

Collaborative Research Center of Okayama University for
Infectious Diseases in India

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Collaborative Research Center of Okayama University for Infectious Diseases (COUID) was just founded on September 1, 2007 at the National Institute of Cholera and Enteric Diseases (NICED) in Kolkata. Our collaboration with NICED started in 1982 and continued successfully till the present dates resulted in almost 200 joint publications on enteric diseases. The highlight of our collaboration is the discovery of *Vibrio cholerae* O139 Bengal in 1992.

In 1998 JICA launched Technical Cooperation on Diarrhoeal Disease Control at NICED. During last 9 years, this program was granted a total of 2.4 billion yen (US\$ 2 million). Moreover a new research building named Diarrhoeal Diseases Research and Control Center was constructed under a grant-in aid (about 21 billion yen, US\$20 million) of the Japanese Government.

Based on these already existing successful collaborations, COUID has started its activity targeting control of diarrheal diseases,