light processing) based 3D bio-printed cornea using novel biomaterial combinations with drug eluting properties to tackle corneal blindness in India                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|        | <b>Principal Investigator</b><br><br>Dr Vineet Pramod Joshi<br><br>Assistant Professor<br>LV Prasad Eye Institute,<br>Hyderabad-500034, Telangana                                                                                                               | <b>Funding/Collaborating Agency</b><br><br>Stichting Blockchain For Impact<br>Foundation, Netherlands<br><br><b>Date of approval</b> May 26, 2026<br><b>Total budget</b> Rs. 74,60,000<br><b>Duration</b> 24 Months<br><b>Subject area</b> Ophthalmology |
|        | Approved.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |

| S. No. | Details of the Project                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
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| 13.    | Transformative Health & Recovery Initiative through Valuable Economic aid (THRIVE)- A randomized controlled trial evaluating a cash-plus program for people with severe depression in rural India |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|        | <b>Principal Investigator</b><br><br>Dr Abhijit Nadkarni<br><br>Director<br>Sangath, Porvorim-403501, Goa                                                                                         | <b>Funding/Collaborating Agency</b><br><br>Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF), Switzerland<br><br><b>Date of approval</b> May 26, 2026<br><b>Total budget</b> Rs. 14,71,71,403<br><b>Duration</b> 60 Months<br><b>Subject area</b> Mental Health |
|        | Approved subject to the submission of duly signed Data Sharing Agreement to ICMR.                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| 14.    | Molecular mechanisms and therapeutic modulation of olanzapine-induced cardiotoxicity: an integrative bioinformatics and translational cellular approach                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|        | <b>Principal Investigator</b><br><br>Dr Harish D R<br><br>Scientist C<br>ICMR-National Institute of Traditional Medicine (ICMR-NITM), Belagavi-590016, Karnataka                                  | <b>Funding/Collaborating Agency</b><br><br>The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center, USA<br><br><b>Date of approval</b> May 26, 2026<br><b>Total budget</b> Nil<br><b>Duration</b> 12 Months<br><b>Subject area</b> Basic Sciences              |
|        | Approved.                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |

| S. No. | Details of the Project                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
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| 15.    | Intelligent Pregnancy Platform (13P): Implementation of digital intrapartum monitoring in LMIC (IMPALA)                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|        | <b>Principal Investigator</b><br><br>Dr Kavita Mandrelle<br><br>Professor<br>Christian Medical College (CMC),<br>Ludhiana-141008, Punjab                                                                         | <b>Funding/Collaborating Agency</b><br><br>University of Edinburgh, UK<br><br><b>Date of approval</b> May 26, 2026<br><b>Total budget</b> Rs. 2,20,90,288<br><b>Duration</b> 18 Months<br><b>Subject area</b> Maternal Health |
|        | Approved only for CMC Ludhiana and AIIMS Rishikesh; subject to submission of CTRI registration certificate (including AIIMS Bhopal) to ICMR. The IEC clearance of AIIMS Bhopal should also be submitted to ICMR. |                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |