



For Immediate Release

**ICMR, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Govt. of India,  
Govt. of Madhya Pradesh and Sun Pharma announce  
public-private-partnership for Malaria Free India**

**This is India's Unique & First-of-its-kind Public-Private-  
Partnership in Preventive Health & Disease Elimination**

**Partnership to demonstrate malaria elimination in over 1,200  
villages of Mandla district by FY21**

- *Malaria Free India demonstration project to be launched in the Mandla district of Madhya Pradesh before December 2016*
- *Sun Pharma to establish a not-for-profit Foundation for implementing Malaria Free India demonstration project*
- *Malaria Free India Public-Private-Partnership initiative to dovetail into Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan goals*

**NEW DELHI - April 25, 2016:** Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MOHFW), Govt. of India, Govt. of Madhya Pradesh and Sun Pharma (Reuters: SUN.BO, Bloomberg: SUNP IN, NSE: SUNPHARMA, BSE: 524715, Sun Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd and includes its subsidiaries or associate companies), today, announced India's first public-private-partnership agreement for Malaria Free India and other innovation in preventive health. This was announced by Dr Soumya Swaminathan, Director General – ICMR, Principal Secretary Health Mrs. Gauri Singh Govt of Madhya Pradesh and Dilip Shanghvi, Managing Director, Sun Pharma as a unique effort to draw public – private sector collaboration in promoting preventive health measures. The public-private-partnership stakeholders will jointly undertake malaria control & elimination programme by setting-up Management & Technical Committees to provide oversight for disease surveillance & elimination.

Under the aegis of this unique public-private-partnership, ICMR, MOHFW, Govt. of India, Govt of Madhya Pradesh and Sun Pharma will establish a malaria elimination demonstration



project titled Malaria Free India, to support the national framework for elimination of malaria in India. The demonstration project will be launched in one of the most malaria endemic districts of Madhya Pradesh and implemented in a phased manner, beginning with Mandla district of Madhya Pradesh. The public-private-partnership stakeholders will execute the malaria elimination programme over a span of 3 to 5 years covering over 1,200 villages in Mandla district.

**According to the Hon'ble Union Minister of Health & Family Welfare, Sh J P Nadda adds,** *"The first of its kind public-private-agreement between ICMR & Sun Pharma reiterates India's commitment to eliminate malaria. Implementing Malaria elimination demonstration project in a high transmission district of Mandla in Madhya Pradesh using proven case management and vector control strategies will be done in collaboration and through the support of Govt of Madhya Pradesh. ICMR and Sun Pharma will aim to reduce the morbidity and mortality caused by malaria in this demonstration project as well as prevention of re-introduction of malaria. The lessons learned would be used for elimination of malaria from the country by the national program. I believe that this partnership has a potential to create sustainable impact by reducing malaria morbidity and improving people's health. This will enable us to alleviate poverty within the target geographies through cost effective interventions and improvement of overall development and quality of life."*

**The Minister Health & Family Welfare; Ayush; Bhopal Gas Rehabilitation; Medical Education and Legislative Affairs, Govt of Madhya Pradesh, Dr Narottam Mishra adds,** *"We are very happy to collaborate with Sun Pharma and ICMR in their efforts at elimination of Malaria from the State. There are over 5,000 villages in Madhya Pradesh, with API over 1 and it is our endeavour to move the State and especially the malaria endemic districts towards API below 1. This requires not just strong efforts at community level but also ensuring and maintaining the supply chain for malaria drugs and diagnostics, right up to the villages. I hope that this collaboration, which is starting from district Mandla, will expand to other districts and enable us to achieve the ambitious goals we have set for ourselves."*

**According to the Director General Indian Council of Medical Research, Dr. Soumya Swaminathan,** *"I am pleased that ICMR is partnering with Sun Pharma in a malaria elimination demonstration project – a high priority for us. Malaria is not uniformly distributed in India and 6 states are responsible for > 60 % malaria in the country. These are Odisha, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Jharkhand, Maharashtra and Northeastern states. 91 districts in India, having 5% of country's total population, 31 % of tribal population are high Burden districts contributing nearly half of malaria cases and deaths. Studies done by ICMR have shown that a holistic strategy can reduce malaria burden significantly within a few years, in a defined area. The proposed public-private partnership for malaria elimination will use the same available and tested strategies of case management (diagnosing and treating all symptomatic and asymptomatic cases through mass screening), intense*



*surveillance and vector control by using indoor residual sprays and long-lasting insecticide impregnated bednets. Community participation and IEC will be key components. This project aims to demonstrate that it is feasible to eliminate malaria from a high endemic district, and will hopefully become a pathfinder for the rest of the country. It is also a unique model of collaboration between the central and state governments, a private pharma company and ICMR, and could pave the way for more private investment in public health."*

