



**WE WISH OUR READERS A VERY HAPPY NEW YEAR**



**Editor: Prof. Dr. R.N. Kohli**

**NATIONAL ACADEMY OF VETERINARY SCIENCES (INDIA)**

Office: G-4, A Block, NASC, Dev Prakash Shastri Marg, New Delhi-110 012

**NATIONAL ACADEMY OF VETERINARY SCIENCES (INDIA)**

*(Registered with the Registrar of Societies vide Regn. certificate No.S-2/4471 of 1993 dated 7<sup>th</sup> July 1993)*

**NEW DELHI NAVS NEWSLETTER JANUARY, 2018**

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**OUR MISSION**

“To consolidate and promote the views of scientific community on all policy matters related to Veterinary Science and Animal Husbandry in the welfare of India; to encourage better training and utilization of veterinary talent and enterprise in the country; to strive for advancement of livestock sector in the national economy; to promote animal welfare; to protect environment; and to safeguard the interests of the profession and to gain greater recognition and acclaim for it”.

**All correspondence regarding the Newsletter may kindly be addressed to the Editor.**

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**[www.navsindia.org](http://www.navsindia.org)**

## **CH. 1: NAVS GENERAL INFORMATION**

### **OUR MISSION**

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### **1.1: GOVERNING COUNCIL 2017-19**

#### **Office Bearers**

President: Maj. Gen. Dr. Shri Kant Sharma, SM, VSM ;  
[shrikant28@hotmail.com](mailto:shrikant28@hotmail.com)

Vice-President: Dr. DVR Prakash Rao, Chennai: [contect@prakashfeeds.com](mailto:contect@prakashfeeds.com)

Secretary General: Dr. S.K. Gupta, [skguptadr@gmail.com](mailto:skguptadr@gmail.com)

Treasurer: Dr. Nem Singh: [singhnem1945@gmail.com](mailto:singhnem1945@gmail.com)

Editor: Dr. R. N. Kohli: [rnkohli@gmail.com](mailto:rnkohli@gmail.com)

#### **Members**

##### **ELECTED**

Dr. B.N. Tripathi, Hisar: [bntripathi1@yahoo.co.in](mailto:bntripathi1@yahoo.co.in)

Dr. Sanjeev Kumar, Izatnagar: [skgcari@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:skgcari@yahoo.co.uk)

Dr. Minakshi Prasad, Hisar: [minakshi.abt@gmail.com](mailto:minakshi.abt@gmail.com)

Dr. S.K. Srivastava, Izatnagar

Maj. Gen. Dr. M. L. Sharma: [sharmaml@thebrookeindia.org](mailto:sharmaml@thebrookeindia.org)

Dr. Ravindra Sharma, Hisar: [rsharma698@gmail.com](mailto:rsharma698@gmail.com)

Dr. V.D.P. Rao, Vijaywada: [raovdp@rediffmail.com](mailto:raovdp@rediffmail.com)

Col. Dr. R. P. Garg, VSM, Noida, U.P.: email ID not available

Dr. S.N. Singh, Bangalore: [snsingh.2006@gmail.com](mailto:snsingh.2006@gmail.com)

Dr. S.K. Saha, Izatnagar: [subodhksaha@yahoo.com](mailto:subodhksaha@yahoo.com)

Dr. A.B. Mandal, Izatnagar: [drab.mandal@gmail.com](mailto:drab.mandal@gmail.com)

Dr. S.S. Randhawa, Ludhiana: [sarnarinder@gmail.com](mailto:sarnarinder@gmail.com)

Dr. Mandeep Sharma, Palampur: [mandeepsharma289@hotmail.com](mailto:mandeepsharma289@hotmail.com)

Dr. P. N. Khanna: [pran\\_khanna@rediffmail.com](mailto:pran_khanna@rediffmail.com)

Dr. S. K. Tiwari, Durg: [drtiwarisurgery@gmail.com](mailto:drtiwarisurgery@gmail.com)

#### **Members**

##### **EX-OFFICIO**

Incumbents holding following Official GOVT. OF INDIA POSITIONS are Ex-Officio members: DG RVS; DDG (A.S.), ICAR; AHC (GOI); and President VCI

## **1.2: PATRONS, HONORARY FELLOWS**

### **PATRON**

**Dr. R.P.S. Tyagi (2004)**

### **HONORARY FELLOWS**

**Shri. Sirajudin Qureshi (2006); \*Dr. N.R. Bhasin (2011); \*Dr. J.P. Kukreti (2012); Shri Sushil Kumar Agrawal (2012); Dr. Sanjeev Kumar Balyan (2014); Dr. Anup Kalra (2017)**

