POLICY ON

ICMR - Research Infrastructure Sharing Ecosystem (I-RISE)

INDIAN COUNCIL OF MEDICAL RESEARCH
Serving the nation since 1911

स्वास्थ्य अनुसंधान विभाग
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH RESEARCH

Policy on
ICMR - Research Infrastructure Sharing Ecosystem (I-RISE)

A Document for sharing of DHR-ICMR Research Infrastructure for Integrated Healthcare Approach

Patron:
Dr. Rajiv Bahl
Secretary, Department of Health Research &
Director General, Indian Council of Medical Research, New Delhi

Guidance:
Smt. Anu Nagar, Joint Secretary, Department of Health Research, New Delhi

Policy Drafting Committee:
- Dr. Rajni Kant, Chairperson, Former Director, ICMR-RMRC, Gorakhpur & Scientist G & Head, Division of Policy & Communications, ICMR Headquarters, New Delhi
- Dr. Ashwani Kumar, Former Director, ICMR-Vector Control Research Centre, Puducherry
- Dr. Santasabuj Das, Director, ICMR-National Institute of Occupational Health, Ahmedabad
- Dr. Nabendu S. Chatterjee, Scientist G & Head, Discovery Research Division, ICMR Headquarters, New Delhi
- Dr. Harpreet Singh, Scientist F, ICMR Headquarters, New Delhi
- Dr. Balu V Gopal, Project Scientist C, Department of Health Research, New Delhi

Committee for Finalization of User Interface Decisions:
- Dr. Nabendu S. Chatterjee, Scientist G, Head Discovery Research Division, ICMR Headquarters, New Delhi
- Dr. Jitender Reddy, Senior Scientist, CSIR- Institute of Chemical Technology, Hyderabad
- Dr. Garima Gupta, Scientist F, HRD Division, DBT, New Delhi
- Dr. Luke Elizebath Hanna, Scientist F, ICMR-NIRT, Chennai
- Dr. Ranjan Kumar Nandy, Scientist F, ICMR- NICED Kolkata
- Dr. Ashwani Vinod Shette, Scientist E, ICMR-NARI Pune
- Dr. Munna Lal Yadav, Scientist B, ICMR Headquarters, New Delhi

Research and Analysis Support:
- Dr. Enna Dogra Gupta, Scientist C, Division of Policy and Communication, ICMR Headquarters, New Delhi
- Dr. Priya Gaur, Project Scientist C, Division of Policy and Communication, ICMR Headquarters, New Delhi
- Dr. Rajeev Singh, Scientist C, ICMR- Regional Medical Research Centre, Gorakhpur
- Dr. Niraj Kumar, Technical Officer B, ICMR-Regional Medical Research Centre, Gorakhpur

Development of I-RISE Portal:
- Dr. Munna Lal Yadav, Scientist B, ICMR Headquarters, New Delhi
- Dr. Manjeet Singh Chalga, Scientist D, ICMR Headquarters, New Delhi
- Dr. Harpreet Singh, Scientist F, ICMR Headquarters, New Delhi
- Dr. Nabendu S. Chatterjee, Scientist G, Head, Discovery Research Division, ICMR Headquarters, New Delhi
- Mr. Vikas Sangwan, Sr. Programmer, Consultant

Designing Support:
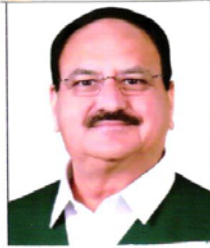Global Health Strategies, New Delhi

Message

Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda

Hon'ble Minister, Health & Family Welfare and Chemicals & Fertilizers, Government of India

जगत प्रकाश नड्डा
JAGAT PRAKASH NADDA

मंत्री
स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण
व रसायन एवं उर्वरक
भारत सरकार
**Minister
Health & Family Welfare
and Chemicals & Fertilizers
Government of India**

सत्यमेव जयते

MESSAGE

It gives me immense pleasure to introduce the Policy on ICMR - Research Infrastructure Sharing Ecosystem (I-RISE), a landmark document that marks a significant step forward in our efforts to strengthen the research landscape in India and ensure that our healthcare system remains at the forefront of innovation and excellence.

