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**श्री चित्रा तिरुनाल आयुर्विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान, त्रिवेंद्रम, तिरुवनन्तपुरम - 695 011, केरल, भारत**

SREE CHITRA TIRUNAL INSTITUTE FOR MEDICAL SCIENCES AND TECHNOLOGY (SCTIMST)

THIRUVANANTHAPURAM–695011, KERALA, INDIA

(An Institute of National Importance under DST; Government of India) (***एक राष्ट्रीय महत्व का संस्थान, विज्ञान एवं प्रौद्योगिकी विभाग, भारत सरकार)***

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**Press Note**

**First National Continuing Medical Education (CME) of the Indian Society of Transfusion Medicine**

The Department of Transfusion Medicine, Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology (SCTIMST) will host the first National Continuing Medical Education (CME) of the Indian Society of Transfusion Medicine on 11th and 12th July 2024 at Hyatt Regency, Trivandrum, Kerala.

Transfusion Medicine is an emerging branch of Medicine which takes responsibility to ensure safety of blood and blood components for the patients.

The Indian Society of Transfusion Medicine (ISTM) is a National Body established in 2011 with an aim to foster scientific investigation, clinical application, education and exchanges of information and ideas relating to Transfusion Medicine and allied fields in clinical and laboratory medicine.

The theme of the CME is “Unlocking the Future of Transfusion Medicine”. The CME will witness the gathering of the finest professionals in Transfusion Medicine from across India, with a plethora of scientific presentations and panel discussions led by distinguished experts in the field. The two-day academic extravaganza will provide deep insight into the latest advancements in the field.

For the first time, the organizers have introduced Mascots for the CME named “Kiddo” and “Kelly”, who are named after two blood group systems, Kidd and Kell, who will take the delegates deep into the “Ocean of Knowledge of Blood” over these two days.

Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology under Department of Science and Technology, Government of India, is apparently the place where the country’s first indigenous blood bag technology was developed and successfully transferred to the industry. It has always been the endeavour of the Department of Transfusion Medicine to promote one hundred percent voluntary blood donation by organizing regular blood donation camps and secure optimum quality of blood transfusion by undertaking state of the art laboratory screening tests and ensuring safe clinical transfusion practices.

The Inauguration Ceremony will commence from 7 P.M. onwards on 11th July at The Great Hall, Hyatt Regency, Thiruvananthapuram, presided over by Dr. Roy Joseph, Dean, Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology. Dr. V Narayanan, Director, Liquid Propulsion System Centre, ISRO, has graciously consented to be Chief Guest and inaugurate. Our Guest of Honour will be Dr. V.R. Lalithambika, Scientist and Former Director, Directorate of Human Space Programme, ISRO, Current Professor of Practice, IIT Madras. Dr. Krishan Kumar, Director, National Blood Transfusion Council, Directorate General of Health Services, New Delhi, will be the Special Guest.