

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1111
ANSWERED ON:01.03.2006
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY IN HEALTH RESEARCH
Sugavanam Shri E.G.

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Indian Council for Medical Research (ICMR) is planning a tie up with the Centre for the Management of Intellectual Property in Health Research (MIHR);
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the benefits likely to be accrued as a result thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

- (a) Yes, Sir. ICMR is planning to tie up with Centre for Management of Intellectual property in Health Research (MIHR) for the benefit of Health Sector.
- (b) The MIHR is a UK based charity that aims to promote development of new Intellectual Property and health technologies for the overall social and economic benefit of the poor countries. The MIHR already has similar partnership with the Medical Council of South Africa and is associated with several such health related technology development activities amongst various developing countries. The MIHR is supported by many international agencies like the Rockefeller Foundation. The MIHR has strong expertise and resources for Intellectual Property Management in health which helps to optimize the development of new products in health care delivery system through innovative Intellectual Property management. The MIHR has also demonstrated capability in training of technology transfer professionals in health and has been doing such programmes in human resource development in Africa and South East Asia for several years. The ICMR is yet to enter into a formal relationship with the MIHR.
- (c) The benefits for India include capability building in the area of Intellectual Property Rights and technology management that helps in the negotiation of international agreement in the transfer of health technology and the development of appropriate institutional IP Policies etc. that will help to put more health technologies into the public health system in India.