\*Since deceased

## **1.3: INSTITUTIONAL/CORPORATE LIFE MEMBERS**

### **INSTITUTIONAL LIFE MEMBERS**

**LUVAS (Lala Lajpat Rai University of Veterinary & Animal Sciences), Hisar, Haryana.**

**CKVU (Chattisgarh Kamdhenu Veterinary University), Raipur / Durg, Chattisgarh.**

**MAFSU (Maharashtra Animal & Fisheries Sciences University), Nagpur, Maharashtra**

**RAJUVAS (Rajasthan University of Veterinary & Animal Sciences), Bikaner, Rajasthan**

**DUVASU (Deen Dayal Upadhadhaya Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, Mathura, U.P.**

**KCVAS (Khalsa College of Veterinary & Animal Sciences), Amritsar, Punjab  
Sri Venkateshwara Veterinary University, Tirupati, A.P.**

### **CORPORATE LIFE MEMBER**

**M/S Indian Herbs, Saharanpur**

**M/S Ayurved Limited**

## **1.4: PAST OFFICE BEARERS OF THE ACADEMY**

### **Presidents:**

\* Dr. C.M. Singh - 1993 - 2004 (Founder President)

Dr. S.K. Ranjhan - 2004-2007

Dr. S.C. Adlakha - 1/7/2007 - 28-2-2008

Dr. R.R. Shukla - 28/2/2008 - 31/10/2010

Dr. M.P. Yadav - 31/10/2010 - 31/12/2013

Dr. K.M.L. Pathak 1/1/2014 - 22/4/2017

### **Vice-Presidents:**

Dr. R.P.S. Tyagi -1993 - 2004

Col. (Dr.) V.K. Bhatnagar- 2004-2007

Dr. R.R. Shukla - 1/7/2007 - 28-2-2008

Dr. P.N. Khanna - 28-2-2008 - 31/10/ 2010  
Col. (Dr.) V.K. Bhatnagar- 31/10/2010 - 31/12/2013  
Maj. Gen. (Dr.) Shri Kant Sharma 1/1/2014 - 22/4/2017

**Secretary Generals:**

Dr. P.N. Bhatt -1993 - 2004  
\* Dr. K.L. Sahani -2004-2007  
\* Dr. B.S. Nanda - 1/7/2007 - 23-5-2008  
Dr. N.N. Pathak - 23-5-2008 - 6/7/2009  
Dr. R.N. Kohli - 6/7/2009 - 31/10/2010  
Dr. Gaya Prasad - 31/10/2010 - 31/12/2013  
Dr. Rishendra Verma - 1/1/2014 - 22/4/2017

**Treasurers:**

Dr. A. Ahmad and Dr. B.S. Malik } -1993 - 2004  
Dr. P.N. Khanna - 2004-2007  
Dr. Lal Krishna - 2007 to - 22/4/2017

**Editors:**

Dr. R.N. Kohli - 6/7/2009 to - Date (Founder Editor)

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\* Since deceased

**1.5: CHRONOLGY OF NAVS CONVOCATIONS-CUM-CONVENTIONS**

1. First NAVS Convocation: 18<sup>th</sup> December 1996 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi
2. Second NAVS Convocation: 30<sup>th</sup> January 2000 at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi
3. Third NAVS Convocation: 16<sup>th</sup> April 2002 at IVRI, Izatnagar, U.P.
4. Fourth NAVS Convocation: 7<sup>th</sup> May 2005 at GBPUAT, Pantnagar, Uttrakhand
5. Fifth NAVS Convocation: 5<sup>th</sup> May 2006 at JNKVV, Jabalpur, M.P.
6. Sixth NAVS Convocation: 28<sup>th</sup> June 2007 at KVAFSU, Bangalore, Karnataka
7. Seventh NAVS Convocation: 16 May 2008 at SKUAST, Jammu, J & K
8. Eighth NAVS Convocation: 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2009 at SVVU, Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh
9. Ninth NAVS Convocation: 30<sup>th</sup> October 2010 at NDRI, Karnal, Haryana.
10. Tenth NAVS Convocation: 12<sup>th</sup> November 2011 at RAJUVAS, Bikaner, Rajasthan.
11. Eleventh NAVS Convocation: 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2012 at DUVASU, Mathura, U.P.
12. Twelfth NAVS Convocation: 28<sup>th</sup> January 2014 at LUVAS, Hisar, Haryana
13. Thirteenth NAVS Convocation: 28<sup>th</sup> February 2015 at CGKV, Durg, Chhatisgarh
14. Fourteenth NAVS Convocation: 4<sup>th</sup> November, 2015 at IVRI, Izatnagar, U.P.
15. Fifteenth NAVS Convocation held on 22 October, 2016 at KCVAS, Amritsar, Punjab
16. Sixteenth NAVS Convocation held on 4-5 November 2017 at Tirupati, A.P.

