

## CALL FOR PROPOSALS

### Indo-US Programme on Contraceptive and Reproductive Health Research

In November 1997, a Joint Statement was issued by the Minister of State for Power and Science and Technology, Government of India and the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, Government of USA on the Expansion of Indo-US Collaboration on Contraceptive and Reproductive Health Research. The implementing agencies in India are the Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Indian Council of Medical Research, and the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research. The US implementing agencies are the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICDH), NIH, the US Agency for International Development (USAID), and the Contraceptive Research and Development Programme (CONRAD).

Under the programme elaborated in the Joint Statement, Indian and US scientists are invited to propose joint research projects on Contraceptive and Reproductive Health. The following specific areas have been identified for initial collaborative research emphasis:

- New reversible male contraceptive methods;
- Long-acting injectable for women;
- Barrier methods for contraception and sexually transmitted diseases prevention;
- Emergency contraception;
- Social and behavioural research;
- Epidemiologic studies, including studies on the relationship between contraceptive methods and the acquisition of sexually transmitted diseases/reproductive tract infections;
- Immunocontraception; and
- Basic, applied and clinical research in reproductive health.

Fifteen copies of the Jointly Agreed Collaborative research project on specified formats would be received by the Secretariat of the Programme. Research proposals will be peer-reviewed in India and the United States. To support jointly approved research projects appropriate rupees funds to meet research costs and other resources are available. The Research projects would be implemented subject to necessary clearances from the government and laws and regulations of the host and sponsoring countries.

Indian investigators interested in establishing collaborative research projects with US scientists should contact for Format and Submission of projects to: Dr B. M. Gandhi, Director, Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science & Technology, Block-II (7th Floor), CGO Complex, Lodi Road, New Delhi 110 003, Tel: 4360984 (Direct), 4363012/Ext. 238; Fax: 4362884, 4363018; E-mail: [gandhi@dbt.delhi.nic.in](mailto:gandhi@dbt.delhi.nic.in); Hotmail: [gandhidbt@hotmail.com](mailto:gandhidbt@hotmail.com).