**Commenting on its Malaria Free India public-private-partnership initiative, Mr Dilip Shanghvi, Managing Director, Sun Pharma said,** *"Malaria is a major public health problem. It is known to impede development, saving and investment as well as worker productivity in the form of absenteeism. All this has an adverse impact on per-capita gross domestic product. Moreover, there is a strong correlation between malaria and poverty. Malaria endemic countries have shown significantly lower rates of economic growth. Through our Malaria Free India initiative we aim to achieve zero malaria incidences in more than 1,200 villages of Mandla district of Madhya Pradesh by FY21. The experience gained from Mandla project will guide the development of broader plans for malaria elimination in Madhya Pradesh as well as other high malaria endemic States in India."*

The Malaria Free India public-private-partnership initiative is governed by six-point-goals:

1. Demonstrate feasibility of malaria elimination in Mandla district of Madhya Pradesh.
2. Eliminate malaria-attributable deaths in infants, children and pregnant women.
3. Sustain malaria-free Mandla district.
4. Strengthen existing health systems.
5. Introduce mobile-based surveillance systems and treat all malaria cases as per National Vector Borne Disease Control Program (NVBDCP) guidelines.
6. Mobilize communities by using Information, Education, and Communication tools.

To demonstrate the feasibility of eliminating malaria and prevention of re-establishment of this disease ICMR, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Govt. of India, Govt of Madhya Pradesh and Sun Pharma will use rapid diagnostic tests, prompt treatment of effective antimalarial drugs, long-lasting insecticide treated bednets and indoor residual spray for achieving elimination of malaria.

The Malaria Free India public-private-partnership initiative will also demonstrate health benefits of clean environment as envisioned by Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan initiative. The project team will work with local Panchayats on the usefulness of eliminating water bodies around households. The significant deliverable of this particular component of the project will be to reduce mosquito breeding sites in the project districts. As part of the project implementation plan, recommendations will be made for improving health systems and services. The results of this evaluation would aid private and governmental agencies to better target aid to Primary Health Centers.



For operationalizing the Malaria Free India goals, Sun Pharma will establish a not-for-profit foundation. This Foundation will operate as an independent entity by engaging national and international experts as knowledge partners for the project while remaining accountable to the Malaria Free India public-private-partnership stakeholders. The Malaria Free India demonstration project is in line with Sun Pharma's CSR efforts for holistic development of underserved communities in a sustainable and impactful manner. This unique Malaria Free India public-private-partnership gives Sun Pharma an opportunity to play a significant role in eliminating malaria. A team of over 200 members will be part of the implementation of this demonstration project.

#### **ABOUT SUN PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRIES LTD (CIN - L24230GJ1993PLC019050)**

*Sun Pharma is the world's fifth largest specialty generic pharmaceutical company and India's top pharmaceutical company. A vertically integrated business, economies of scale and an extremely skilled team enable us to deliver quality products in a timely manner at affordable prices. It provides high-quality, affordable medicines trusted by customers and patients in over 150 countries across the world. Sun Pharma's global presence is supported by 49 manufacturing facilities spread across 6 continents, R&D centres across the globe and a multi-cultural workforce comprising over 50 nationalities. The consolidated revenues for 12 months ending March 2015 are approximately US\$ 4.5 billion, of which US contributes US\$ 2.2 billion. In India, the company enjoys leadership across 12 different classes of doctors with 30 brands featuring amongst top 300 pharmaceutical brands in India. Its footprint across emerging markets covers over 100 markets and 6 markets in Western Europe. Its Global Consumer Healthcare business is ranked amongst Top 10 across 4 global markets. Its API business footprint is strengthened through 14 world class API manufacturing facilities across the globe. Sun Pharma fosters excellence through innovation supported by strong R&D capabilities comprising about 2,000 scientists and R&D investments of over 7% of annual revenues.*

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#### **ABOUT INDIAN COUNCIL OF MEDICAL RESEARCH**

*The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), New Delhi, the apex body in India for the formulation, coordination and promotion of biomedical research, is one of the oldest medical research bodies in the world. The Government of India set up the Indian Research Fund Association (IRFA) with the specific objective of sponsoring and coordinating medical research in the country. After independence, several important changes were made in the organisation and the activities of the IRFA. It was redesignated in 1949 as the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) with considerably expanded scope of functions. The ICMR is funded by the Government of India through the Department of Health Research, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare. The Council's research priorities coincide with the National health*



*priorities such as control and management of communicable diseases, fertility control, maternal and child health, control of nutritional disorders, developing alternative strategies for health care delivery, containment within safety limits of environmental and occupational health problems; research on major non-communicable diseases like cancer, cardiovascular diseases, blindness, diabetes and other metabolic and haematological disorders; mental health research and drug research (including traditional remedies). All these efforts are undertaken with a view to reduce the total burden of disease and to promote health and well-being of the population. The Governing Body of the Council is presided over by the Union Health Minister. It is assisted in scientific and technical matters by a Scientific Advisory Board comprising eminent experts in different biomedical disciplines.*

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