In today's rapidly changing world, with emerging infectious diseases and the increasing burden of chronic conditions, the need for cutting-edge research and scientific advancements in healthcare has never been more critical. Acknowledging this need, the policy provides a structured approach for the optimal sharing of ICMR's research infrastructure with other research entities across India, with the ultimate aim of serving India's health priorities.

By facilitating collaborative research, we will enhance our preparedness for health emergencies through timely and effective responses. Strengthening our research and development sector through shared resources and knowledge will ensure that India remains a global leader in affordable healthcare solutions. Furthermore, by ensuring that our extensive research infrastructure is equitably shared and utilised, we will foster an ecosystem that encourages health innovations, leading to improved healthcare delivery across the nation.

I-RISE underscores the Government of India's dedication to public health. Collaborative research, enabled by shared infrastructure, will lead to quicker and more impactful advancements in healthcare. This, in turn, will translate to improved health outcomes for the people of India, aligning with our broader mission of ensuring health and well-being for all.

I extend my congratulations to the Indian Council of Medical Research, Department of Health Research for their unwavering commitment to this initiative. Their drive and vision have been instrumental in crafting this policy, which will undoubtedly pave the way for a new era of scientific excellence and innovation in our country.

(Jagat Prakash Nadda)

कार्यालय: 348, ए—स्कंध, निर्माण भवन, नई दिल्ली—110011 • **Office:** 348, A-Wing, Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi-110011
Tele.: (O): +91-11-23061661, 23063513 • **Telefax:** 23062358 • **E-mail:** min-hfm@gov.in

Shri Jadhav Prataprao Ganpatrao

Hon'ble Minister of State, Health & Family Welfare and Chemicals & Fertilizers, Government of India

राज्य मंत्री (स्वतंत्र प्रभार)
आयुष मंत्रालय
व
राज्य मंत्री
स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय
भारत सरकार

**MINISTER OF STATE
(INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF
MINISTRY OF AYUSH AND
MINISTER OF STATE OF
MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**

प्रतापराव जाधव
PRATAPRAO JADHAV

संदेश

भारतीय आयुर्विज्ञान अनुसंधान परिषद (ICMR) की विरासत अभूतपूर्व उपलब्धियों से समृद्ध है। ICMR ने, न केवल भारत के स्वास्थ्य परिणामों में महत्वपूर्ण सुधार किया है, बल्कि हमें वैश्विक स्वास्थ्य अनुसंधान परिदृश्य में एक उभरती हुई शक्ति के रूप में भी स्थापित किया है। संचारी और अ-संचारी रोगों में अग्रणी जैव-चिकित्सा अनुसंधान से लेकर वैक्सीन (टीके), नैदानिकता और उपचार में नवाचारों का नेतृत्व करने तक, ICMR का योगदान राष्ट्र के लिए बहुमूल्य रहा है। कोविड-19 की वैश्विक महामारी से उत्पन्न हुई अभूतपूर्व चुनौतियों के दौरान, ICMR ने हमारे देश में कोविड अनुसन्धान का मार्गदर्शन करने में महत्वपूर्ण भूमिका निभाई है। ज्ञान और नवोन्मेष के लिए परिषद की निरंतर खोज ने न केवल स्वास्थ्य संबंधी चुनौतियों से निपटने में मदद की है, बल्कि भविष्य की प्रगति का एक आधार भी तैयार किया है।

आदरणीय प्रधानमंत्री श्री नरेंद्र मोदीजी ने हमेश Research और Innovation के लिए युवाओं को प्रेरित और प्रोत्साहित किया है। ICMR की नीति - रिसर्च इंफ्रास्ट्रक्चर शेयरिंग इकोसिस्टम (आई-राइज) चिकित्सा अनुसंधान और सार्वजनिक स्वास्थ्य के क्षेत्र में ICMR के योगदान की शृंखला में एक नया अध्याय है। यह दस्तावेज़, परिषद की अग्रगामी सोच और भारत में सहयोगात्मक और समावेशी अनुसंधान वातावरण को बढ़ावा देने के लिए उसके प्रयासों का प्रमाण है। अपने अनुसंधान अवसंरचना के अत्याधुनिक नवीनतम तकनीकी इंफ्रास्ट्रक्चर के साझाकरण और उपयोग की सुविधाजनक उपलब्धता प्रदान करके, ICMR देश भर के शोधकर्ताओं को सार्वजनिक स्वास्थ्य में सुधार के लिए प्रभावशाली और अत्याधुनिक वैज्ञानिक शोध में संलग्न होने के लिए सशक्त बना रहा है।

