

4.3 Model Rural Health Research Unit (MRHRU) Bhanpur Kala, Jaipur

Desert Medicine Research Centre, has been facilitating and mentoring activities of Model Rural Health Research Unit (MRHRU) Bhanpur Kala (District Jaipur). The Centre had been the responsibility to coordinate with Department of Health Research, Sawai Man Singh Medical College, Jaipur and State Health Department, Government of Rajasthan, for the transfer of land for MRHRU, construction of building, development of research laboratories and carrying out scientific studies. Since February 2014, MRHRU Bhanpur Kalan had been temporarily functioning from two rooms of CHC Bhanpur Kala and another two rooms of Gram Panchayat adjacent to Community Health Centre. Central Public Works Department, Jaipur was given the responsibility of construction of new building of MRHRU on land provided by Government of Rajasthan. The CPWD completed the work and handed over the building in March 2016. The new building of MRHRU was inaugurated by Dr. Soumya Swaminathan, Secretary, Department of Health Research (GOI) and Director General, Indian Council of Medical Research on 20th March 2016, in presence of local MLA Shri Jagdish Narayan Meena and Principal SMS Medical College, Jaipur. Since then MRHRU has been functioning from its new Building.

Following four research projects in collaboration with faculty of SMS Medical College Jaipur are currently in progress at MRHRU Bhanpur Kalan. Their progress has been reported elsewhere in this report.

- Study of active screening to detect unregistered open cases of tuberculosis in Rajasthan.
- Improving health and nutritional status of vulnerable segment of population by implementing multi-component health and nutrition education as a sustainable model of intervention.
- A study of reasons of low acceptance of contraceptive methods and suitable interventions for its improvement in rural areas of western Rajasthan.
- A study of modalities for making breast self-examination (BSE) an accepted routine practice among women of a desert population

Second meeting of Research Advisory Committee of MRHRU Bhanpur Kalan was held at Bhanpur Kalan on 22nd November 2015, in which four on-going research projects and six new project proposals were reviewed.