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THIS STORY IS FROM DECEMBER 15, 2021

ICMR drone services for vax delivery in Nagaland

TNN / Dec 15, 2021, 08:29 IST

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DIMAAPUR, The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has launched drone services to deliver Covid-19 vaccine in Mokokchung district on Tuesday.

During the formal launch of i-drone delivery system, vaccines were aerially transported from Mokokchung chief medical officer's office to the primary health centre (PHC) in Longsa village in presence of Mokokchung deputy commissioner Limawapang Jamir, superintendent of police Aotula Imchen and deputy chief medical officer Dr Kibangkumba.

It usually takes over an hour to reach Longsa village from Mokokchung town, a distance of almost 30 km, by road. However, during the monsoons, travel time may increase due to poor road conditions. With drone services, it will take only eight minutes to reach Longsa PHC from Mokokchung town, covering an aerial distance of 11.5 km. The ICMR has taken the initiative to implement drone resource and outreach programme in parts of India, especially in the hilly areas and remote villages to ease the numerous challenges in vaccine delivery. Based on suggestions of the Union ministry of health and family welfare, and permission granted by the directorate general of civil aviation, two states and one union territory - Manipur, Nagaland and Andaman and Nicobar Islands - were considered for this pilot project.

Two districts, Mokokchung and Tuensang, were chosen for studying the feasibility of drone technology in delivery of medical supplies in Nagaland.

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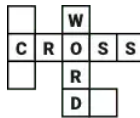
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