## **CH. 2: NAVS NEWS**

### **2.1: 16<sup>th</sup> NAVS (India) Convocation-cum-Scientific Convention Held at Tirupati on 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> November, 2017**



The 16<sup>th</sup> Convocation-cum-Scientific convention of NAVS (I) was held on 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> of November, 2017 at Sri Venkateswara Veterinary University, Tirupati. The theme of the convention was: Advancement in Veterinary Sciences: Impact on Enhancing Farmers' Income. The Dean, Faculty of Veterinary Science of the University, Dr. T.S. Chandrasekhara Rao was the Organizing Secretary of the event. ([dvsc\\_svvutpt@yahoo.co.in](mailto:dvsc_svvutpt@yahoo.co.in))

In the Inaugural Session before the convocation ceremony, Prof. A.K. Srivastava, Chairman, Agricultural Scientists Recruitment Board was the Chief Guest. Dr. Suresh Honnappagol, Animal Husbandry Commissioner, GOI, Maj Gen Shri Kant, SM, VSM (Retd), President, NAVS (I) and Prof. Umesh Mishra, Vice-Chancellor, Chhattisgarh Kamdhenu University, Durg, were the Guests of Honour. Dr. Y. Hari Babu, Vice-Chancellor, Sri Venkateswara Veterinary University, Tirupati presided over the function.

Thereafter, Maj Gen Shri Kant, SM, VSM (Retd), President, NAVS (I) and former Vice Chancellor of Lala Lajpat Rai University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences (LUVAS) conferred NAVS fellowships to the following six recipients:

1. Dr. Ashok Kumar, ADG (Animal Health), ICAR, New Delhi; Phones: Mob: 09412761307, Office: 01123386668 e-mail ID: [ashokakt@rediffmail.com](mailto:ashokakt@rediffmail.com)

2. Dr. S.P. Tiwari, Dean, College of Veterinary Sciences, Durg; Phones:  
Mob: 09827476093, e-mail ID : [drsptiwari@gmail.com](mailto:drsptiwari@gmail.com)
3. Dr. S.K. Mendiratta, Principal Scientist and Head, Division of LPT, IVRI, Izatnagar; Phones: Mob: 09412445311, e-mail ID : [mendiratta\\_65@yahoo.co.in](mailto:mendiratta_65@yahoo.co.in)
4. Dr. Nitin Virmani, Principal Scientist, National Research Centre on Equines, Hisar, Phones: Mob: 09416236367, e-mail ID : [nvirmani@gmail.com](mailto:nvirmani@gmail.com)
5. Dr. Ajit Singh Yadav, Principal Scientist-cum- Head, Post Harvest Technology Division of CARI, Izatnagar; Phone: Mob: 09456625631, e-mail ID: [asinghcari@gmail.com](mailto:asinghcari@gmail.com)
6. Dr. Chandana Choudhury Baruah, Professor of Veterinary Pharmacology, COVS, Guwahati. Phones: Mob: 09864013231, e-mail: [chanacin@gmail.com](mailto:chanacin@gmail.com)

In addition to these, Dr. Anup Kalra, CEO of Ayurvet Limited also received the Honorary Fellowship of NAVS (I) at the same ceremony. Further, M/S Ayurvet Limited was admitted as Corporate Life Member of NAVS (I). Contact Number of Dr. Anup Kalra is: 09811299052; e-mail ID: [akalra@ayurvet.com](mailto:akalra@ayurvet.com).

The inaugural function was followed by a keynote address by Dr. S. Honnappagol on the topic, "Livestock sector strategies for doubling farmers' income by 2022". During Session-1, a number of lead and contributory papers were presented, some of which include: Livestock development through scientific technologies - A key for doubling farmers income by Dr. S.N.S. Randhawa of GADVASU; Importance of zoonotic diseases in India by Dr. Ashok Kumar, ADG, ICAR; Veterinary service delivery system in India : Its impact on farmers income by Dr. Saurabh Singh of Brookes India, Integrated strategy for control of rabies in India by Dr. Charan Kamal Singh of GADVASU, Ludhiana; Safe and quality milk production: Public health concern by Dr. Sanjita Sharma of RAJUVAS. The session was chaired by Prof. K. Pradhan, whereas Dr. M. Parthasarathy acted as Co-Chairman and Dr. A. Ravi as Rapporteur.

The General Body Meeting of NAVS (I) was held in the evening of 4<sup>th</sup> November, which was followed by a **Colourful Cultural Programme.**

On 2<sup>nd</sup> day, Session-II started with an invited paper on 'Feeding 1.33 billion with nutritional security, by Dr. A.K. Srivastava, followed by lead and contributory papers covering various topics like : Foot and mouth disease control programme: success and impact in Haryana by Dr. Ravindra Sharma of Hisar; Antibiotic resistance : Recent status and recent alternatives in poultry by Dr. Ajit Singh Yadav of CARI, Izatnagar; Recent advances in the surgical techniques for the management of udder and teat affections in bovines by Dr. B. Ramesh Kumar etc. This session was chaired by Dr. S. Honnappagol, whereas Dr. D. Sreenivasulu acted as Co-chairman and Dr. V. Chengalvarayulu as Rapporteur. This session was followed by valedictory function in which the reports of the proceedings of various sessions were presented.

