Date: 18.11.2024

CALL FOR PROPOSALS UNDER DHR-CENTRAL SECTOR SCHEME OF MODEL RURAL HEALTH RESEARCH UNIT (MRHRU), MIZORAM

About MRHRU

Model Rural Health Research Unit (MRHRU) is a central sector umbrella schemes established under the aegis of Department of Health Research (DHR), Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Govt. of India. MRHRUs were set up with a focus on developing infrastructure for promotion of health research across the country. MRHRU Mizoram is one among the 34 MRHRUs in the country. MRHRU-Mizoram is located in Aibawk, Aizawl District and currently function out of makeshift arrangement within the Zoram Medical College, Falkawn and is mentored by Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)-Regional Medical Research Centre Northeast (RMRCNE), Dibrugarh in collaboration with Zoram Medical College, Falkawn. The MRHRU platform has the provision for undertaking research that is relevant and beneficial to the local health care needs. To support the research activities, proposals are being invited from interested persons on any issue of regional or national importance.

Criteria for project submission:

- 1. Any regular Faculty/Scientist/Medical Officer/Researcher working in Mizoram State Government Medical facilities, Hospitals, Rural Public Health Training Centres, Research Institutes, Universities are eligible to submit proposal.
- 2. Research proposal can be descriptive, observational, epidemiological, qualitative studies, implementation research on communicable diseases, non-communicable diseases, maternal and child health, adolescent health, environmental and occupational health, emerging pathogens and any other domains that are primarily focused on rural health within the state of Mizoram.
- 3. Proposal should be submitted in the prescribed format duly forwarded by the head of the department/institute.
- 4. The project budget should not exceed Rs. 6 lakhs.
- 5. Duration of the project should be limited to 2 years or less.

Selection process

The proposal will be reviewed by the Local Research Advisory Committee (LRAC) constituted for MRHRU Mizoram. Projects will be evaluated based on novelty, methodology, relevance, feasibility, appropriate budget with justification etc. Preference will be given to the suitability of the proposal focusing on local health issues and their implications on policy and practice.

Proposal format

Full proposals with proper background, literature review, relevance to national and regional health priorities, detailed methodology, partnering units, budget with justifications are to be submitted in the format given as Annexure-I. The proposals are to be submitted to mrhru.mizoram@gmail.com only.

Last date of submission: 15th December, 2024.

For any further queries related to this call, you may contact:

P. Thangsuanhau
Scientist B & Nodal Officer,
MRHRU Mizoram
ICMR-RMRCNE, Dibrugarh, Assam
Email: phiamphu.t@icmr.gov.in

ANNEXURE-I: Format for submission of Project Proposal under MRHRU Mizoram **PART-A**

- 1. Title of the proposed research project (up to 25 words): (should be specific, concise and yet sufficiently descriptive and informative)
- 2. Name, Designation & Affiliation of Principal Investigator and Co-Investigators
- 3. Summary (up to 250 words): A structured summary should contain the following subheadings: Rationale/ gaps in existing knowledge, Novelty, Objectives, Methods, and Expected outcome.
- 4. Area of research (Please tickone or more as appropriate): ☐ Description ☐ Development □ Delivery ☐ Discovery
- 5. **Keywords:** Six keywords separated by comma which best describe your project may be provided.
- **6. Abbreviations:** Only standard abbreviations should be used in the text. List of abbreviations maximum of ten may be given as a list.
- 7. Problem Statement (up to 500 words): State the currently available information to present the problem adequately.
- 8. Rationale of the study (up to 250 words): Mention how the research question addresses the critical barrier(s) in scientific knowledge, technical capability, and/or programmatic/clinical/lab practice and its relevance to local, national and international context with relevant bibliography.
- 9. Hypothesis/ Research question (up to 100 words): Please provide details
- 10. Study Objectives (up to 25 words/ objective): Define the objectives clearly and in measurable terms; mention as primary and secondary objectives, if necessary. Do not include more than 3-4 objectives.
- 11. Methodology: Include objective-wise work plan under the following sub-headings:
 - a. Study design

d. Sample size

b. Study site

c. Methods (e.g. PICO)

e. Implementation strategy

f. Statistical analysis

g. Ethical issues

- 12. Expected outcome/ Deliverables aligned with research question (up to 100 words):
- 13. Future plan based on expected outcomes (up to 100 words):
- 14. Whether the study is going to generate new intellectual property Please provide details
- **15. Timelines with achievable targets:** GANTT/ PERT chart to be included.

PART-B

- **16.** Preliminary work done by the PI including the source of funding (up to 250 words): Proof of concept (if any)
- **17. Skill and experience of the research team**: Highlight only salient points (along with 5 relevant publications) that provides confidence to reviewers that team can implement the project with quality.
- **18. Institutional Support/ Facilities:** Mention the efforts made to achieve inter-departmental or interinstitutional collaboration needed for study implementation, details of coordination between clinical, laboratory and data management procedures, mention:
- **19. Laboratory facilities** (*in-vitro*/ *in-silico*): Institutional resources such as instruments/ equipment and other physical resources available for use in the project proposed.
- **20. Budget:** Budget with Justifications for all sub-headings under budget is to be provided in detail.
- **21. Conflict of Interest Declaration (if any):** PI will be asked to submit declaration, if shortlisted.
- **22.** Additional supplementary information including figures, tables, flow diagrams, etc. can be shared as PDF (20-30 KB).