Future Directions

- Efforts could be made to network with other PICs and WHO for its future developmental activities.

- Many centres, even in developing countries, are multifunctional and provide a broad toxicological information service. As the newly established poison information centre does not have the facility for toxicological analysis, upgradation of the existing centre is required to meet the toxicological service need.

- The centre can extend its role towards environmental exposure surveillance systems for sentinel event detection and to involve in some of the most important environmental health problems of this region (e.g., water content related toxicity identification and management, food and water contamination). Furthermore, poison information centre plans to involve in activities related to the identifying the vulnerable population and risk factors (e.g., changes in drugs prescription patterns, unusual patterns of addiction, unexpected product uses, children abuse scenarios or undetected sources of environmental contamination).

- Efforts from poison information centre are required to evaluate the effectiveness of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) in reducing pesticides exposure among farmers.

- The centre can focus on acute management of poisoning and preventive measures (e.g., counseling to reduce self-harm behavior and recurrence, accidental poisoning, changing people’s knowledge, beliefs, and attitudes about poisoning agent’s use and storage practices), in order to reduce/prevent mortality and morbidity with poisoning.