इस पहल के माध्यम से ICMR हमारी राष्ट्रीय शोध क्षमताओं में महत्वपूर्ण रूप से बढ़ावा देने के लिए तैयार है। बाधाओं को पार कर, उन्नत अनुसंधान सुविधाओं तक पहुंच को बढ़ावा देकर, हम एक अधिक न्यायसंगत और गतिशील रिसर्च इकोसिस्टम का निर्माण कर रहे हैं जो न केवल स्वास्थ्य आपात स्थितियों के लिए हमारी तैयारियों को मजबूत करेगा, बल्कि स्वास्थ्य देखभाल में नवाचार को भी बढ़ावा देगा।

मैं इस नीति को तैयार करने के लिए ICMR और स्वास्थ्य अनुसंधान विभाग की सराहना करता हूं। उत्कृष्टता और सहयोग के प्रति उनकी प्रतिबद्धता प्रेरणादायक है और भारत में चिकित्सा अनुसंधान के भविष्य के लिए उच्च मानक निर्धारित करती है।

शुभकामनाओं सहित,

(प्रतापराव जाधव)

Smt. Anupriya Patel

Hon'ble Minister of State, Health & Family Welfare and Chemicals & Fertilizers, Government of India

अनुप्रिया पटेल
ANUPRIYA PATEL

राज्य मंत्री
स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण
व रसायन एवं उर्वरक
भारत सरकार
**MINISTER OF STATE
HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE
AND CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**

सत्यमेव जयते

FOREWORD

The healthcare sector in India is undergoing a significant transformation driven by innovation, technological advancements, and robust system strengthening efforts. This evolution presents a landscape rich with opportunities and challenges, necessitating proactive strategies and unified efforts.
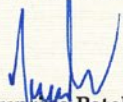
Central to the Government's vision for India's development is the understanding that health is not just the absence of disease but a fundamental human right and a cornerstone of sustainable progress. A healthy population enhances productivity and builds resilience against adversities. Thus, prioritizing health is essential for our development agenda.

The Indian government's health priorities go beyond mere objectives; they reflect a steadfast commitment to ensuring universal healthcare access, promoting preventive measures, and fostering medical research and innovation Research is indispensable in achieving these priorities, serving as the foundation for effective healthcare interventions.

Recognizing the need for widespread access to advanced biomedical research resources, DHR- ICMR has implemented a structured policy to effectively share and manage research infrastructure across ICMR institutes. As India's leading biomedical research body, ICMR has established a nationwide network of sophisticated facilities. This policy aims to empower a diverse range of researchers by providing guidance on accessing and utilizing these resources responsibly.

Harnessing this initiative to create an ecosystem for research sharing will further transform our healthcare by enabling tailored, effective interventions that respond to diverse needs, propelling India towards achieving its national health priorities. This ensures every citizen lives a life of dignity and good health.

Through the concerted efforts of DHR and ICMR, the benefits of scientific inquiry will translate into tangible improvements in health and well-being for all. I commend them on this new initiative and wish them all the best for future endeavours.

(Anupriya Patel)

July 8, 2024
New Delhi

Foreword

Dr. Rajiv Bahl

Secretary, Government of India, Department of Health Research, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare and Director General, Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)

डॉ. राजीव बहल, एमडी, पीएचडी
DR. RAJIV BAHL MD, PhD

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

Secretary, Government of India
Department of Health Research
Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
Director-General
Indian Council of Medical Research

FOREWORD

The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), under the Department of Health Research, is at the forefront of India's biomedical research through its expansive network of 27 institutes. ICMR is instrumental in pioneering scientific breakthroughs, developing critical healthcare interventions, and nurturing the growth of researchers to tackle the nation's pressing health challenges.

ICMR institutes are equipped with the necessary research facilities for biomedical research. To maximize the impact of these resources, we focus on ensuring their optimal utilization by researchers throughout India. By tackling the issues of high costs, scarcity of trained personnel, and limited access to essential research infrastructure, ICMR aims to fully unlock the country's scientific potential through a policy initiative called ICMR-Research Infrastructure Sharing Ecosystem(I-RISE).