## ABOUT OUR HOST

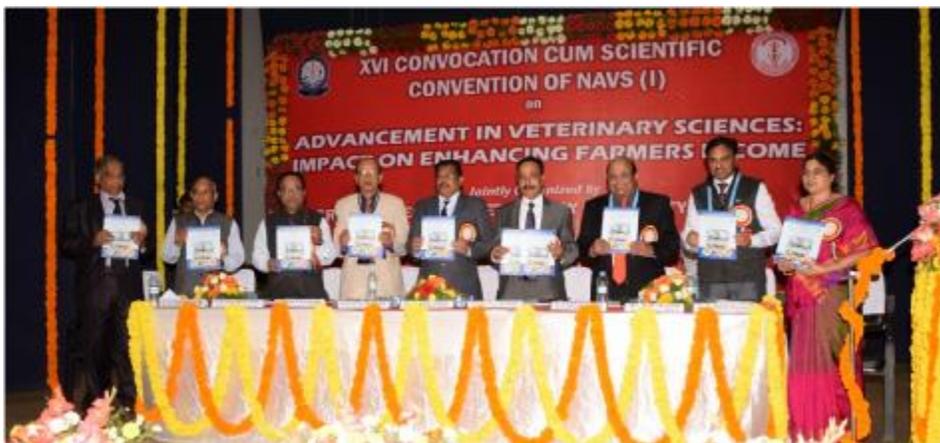
Sri Venkateswara Veterinary University was established under an Act of A.P. Legislature (Act No. 18 of 2005) with three faculties i.e. Veterinary Science, Fishery Science and Dairy Science and started functioning from 15.7.2005. The University administrative office is 15 km from the Renigunta airport and 6 km from Tirupati Railway Station. The University is recognized under section 2 (f) of the UGC Act, 1956, and accredited by the ICAR and the three Veterinary Colleges are recognized by the VCI, New Delhi. The University was ranked 78 in the NIRF 2017 of MHRD, Government of India.



Twenty eight institutions comprising of 4 Veterinary Colleges, 1 College of Fishery Science, 1 College of Dairy Technology, 7 Animal Husbandry Polytechnics, 1 Fisheries Polytechnic, 7 Livestock Research Stations, 1 AICRP on Pigs, 2 Fisheries Research Stations, 1 Veterinary Hospital, 1 Krishi Vigyan Kendra, 1 State Level Disease Diagnostic Laboratory and 1 Centre for Continuing Veterinary Education are functioning to achieve University mandate in education, research and extension activities for development of rural economy. The University statute was amended recently to facilitate affiliation of private colleges and polytechnics. The University has given permission to establish one College of Dairy Technology, one Fisheries, three Dairy Processing, and three Animal Husbandry Polytechnics under private sector.

College of Veterinary Science, Tirupati was established at Bapatla on 15<sup>th</sup> July, 1955 and shifted to Tirupati in December 1957 under affiliation to Sri Venkateswara University, Tirupati. The institution moved to the present permanent location during October 1960. The College was under control of APAU (ANGRAU) prior to the formation of Sri Venkateswara Veterinary University, Tirupati. Internship for B.V.Sc & AH students was introduced from 1973-74 onwards in collaboration with Dept. of Animal Husbandry. This college was the first in India to start Earn While You Learn Project in 1964. MVSc during 1967- 68 and PhD during the year 1976-77 were started. The College celebrated Silver Jubilee during 13 to 15<sup>th</sup> October 1980, which was inaugurated by Dr. M.S.Swaminathan, Member planning commission while the year long (July 2004 to July 2005) Golden Jubilee Celebrations of the college were inaugurated by the then Hon'ble Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, Dr. Y.S.Rajasekhara Reddy on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2004.

## GLIMPSES OF TIRUPATI CONVOCATION - cum - CONVENTION



### 2.2: NAVS (India) Holds G C / G B Meetings in Tirupati

National Academy of Veterinary Sciences (India) held a Governing Council (G.C) Meeting on 03.11.2017 and a General Body on 04.11.2017 in Sri Venkateswara Veterinary University, Tirupati. The proceedings of these meetings have been posted on the Website of the Academy.

**Following are some of the decisions taken at the meeting of the Governing Council:**

**1. With regard to bringing out Policy Papers on disease-free India with particular emphasis on Rabies, FMD, PPR, Anthrax in Southern India, NCD in poultry, Glanders, etc, It was decided to hold brain storming sessions on these diseases in different institutes/colleges depending upon the disease-wise expertise. In each of these sessions at least one GC member of NAVS (I) will also be associated. The disease-wise list of venues for holding five of these brain storming sessions and the name of the G.C. member to be associated with each of them were also decided.**

**2. After discussing the issue of selection of non-vets for important positions in Veterinary Institutions as well as for awarding honorary D. Sc. by Veterinary Universities to non-vets, it was agreed upon that NAVS (I) should not press upon this issue. However, with regard to selection of a non-vet on the post of Dean of Veterinary College, the VCI regulations be followed. It was resolved that the NAVS Secretary General will write a resentment letter to the Director, IVRI, after verifying about the selection of a non-vet on the post of Dean of the Veterinary College. However, if the non-vet has been given the charge of the post, no action will be required on the part of NAVS (I).**

