

## Health minister inaugurates new center for vaccine management

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On the occasion of the 38<sup>th</sup> annual day celebration of the National Institute of Health & Family Welfare on March 09, 2015, the health minister, Mr JP Nadda inaugurated the National Cold Chain and Vaccine Management Resource Center (NCCVMRC) and a Skill Lab at the Institute. The NCCVMRC will function as the nodal institution for supporting, facilitating and coordinating the cold chain and vaccine management functions of the Immunization Division of the Health Ministry. Whereas, the Skill Lab will provide training to improve the skills of healthcare providers and to enhance their capacity to provide quality RMNCH+A health services.

Speaking on the occasion, Mr Nadda said, "While there is substantial amount of good work being carried out in various institutions under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, there is need to communicate this to the people. The people's representatives can be involved to carry the message of schemes offered by the government, best practices evolved and the work undertaken by the different institutions."

The Health minister further mentioned that he is soon meeting various MPs to seek their suggestions and views on the implementation of Mission Indradhanush which the Health Ministry will shortly launch. The Mission Indradhanush aims to cover all those children who are either unvaccinated, or are partially vaccinated against seven vaccine preventable diseases which include diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, polio, tuberculosis, measles, and hepatitis B. He informed that a Mission Mode has been adopted to achieve target of full immunization coverage by 2020.

Pointing out that health is a subject which is significantly influenced by various socio-economic determinants, health minister urged the faculty and staff at the Institute to think in a holistic manner while conducting research, and evaluation or monitoring of schemes. Convergence of knowledge from diverse sectors will make the research and monitoring outcomes rounded and more realistic, he stated. While one can always learn from best practises around the world, the Health Minister encouraged the faculty and staff at the NIHFW to contribute to the emerging best practises in the health sector. He urged them to be attentive to the quality of research, training and other services that provide to the various healthcare providers across the country.