I-RISE aims at opening the doors of established research facilities at ICMR national institutes to the non-ICMR research community from medical colleges, universities, biomedical research institutes, startups and companies engaged in biomedical research. We believe that granting access to ICMR research facilities to the larger research community may empower researchers to tackle critical scientific challenges, substantially enhancing research outputs across disciplines.

This document outlines the Policy on ICMR - Research Infrastructure Sharing Ecosystem (I-RISE), designed to establish a structured framework and procedures for the equitable dissemination of research facilities within ICMR's network to researchers across India.

I commend the scientists for their work and anticipate the successful implementation of this policy to improve research sharing in India. By fostering an environment of collaboration and innovation, we can drive scientific and healthcare advancements for the betterment of our nation.

Dr. Rajiv Bahl

Abbreviations

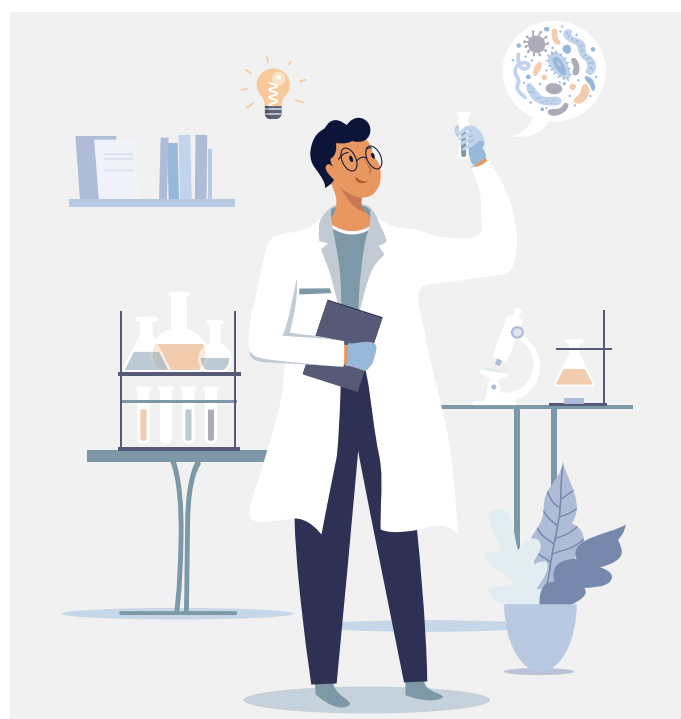|	
AMC:	Annual Maintenance Charges
BSL:	Biosafety Level
CIF:	Central Instrumentation Facility
DG:	Director General
DHR:	Department of Health Reseach
GFR:	General Finance Rules
HR:	Human Resource
ICMR HQ:	Indian Council of Medical Research Headquarters
I-RISE Portal:	ICMR - Research Infrastructure Sharing Ecosystem Portal
MoHFW:	Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
MoU:	Memorandum of Understanding
MSME:	Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises

Contents

1. Background

The Department of Health Research (DHR) actively promotes and coordinates basic, applied, clinical and operational research in the biomedical health sector. This includes supporting development of research infrastructure, building skilled professionals, promoting research and innovation in cutting-edge health related areas. DHR also bolsters translational research for improved health outcomes and human well-being. The autonomous body under the department, the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), with a network of 27 Institutes, is the country's premier medical research organization, spearheads ground-breaking research in the biomedical sector, supporting the development of critical healthcare interventions, and foster a thriving ecosystem for young researchers.

DHR-ICMR recognizes the growing need for widespread access to advanced biomedical research capabilities within the Indian biomedical community for medical and scientific research. ICMR, through its nationwide network of institutes, has built a robust infrastructure of sophisticated biomedical research laboratories across the country. Effective utilization of these meticulously established and maintained laboratories presents an immense opportunity to propel scientific advancements and academic growth within the national health research landscape. Sharing and optimally utilizing these laboratories developed through government funding with researchers across the country will not only accelerate research progress but also improve healthcare outcomes for all Indians, through quality research outcomes and innovations.