**3. Representation of NAVS (I) in VCI and other Government Organizations related to Veterinary and Animal Sciences streams for rapport and professional development:**

**NAVS (I) being an apex body and think tank of the veterinary professionals, its representation with the Govt Organisation cannot be over-emphasised. The academy is doing yeoman's service since 1993 and is awarding fellowship to the eminent veterinary professionals settled in India or abroad. It is requested that the President of NAVS(I) may be associated in Governing Body of VCI, ICAR, MCI, ICMR, Animal Welfare Board, etc. Letters in this regard shall be sent to ICAR, Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Welfare Board, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare etc**

**4. Enhancement of retirement age of veterinarians as per the pattern of medicos:**

**The 5<sup>th</sup> Central Pay Commission had equated veterinarians with medicos in all respects. Now that *the retirement age of medicos has been enhanced to 65 years, the same should be applicable for veterinarians also.* The Academy would write to Central Govt as well as Haryana Govt. in this regard.**

**5. As the issue of equal status and recognition of fellowship of NAVS to that of NAAS, was already under active consideration of ASRB, the President, NAVS (I) will meet the Chairman, ASRB along with the Vice-President and senior GC members in this regard.**

**6. Revision of score card for NAVS (I) fellowship and membership was finalized after discussing the report submitted by the committee. The revised score cards will be applicable with effect from the year 2017 onwards and the last date for accepting the applications for fellowship and membership of NAVS (I) will be extended up to March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2018. The revised score card(s) will be**

uploaded on NAVS (I) website shortly along with the information regarding extension of date. The Vice-Chancellors / Deans / Directors of Veterinary Universities / Colleges / Institutes etc will also be intimated in this regard through e-mail for wide publicity. It was also decided to enhance the present authorisation of fellowships from 450 to 500 to encourage deserving eminent veterinarians to apply more in numbers.

#### **7. NAVS' efforts for establishment of ICVR:**

The draft proposal in this regard submitted by the Committee was accepted. The members lauded the pains taken by the committee members in preparation of the draft proposal. The house desired that the draft may be strengthened by providing logical data, wherever, required. Dr. Nem Singh will submit the final draft to Secretary General, NAVS (I) for further action after incorporating the suggestions / data as discussed in the GC meeting within a period of three months.

#### **8. Paravet Regulations and implementation of OIE Minimum Standards for Working Equines:**

The draft policy paper on "Paravet Regulation in India" submitted by the Chairman of the committee on Paravet Regulations and implementation of OIE Minimum Standards for Working Equine was discussed and accepted after minor modifications. Secretary General will arrange to get sufficient copies printed and forward the copies of the recommendations to Veterinary Council of India, Animal Husbandry Commissioner, GOI, New Delhi, Vice-Chancellors of the Veterinary Universities, Deans of Veterinary Colleges and Directors of the State Animal Husbandry Department of various states for their further necessary action. With regard to OIE Minimum Standards for Working Equines, It was decided that Maj Gen M.L. Sharma, CEO of Brooke India will organize a one day workshop in collaboration with NAVS (I) preferably at NRCE Hisar or at CMVL Meerut Cantt. by inviting the experts from different streams.

#### **9. Venue and theme of next convocation-cum-scientific convention of NAVS:**

It was agreed upon that the dates for the convocation-cum-Scientific Convention should be fixed every year on the foundation day of NAVS (I) i.e. on 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> of December. It was suggested that the next venue should be either in the Eastern or Western part of our country.

**10. Veterinary Education System in India, Challenges and Way forward:** The GC members were of the view that there is a need to deliberate on various challenges in the existing veterinary Education System in India. A 4-member committee was constituted to formulate draft policy paper on the subject to be submitted to the concerned authorities (Min of Agriculture/ICAR/VCI) for implementation.

#### **Decisions taken at the General Body (GB) meeting:**

1. The General Body (GB) of NAVS (I) approved all the aforesaid decisions of the Governing Council (GC) taken at its meeting on 03.11.2017. Some of the other decisions that GB took at its meeting are as under:

