



**Consulate General of India
Houston**

Press Release

Inauguration of Indo-US Centre for Research on Indian System of Medicine (CRISM) at University of Mississippi, U.S.A.

Secretary, Department of Ayurveda, Yoga & Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy (AYUSH), Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India inaugurated an Indo-US Centre for Research on Indian System of Medicine (CRISM) at the National Centre for Natural Products Research (NCNPR), University of Mississippi on 6 April, 2009. CRISM was inaugurated on the first day of the 8th Oxford International Conference on Science of Botanicals at University of Mississippi. The programme of Secretary, AYUSH and accompanying delegation comprising experts from the fields of Ayurveda and Unani, was facilitated by this Consulate.

2. The Indian Systems of Medicine (ISM) and the industry today are faced with the need for awareness creation of both the systems and products, as also their acceptability as per requisite scientific criteria. The initiative to set up CRISM is aimed not only at increasing awareness about ISM products but also address concerns about their safety, efficacy and quality.

3. With collaborative efforts, including advanced R&D, CRISM would focus on the following major outcomes:

- Development of standard chemical markers for single drugs and formulations in India and validated by CRISM;

- Setting of pharmacopoeial and quality standards of Ayurvedic and Unani formulations validated by CRISM;
- Establishing a repository of Indian medicinal crude drugs in NCNPR.
- Encouraging and facilitating cooperation for research activities between Indian and US academic and research institutions and industry;
- Preparation of Indian medicine drug dossier for market authorization in the USA;
- Facilitating a dialogue between the scientific community and regulatory bodies of the two countries and to evolve a platform for such regular exchange.

4. A 'Mirror Center' of CRISM has been established at the Indian Institute for Integrative Medicine, Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), Jammu, for coordinating the activities of CRISM.

8 April, 2009