The high cost of acquiring and maintaining cutting-edge research equipments creates a barrier to wider access and utilization of state-of-the-art health research infrastructure in India. The limited availability of trained personnel to handle these sophisticated equipment's, further compounds the bottleneck. As the number of health researchers steadily rises, establishing mechanisms for equitable access to critical scientific infrastructure becomes increasingly crucial. Limited or no access to essential research infrastructure confines or compromises the scientific potential of a vast pool of researchers in healthcare and other research organizations from colleges and universities to industries, hindering vital advancements in biomedical health sector. This gap can be significantly bridged by leveraging the network of ICMR research institutes and laboratories across the country and making their advanced resources accessible to all qualified researchers, regardless of their affiliation or location. Implementing transparent sharing and allocation mechanisms through a dedicated online platform will foster a more equitable and productive research environment. Collaboration with other research networks and universities can further expand this initiative and empower researchers throughout India.

Acknowledging the need for wider resource utilization and accelerated research progress, this document outlines a structured policy for sharing and responsibly managing research infrastructure across ICMR institutes. It aims to empower a wider range of researchers by providing guidance on appropriate access and responsible utilization of research infrastructure available in ICMR institutions.

2. Purpose and Scope

The purpose of the policy is to provide a structured overview for sharing of advanced research facilities in ICMR laboratories with researchers from medical colleges/universities and other research organizations including industries in R&D. This will:

• Facilitate access to sophisticated equipments for researchers working in institutions with limited infrastructure, enabling them to perform quality research.

• Foster research collaboration and knowledge sharing.

• Enhance the quality and efficiency of data-driven research.

• Promote cost-effective research by optimizing resource utilization and minimizing duplication of infrastructure.

This policy is intended for researchers from Medical and Allied Colleges/ Universities/ R&D facilities/ AYUSH institutions/ Start-ups/ MSME industries seeking to utilize the infrastructure facilities of ICMR laboratories for their Research and Development projects (Collectively referred to as research entities).

The overall purpose is to facilitate and empower biomedical research in India and support research and development of health technologies to improve health of citizens and contribute towards 'Make-in-India' mission for diagnostics, therapeutics and vaccines.

3. Objectives

1. To provide a comprehensive framework for sharing access to the network of scientific research infrastructure within ICMR institutions to fulfil the research needs of all researchers across the country thereby ensuring optimal use of available research infrastructure.

2. To develop a provision of incentivization to the researchers to support sharing and utilization of ICMR research facilities.

4. Benefits of the Research Infrastructure Sharing Policy

1. To ensure optimal use of research equipment's/ facility available at ICMR institutes through sharing with Indian research community.

2. To maximise returns from the cost involved in procurement and maintenance of research infrastructure by sharing of established state-of-the art equipment/ infrastructure at ICMR institutes, thereby enhancing the efficiency of expenditure made by DHR-ICMR, MoHFW.

3. To address the unmet needs of researchers nation-wide by facilitating access to advanced research facilities, empowering them to tackle critical scientific challenges and contribute to improved research output across diverse disciplines.

5. Procedure for Research Infrastructure Sharing

1. Each ICMR institute shall set up a central instrumentation facility (CIF) to which all-sharable equipments will be linked. Until the CIFs are fully operational, existing facilities will be readily available for sharing.

2. Research Infrastructure sharing shall be promoted through an online system (the I-RISE portal) where all shareable equipment's/facilities of ICMR institutes may be listed with trained manpower.

3. The I-RISE portal may act as a one-stop solution for accessing ICMR's state-of-the-art research infrastructure. Researchers can browse available equipment's, submit booking requests, and receive confirmations.

4. The portal may clearly maintain an update of facilities, which are non-utilized, optimally utilized or over-utilized, for optimal distribution of resources.

5. All ICMR intra-institutional booking may be also made through the portal.

6. A 4-level hierarchy may be implemented to ensure smooth and efficient access to the Central Instrumentation Facilities (CIFs) at ICMR institutes. Each level to have distinct responsibilities as outlined in Section 7 of this policy.

7. CIF nodal officer shall be the primary contact for booking and processing of requests/samples, if any. Reports/results issued shall be released with approval of in-charge of the Instrument.

6. General Terms and Conditions for Sharing Research Infrastructure

1. Each ICMR institutions shall list all the sharable equipment's and facilities in the I-RISE portal. While basic, commonly used equipment's may not be included in Central Instrumentation Facility (CIF).