2. Treasurer's Report: The report was presented by Dr. Nem Singh, Treasurer, was appreciated and accepted by the house.

3. Ratification of the election results: The house complimented Dr. V.P. Singh and his team for smooth conduct of the GC elections and approved the election results.
4. Making the Delhi office of NAVS (I) functional: Already a caretaker has been appointed. The Delhi office of NAVS will remain open from 10.00 A.M to 3.00 P.M. from Monday to Friday. The incumbent is Mr. Sumit Kr. Sharma and his contact numbers are 08178320597 and 09717158584. The General Body approved the action taken by GC in this regard.
5. Mobilization of resources: The General Body noted that a Corporate House and a Veterinary University have become the corporate/institutional life members of NAVS (I) and that membership another Veterinary University was in pipeline. The body appreciated the efforts of President, Vice-President and Secretary General for mobilization of resources to strengthen the funding of NAVS (I).
6. The GB approved the outstanding payment regarding, maintenance, updating and re-designing of the website of NAVS (I). Further it also decided to continue the services of M/s I-Net Business Hub, Hisar for maintenance of website for the year 2017-18. Esteemed fellows/members of NAVS (I) are requested to contribute new innovative ideas for further upgrading the website.
7. Selection of non-vets for important positions in veterinary institutions: The General Body accepted the decision of GC that we should not press upon this issue. However, in case of selection of a non-vet on the post of Dean of Veterinary College, the VCI regulations are to be followed.
8. Quarterly Meeting of Governing Council in different regions: The GB approved the proposal of the GC that in order to popularize NAVS(I) and to make the scientists/ faculty members aware about the objectives, achievements and future perspectives of NAVS(I), quarterly meetings of Governing Council of NAVS(I) are to be conducted in different regions of India.
9. Quantum and modalities of grant of NPA to Vets in the 7<sup>th</sup> Pay Scale Revision: Col. R.P. Garg may be requested to send a copy of the letter, which was written by the RVC Officers Welfare Association to the Ministry of Defence concerning grant of NPA by the 7<sup>th</sup> CPC. The same will be used as a reference for formulating a letter in this regard on behalf of NAVS (I). All the Fellows/Members are also requested to send information on this aspect to the Secretary General within a month's time for formulation of representation in this regard.
10. Induction of M/s Ayurved Limited as a corporate member and to accept its nominee for the honorary fellowship: The house approved the decision of GC in this regard.
11. Maintenance of record of permanent articles in an inventory register: GB approved the decision of the Governing Council that Mr. Sumit Sharma will prepare an inventory register of all the permanent articles of NAVS office, which will be checked by Dr. Nem Singh, Treasurer.



### **3.1: State of Agricultural Universities in India**

The society looks up to the specialists in Veterinary, Dairy, Fishery sciences to respond to the growing uncertainties and professional challenges in finding technology led solutions to the problems they face. The basic requirement to meet all the challenges is to meet the manpower needs of the profession. We, therefore, wish to highlight the concerns of human resource development in the veterinary profession. On the manpower front, only 34,500 veterinarians are employed for field services against the requirement of 67,000. Similarly, against the requirement of 7500 veterinary scientists for teaching and research, only 3050 are currently in position. Availability of Para-vets and other supporting staff is only 52,000 against the requirement of 2, 59,000. Shortage of technical manpower for teaching, research and extension and for field services is affecting the quality of manpower and services. Further, veterinary infrastructure in general is poor, inadequate and needs strengthening.

In early 2015 Dr. J.S. Bhatia, Former ADG (Education), ICAR, published his book on 'A Glimpse of Veterinary Education in India' which was planned as a referral document to cover various phases of its development. Apart from covering various other important aspects of his subject, he concluded that his book 'will be equally relevant guiding force for the national and regional planning and regulatory bodies, the academic and scientific institutions, including universities, institutions, colleges, faculty and scientific personals and students etc. Everyone from the professional circuit can draw benefit from it, in not only getting acquainted with various facets of progressive development but would use it as a useful tool in reshaping veterinary education policies and programs in this country under the umbrella of global developments'.

In the October 2017 issue we informed our readers about a recent book in Hindi by Dr. M.P. Agarwal, Former Emeritus Scientist (ICAR), and Former Dean, Veterinary College, Jabalpur, in the form of his memoir titled "Ye Hain Hamare Krishi Vishwa Vidyalaya" (Our Agricultural Universities) published in August 2017. Dr. Agarwal has served the Jabalpur Veterinary College (which later became a part of an Agricultural University) and has analyzed his experiences on some of the major issues related to the Agricultural Universities established in India from 1960 onwards. He has evaluated the past achievements and failures of the Agriculture Universities (particularly their veterinary faculties) of these universities in his memoir.

Recently, we saw the following post on the state of an Agricultural University by Dr. Ajit Maru, of Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), on a Social Media platform (Face Book) and the numerous comments posted on the same by several other professionals. Since I have had the fortune of serving the Veterinary Clinical Department

(Surgery, Medicine and Reproduction plus Hospital Practice) of that university as one of its founding staff members in early 1960s, I have an emotional attachment with it, apart from my professional interest on the subject. I am sure numerous other veterinary educationists (including the authors of books mentioned above) would also be interested in this subject in one way or the other. As such we are reproducing a slightly edited version of this interesting interaction for the readers of NAVS Newsletter:

### Ajit Maru's Post:

*I saw the state of Pantnagar University on NDTV today. The University was already deteriorating in late 1970s and some of us had raised our concerns then. Mr. Anand Sarup had called Universities as Cess pools then and we had asked who had made them into that? Now after 40 years, from what I saw of the once premier University on the TV, the Institution cannot even be called a University. And the question still haunts us: Who is responsible for the University being rendered into such a pathetic state?*

### **Comments**

Soumana Datta Same is the case in many other universities in the country. Even historical Nalanda University faded away. Do universities have a life span? If you can not cope with changing times you are forced to shut down.

