

# MAHATMA GANDHI INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES

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## Message

I am happy to know that JBTDRC & Department of Biochemistry, MGIMS, Sevagram is organizing a National Symposium on "Innovation in TB Diagnostics, Drug Targets and Biomarkers & CME on Molecular and Immunodiagnostics for PTB & EPTB" on January 27-28, 2014.

Tuberculosis remains a major global health problem and number of TB deaths unacceptably large although they are preventable and inspite of the fact that we are implementing RNTCP in India for more than 20 years period. TB remains an important public health problem in this country, the main concern at present is increased proportion of MDR-TB cases. On the one hand many countries have made considerable progress to address the TB/ HIV co-epidemic. However, still a lot has to be done, specially for HIV testing among TB patients, the provisions of antiretroviral therapy (ART) to those who are HIV-positive have not been reached.

The innovation in TB diagnostic is the need of hour and I hope that the present Symposium will provide a momentum on this aspect, within the legal and ethical consideration related to TB diagnostics in this country.

I wish the symposium all success.

Yours sincerely

(B S Garg)