2. Only those ICMR institutes who have listed their equipment's and facilities on the ICMR Research Infrastructure Sharing Ecosystem (I-RISE) portal will be subject to the guidelines and provisions outlined in this policy.

3. ICMR institutes should ensure that at least 20% of the user time of each equipment be allocated to external users. However, this will be flexible to encourage and facilitate the external users.

4. Each institutes CIF shall be responsible for maintaining a comprehensive online log regarding the booking status, availability, usage, calibration updates and maintenance history of equipment's/ facility listed in I-RISE portal.

5. Only trained and skilled /certified operators of the host institutes shall be allowed to operate the facilities of ICMR.

6. External users shall access ICMR services only under the direct supervision of designated personnel from the host institute, adhering to the assigned time slot.

7. Responsibilities of the ICMR institutes (host institutes) include ensuring the updated information about the equipment including its technical specification and availability in the portal, maintenance of equipment at laboratories as per the terms of procurement, AMC and timely disposal of equipment as per GFR 2017.

8. To encourage diverse and impactful research, ICMR may consider offering subsidized access to its state-of-the-art infrastructure to partially cover the equipment running/ experiment cost. Uniform base level charges shall be proposed in consultation with the institutions, considering the type of equipment utilized. Charges may vary based on the number of samples to be processed, reagents utilized, factoring time etc. The pricing may be tiered for government & private institutions /universities/ industries / MSMEs.

9. To foster inclusive research opportunities, for researchers with fund constraints ICMR may consider providing provisions for further subsidization, based on the quality/relevance of research undertaken, on a case-to-case basis. The provisions /mode of incentivization may be made available in the portal. This is to encourage the process of sharing/effective utilization of the equipment's/ facility by the research community.

10. The scope of the policy is to provide technical support for external users in supporting their research. Any scientific/ creative contributions other than basic analysis will be out of the purview of this

policy and may be dealt separately by the user and the host institutions.

11. Data Retention and Disposal: Research data and related records generated may be retained for the minimum period of one month from generation of the report.

12. User Ownership and Copyright: Users retain ownership/copyright over any tests, results, or intellectual property generated through utilization of ICMR infrastructure, unless otherwise agreed upon beforehand in cases of collaboration, mutual agreements, or specific funding arrangements.

13. Acknowledgement: Users are encouraged to acknowledge the support of ICMR and its facilities in any resulting publications, reports, or presentations

to promote transparency and recognition of shared resources.

14. Data Protection and Confidentiality: Any data generated through utilization of ICMR infrastructure shall be exclusively used for research and development purposes. The intellectual property rights related to this data will unequivocally remain with the researcher/user unless previously agreed upon. To protect individual privacy and ensure transparency, all data will be securely stored for a limited period of time, after which it will be permanently deleted. The Nodal Officers are dedicated to upholding the highest standards of ethics and integrity; therefore, the collected data will never be misused or shared with any external party or individual under any circumstance.

7. Responsibility of the Stakeholders

A. Office of Policy on I-RISE at ICMR Headquarters

1. A dedicated unit shall be established at the ICMR Headquarters to centrally monitor and facilitate the research infrastructure sharing of ICMR. The unit will co-ordinate with the nodal officer of individual institutes and review the appropriate implementation and utilization of facilities needs to be put in place.

2. ICMR-HQ shall develop a user-friendly and openly accessible interactive portal with a clear and informative dashboard. This portal will feature a streamlined single window approval process and be centrally managed by ICMR HQ.

3. This unit shall be responsible for finalizing/modifying the user charges in consultation with individual institutions and subject to approval of DG, ICMR. Attempts may be made to maintain the uniformity of pricing across all ICMR institutes.

4. Attempts may be made to encourage DHR/ICMR funded laboratories and other research institutions to participate in this policy by sharing their research infrastructure with eligible researchers lacking access to such resources. Interested institutions can express their commitment through an MoU with ICMR and relevant provisions may be made available on the portal.

B. ICMR Institutes

1. The institutes shall be responsible for purchase, maintenance and Human resource support for the equipment's listed in I-RISE portal.