Ajit Maru No! Universities can last centuries e.g. Oxford, Cambridge, Lyon, Hannover, and Sienna. They have to be carefully nurtured and cultivated. A country that neglects its education is doomed.

Kumud Talukdar Manage and cope up with change otherwise leave it. Do not spoil it further.

Kamalakant Singh Dr. Ajit, you have national and international experience in education, research & extension. Pantnagar and other institutions are deteriorating, and the reasons are many. Even VC is being appointed on six- monthly basis. Even regular VC finds pressure from various political forces as appointment is based on their considerations. Even during Dr. Mangala Rai's tenure, which ended abruptly, a number of selection cases are pending Courts or with Governor. As the institutions are not autonomous, even in academic matters, then their fate can well be understood.

Kumud Talukdar In the name of autonomy, sometimes the VCs play autocracy and do not do what they ought to do. Kamalakant Singh Mr. Talukdar, I agree but there should be balance and check.

Arun Goyal I have been associated with the institution even after leaving Pantnagar. I have been friends with most VCs and Deans and a large number of faculty members including the current leaders. Most of them were our class fellows. The problem is the lack of a visionary leader who can bring back PGR. The in-breeding that started with 'Pahadwaad' during Pandeyji's time is now sunk deep into the grains of each and every foundation stone of PGR. The 80% reservation for the state was created by UP for good reason, because ICAR was not funding PGR...then all great students who were the cream of the country stopped coming to PGR...and that was the start of total collapse.

Satyen Yadav There has been only one causal organism for this damage i.e. "Community/ cast and regional feeling stimulation virus"

Nagendra Singh This is not applicable to Pantnagar alone. Tell me which Indian University has not deteriorated over the last 30 years. No wonder we do not feature in the top 200, it is a shame for the country which boasts of the world's first residential

university. The very word University has become meaningless for institutions are riddled with regionalism, casteism, nepotism and all kinds of corrupt practices. On top of that, fifty percent or even more reservations disregarding merit coupled with lack of funding support to maintain even a reasonable infrastructure, fragmentation of education (separate universities for almost every subject by dividing the resources of one existing university) are many ills that will not go away without proactive efforts of the leadership. Some of the private universities are improving their infrastructure but this is not a profit making venture, high fees to support their business means that they will have little access for the masses, only BME and Mercedes owners will study in these or those middle class who will take heavy education loan to repay for the rest of their life.

Dattaraj Parakh In the State of Uttarakhand, it's the son of soil policy; very little funding from State. Look how equipped is the University of Anand with State funds, projects etc. If the State benefits from university, it must fund teaching, research and extension services. State Department of Agriculture must be merged with the University for better extension education services. Here the politicians are waiting to grab and sell the University land for other developers and leave the University with part of CRC, colleges and hostels and little infrastructure of Phool Bagh.

Hari Har Ram I visited Medicinal and Aromatic Plant Research Centre of Agriculture University, Anand as a manner of QRT for DMAPR under the chairmanship of Dr. H. S. Gupta. Dr. Kathiria, Director Research and Dean PGS took us around the university colleges and some research facilities and arranged a meeting with Dr. N. C. Patel, Hon. VC. Facilities including MAP research centre were par excellence. With the support of state government, finances were not a constraint. The campus was neat, clean and several incubation centres are working under guidance of Hon. VC. Thus, I fully support the views of Dr. Parakh. I am unable to comment on Pantnagar at the moment.

Ajit Maru Arun (Goyal) and I know well how Pantnagar deteriorated. First of all, the seeds of stealing and land grab from the University were set when its first VC was given a second term. Then, its independence was cut off when the Terai Development Corporation was separated from it. A number of incompetent VCs and senior officers were appointed. When I, along with other PG students, complained to one VC, about lack of electricity and water in laboratories, he asked me if I had any relations in UPSEB. I had to reply that I was still unmarried (and there remains a possibility of getting a relation!). There was another VC who almost every week would hold a "cultural event" either in the Home Science College or in the Ladies Hostel. In-breeding (as Arun says) became rampant along with regionalism and casteism. But even then the University produced some good students, many of whom have excelled in their careers across the world. This was because there still existed a spirit of freedom of thought, trying to be the best and pride of the Institution. Some may remember how even in the midst of the crises after the "Golikaand" we had events that expressed the never say die spirit of the University. However, this spirit got killed, funds were wasted. For example, the University spent a lot on buildings and little on academics. Post Graduation became the refuge of the worst of students and then they became Professors. Today, Pantnagar reaps the sins of its past, of being unable to resist politics and politicians.

Dattaraj Parakh No point cribbing over the past. Many things happened after we left. Where do we go from here? A lot of efforts were made to make it the first central university so that more central funds flow in. But son of soil policy is the root cause with political interference of holding back the University to its present state. Had

proposal come from State it would have become Central University long back. I myself interacted with MSS who supported this but could not break the political hold on University. Time is still there to make it the first National Agriculture University with International School of foreign students. Unless funds flow in there is no scope of improving the university. The hostels build in 1960s, where we stayed, are crumbling. New hostels have been built but are not enough after addition of new colleges. Faculty has been inducted but still more is needed.

