

PH.D. AND JUNIOR RESEARCHERS WANTED FOR EMPIRICAL STUDY COMPONENTS  
WITHIN A NEW PROJECT ON IMMUNIZATION AND MOTHER-CHILD HEALTH  
SUM MEDIC: A Multi-disciplinary approach to Explaining Differential Immunization Coverage

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The SUM MEDIC collaboration between the Centre for Development and the Environment, University of Oslo and the Department of Sociology at Delhi School of Economics, University of Delhi, wishes to appoint **1 Ph.D. fellow** in Sociology and **2 Junior Researchers** to contribute to the empirical research within the SUM MEDIC project.

**Candidates are invited to develop their own research module within the project in cooperation with the SUM MEDIC team.**

### SUM MEDIC PROJECT SUMMARY

Although there exist effective vaccines for many life-threatening diseases, access to these technologies remains limited in many low and middle income countries. The proposed project addresses the question: *Why are some low-income countries and communities therein far more successful than others in immunizing children - despite unfavourable political and economic circumstances?* Our extensive team will undertake studies in India and Malawi.

There are broad variations in uptake of and demand for (new) vaccines at national, community and individual level. The major focus of research until now has been on quality of supply and availability, often neglecting social and political factors, both in local communities and throughout the system as a whole. Our project focuses on the *interface* between demand and supply, placing social and political factors at the centre of analysis. The concepts of *power* and *trust*, largely ignored in immunization research to date, will be central to our analysis. We approach the system at different levels – building detailed empirical knowledge from the community level upwards; and exploring the policy process from global agendas and agreements, through national policy ‘formulation’ to ‘implementation’ at local levels.

### TEAM AND WORKSHOPS

The PhD and the Junior Researchers will be part of a multi-disciplinary project team of senior and junior researchers from Norway, India and Malawi working closely together, supported by a team of international co-advisors.

There will be project workshops in India and in Norway that PhD student and Junior Researchers will be expected to participate in. The PhD student will also be expected to spend three months at the Centre for Development and the Environment, University of Oslo, Norway. Travel and living expenses will be covered.

### QUALIFICATIONS

In connection with the appointment to the post, special importance will be attached to the applicant having the professional and personal qualifications stated below:

### **For Ph.D Fellowship**

- Passed M.A./M.Phil degree in Sociology/Anthropology with at least 55 % (as per Ordinance VI of the University of Delhi). Relevant professional experience in the areas of community medicine, public health will be an added qualification.

### **For Junior Researchers**

- Passed M.A. in Sociology/Anthropology with demonstrable interest in the area of Sociology of Health and Illness
- The candidates (both Ph.D fellow and Junior Researchers) are also required to have:
  - Research potential, to be enterprising and to possess good interpersonal skills
  - Ability to work as part of an interdisciplinary team of social anthropologists/sociologists, political scientists, social economists and health specialists
  - Vocation to stay in rural areas for an extended period with daily interaction with rural people, as well as with rural health institutions and their personnel
  - Good skills in at least one local non-English language
  - Good writing skills in English is a necessity

### **TERMS OF EMPLOYMENT**

The post will be filled according to the agreement between the implementing institutions at the Universities of Oslo and Delhi.

The position as Ph.D. fellow requires the applicant to be approved for admission to the Ph.D. programme at the Department of Sociology, Delhi School of Economics, University of Delhi and the BRSS, University of Delhi, according to the rules of the Departmental Research Committee and Ordinance VI of the University of Delhi, when accepted for the post.

### **REMUNERATION**

The Ph.D. fellowship will be for 4 years, at a monthly remuneration of Rs. 25,000 .

Junior Researchers will be remunerated for 18 months in monthly payments of Rs. 15,000.

The application should be submitted in hard copy to the Head of the Department, Department of Sociology, Delhi School of Economics, University of Delhi, Delhi-110007. Soft copies must be sent to [mishraarima@yahoo.co.in](mailto:mishraarima@yahoo.co.in). Ph.D. applicants must also submit a copy of their application to the Convenor, Departmental Research Committee. Each application must include the following appendices marked with the stated appendix numbers:

Appendix 1: A Formal Letter of Application

Appendix 2: Curriculum vitae with documentation of education (and with names of three referees)

Appendix 3: Research Proposal.

**Deadline: January 24, 2010**

## FURTHER INFORMATION

For more information about the project, please see [www.sum.uio.no/research/health](http://www.sum.uio.no/research/health)

You may also contact Dr. Arima Mishra : [mishraarima@yahoo.co.in](mailto:mishraarima@yahoo.co.in) or Project Manager Dr. Sidsel Roalkvam (Social Anthropologist), Centre for Development and the Environment, University of Oslo: [sidsel.roalkvam@sum.uio.no](mailto:sidsel.roalkvam@sum.uio.no)

For further information regarding the Ph.D. programme, please visit [www.du.ac.in](http://www.du.ac.in)

General questions regarding the programme at the Department should be directed to Prof Meenkashi Thapan, Convenor, Departmental Research Committee at the Department of Sociology, Delhi School of Economics, University of Delhi.