2. The institutes shall maintain a usage log for each equipment/facility listed in I-RISE portal.

3. The following hierarchy will be ensured for maintaining the activities of CIF.

   a. Head of the institute: Governance and Monitoring of CIF facility.

   b. CIF Nodal officer: Will be in charge of CIF facility and routing of test requests received, confidentiality of the data/ information generated and coordinate redressal of complaints. The Director of the institute will identify nodal officer.

   c. Instrument in charge: The person in charge of the Department /Division in which the equipment is placed (if not in CIF).

   d. Technical Contact: Person in charge of handling or using the equipment. Dedicated technical staff may be assigned for equipment.

4. Upon receiving the user's sample, the receiving technician should assess its quality and record any observations. In case of samples with compromised processing quality, the technical person/staff with approval of the instrument in charge can reject the sample from accepting and modify the booking.

5. In case, the samples are of unknown/known infectious material (of high risk), the bio safety level can be requested by the user and the CIF nodal officer may look into the suitability of BSL space to be provided.

6. Samples once tested will not be retained/ stored by the host institute.

7. To ensure quality and optimal equipment use, the instrument in charge and the technical experts may be given regular training on safe and effective operation, data acquisition, and analysis.

8. Robust referral mechanisms for sending requests from one lab to another may be in place.

9. The Technical contact can advise users on the quality of reagents, chemicals, and supplies needed for their work.

10. A 'Quality Control' system is mandatory at the institute level.

11. Complaint redressal system may be developed at institute level to resolve issues that comes under the purview of this document.

12. Revenue generated would be utilized for maintenance of CIF equipment's.

C. Researchers

1. Users shall belong to a registered Medical and Allied Colleges/ Universities/ R&D facilities/ AYUSH institutions/ Start-ups/ MSME.

2. Booking shall be made through proper channel preferably via the online portal. Researchers shall be encouraged to book their slots in advance to facilitate effortless processing at the institutional end.

3. Users shall be encouraged to approach the CIF nodal officer before booking for information regarding sample preparation, quality requirements, biosafety precautions and analysis parameters before the actual use takes place.

4. Care may be taken to submit samples without compromising its quality. In case of temperature/ light sensitive samples, users may take additional precautions to maintain the same.

5. The Data/result generated shall be transferred only to user through the portal or in originals as requested by the user.

6. Only samples for research purposes may be entertained. Routine samples from hospitals/ patient care shall not be entertained through this facility.

7. Sample processing and submission may be done according to the instructions either available in the portal or as instructed by the CIF nodal officer.

8. For any concerns related to sample handling, equipment function, or data quality, users shall raise a complaint following the procedure outlined in the Complaint Redressal Mechanism.

8. Complaint Redressal

In case of any complaint, the researcher may approach the Head of the respective ICMR institute where the test was conducted or in charge of I-RISE portal at ICMR HQ (details will be made available on the portal). Also, the portal shall provide inbuilt complaint redressal mechanisms for transparency.

9. Dissemination of Policy on I-RISE and CIF of ICMR Institutes

1. All information related to I-RISE and CIF facility of Individual ICMR institutes shall be available on the I-RISE portal.

2. The I-RISE portal shall be prominently linked on all ICMR institutional websites for easy access to research infrastructure resources.

10. Ethical Requirements

1. The CIF nodal officer shall request necessary regulatory approvals if need felt at any time point for processing the sample/ releasing the reports.

2. ICMR will not assert ownership of any data generated through its facilities or services unless there is a prior agreement or formal collaboration.

3. Users submitting samples shall disclose the character, behaviour, and potential hazards of all sample types to the CIF nodal officer and technical officer. This information is critical for ensuring safety and determining necessary precautions.

4. All Stakeholders shall practice responsible conduct of research at all stages including planning, conducting research, reviewing, reporting research and while handling research data.

11. Legal Responsibility

1. All researchers and staff of ICMR institutes are responsible for understanding and complying with any legal, ethical, or contractual conditions governing confidentiality under this policy.

2. Steps may be taken by all stakeholders to ensure the confidentiality of data /test report generated for the user.

3. ICMR CIF shall not be responsible for any discrepancies or malpractices occurring with a user's sample before its submission to the facility or after its removal.

4. The ICMR institute shall not be responsible for any failure in data acquisition due to machine failure/ loss of sample.

12. Revision of Policy

A technical committee constituted by the Department shall review the provisions of the policy within six months of its launch. This shall be a regular exercise to maintain the dynamic nature of the policy. Any subsequent revisions in any provisions of the policy shall be authorised by the Secretary DHR.