Commemorative Stamp issued to mark 50 years of ICDDR,B

To mark the fiftieth anniversary of the establishment of the International Center for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Bangladesh (ICDDR,B), a commemorative stamp has been issued by the Ministry of Post and Telecommunications. The special stamp was released by Mr Abul Maal Abdul Muhith, Honorable Minister of Finance, People's Republic of Bangladesh, at a ceremony held at the Radisson Hotel in Dhaka, on 20 June 2010. Also present at the event were Dr AFM Ruhal Haque, Honorable Minister for Health and Family Welfare; Mr. Rajiuddin Ahmed Raju, Hon'ble Minister for Post and Telecommunications; Mr Abul Kalam Azad, MP, Honorable Minister for Cultural Affairs and Information; members of ICDDR,B’s Board of Trustees; former Directors and senior scientists of ICDDR,B; representatives of donor agencies; and ICDDR,B alumni.

The International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Bangladesh (ICDDR,B) is a health research organisation located in Dhaka, Bangladesh. Established in 1960 as the Pak-SEATO Cholera Research Laboratory, the Center was re-established as ICDDR,B by Ordinance No. LI, 1978, of the Government of Bangladesh. ICDDR,B has two key objectives - to improve the health of the people of Bangladesh and to train people in research and services. This commitment led to the discovery and implementation of Oral Rehydration Therapy (ORT) - a simple mixture of water with salt and sugar that has been praised as the most important medical discovery of the Twentieth Century.

During 2010, ICDDR,B will be celebrating 50 years as an international research and training centre. Over the years it has transitioned from an organization focusing on diarrhoeal diseases to one with a much broader public health agenda, addressing the many challenges facing people in Bangladesh, especially the most vulnerable, as well of those living in other developing parts of the world.