Rama Kumar V Good men with commitment establish institutions with all they have and can. But then harvesters come reap all the products and leave it barren for any next man to plough and establish again.

Satish Kumar True leaders use their lives to build institutions and pygmies use institution to build their lives!

Kumud Talukdar The first agricultural university of the country is in a sorry state. Once it was the breeding ground of agriculturists. This is a common scene in the entire country. With a few exceptions, higher education has become a hub of incompetent students and teachers whereby affecting teaching and research. Efficiency and caliber are not honoured. All depends on the work style of the top boss. Is he competent enough? Mr Maru has raised a serious issue. But who is accountable?

Kumud Talukdar rotting of fish starts from its head.

Rama Kumar V You can if you first think that you can. Take Risks in your life, If you win you can lead; if you lose you can guide. Confidence does not come when you have answers. It comes when you have questions to ask. It is not sufficient to see and to know the beauty of a work. We must feel and be affected by it. ~Voltaire. Two things count in life 1) the way you manage when you have nothing and 2) the way you behave when you have everything

Mohinder Oberoi Nothing is going to change in this country. Successive governments have stopped giving any preference to education. The higher education management has fallen into hands of incompetent persons who are not providing any guidance and are unable to speak up their mind. They are just puppets in the hands of political masters.

Satish Kumar Garbage in garbage out

Rama Kumar V "If you do not fight for what you deserve, do not cry for what you lost. Nothing depends on luck; everything depends on work, because even luck has to work.

Kumud Talukdar It is a serious issue for the whole country so far as country's food security is concerned.

Arun Goyal I am willing to return to India for 5 years, because I will only have one mission, transform PGR, the only personal gain I will have is to give back to PGR that made me what I am today. I know, I can assemble a team of people with the same mission...we can do it collectively

Satish Kumar Arun: Make no mistake. They may not No one may want you to set the things right. Vested interests are so deeply entrenched that resurrection is almost impossible. On the other hand you may collect some data and list the achievements of the so called academic institutions in agriculture sector. There are VCs who are yet to publish their first research paper in a reasonable journal and or yet to complete one research project in their life time to the satisfaction of the peers.

Kumud Talukdar It will be fortunate for PGR to regain the lost fame. In India government milieu is a factor of development. Really sad for this big country which has lost its past glory

Ajit Maru India develops when the Government sleeps.

Krishan Pathak I fully agree with Dr. Ajit Maru about the deteriorating condition of Pantnagar. It has become a regional institution. University needs a visionary Vice-chancellor with full autonomy.

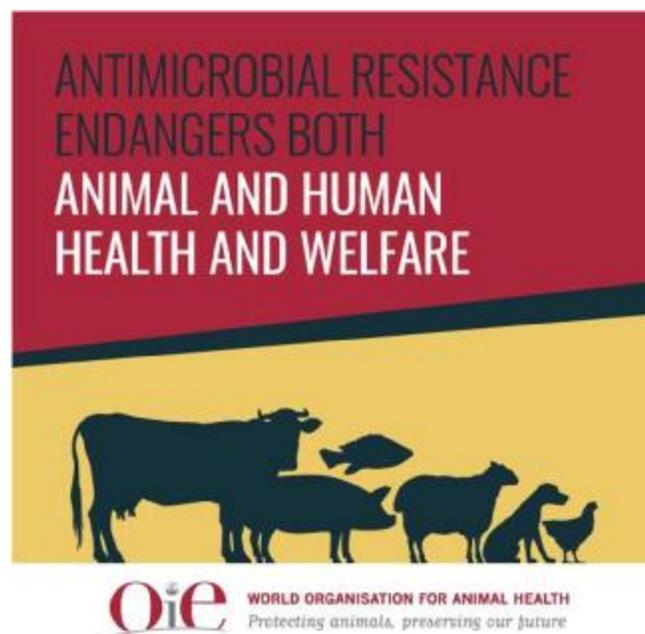
Subhash Gupta I agree fully with you Dr Maru. This University was a dream for students in early 70s but after the local forces took over the affairs, the national or to some extent international status got deteriorated at an astonishing velocity. This is not only with Pantnagar alone but others as well but since it was really a premier university, the deterioration appears more. Take the case of Veterinary University at Mathura, U.P., it is not worth calling a degree college. None of our universities is there even in the top 1500 universities in the world. There is a need for a lot of retrospection into higher education, especially the Agriculture, in India.

Satish Kumar Is there a single animal scientist who is having international reputation? The editorial board of Indian Journal of Animal Sciences is chosen by administrative position of power rather than their scientific contribution and reputation. What an irony and mockery of science!

Vinod Kaul University had been doing amazingly well, during my stay from 1973 to 1977, it was a privilege to be in the best university with the best USA trained staff under the leadership of great Dr D P Singh, the then VC. But then, post JP movement, an unfortunate spell of Mulayam's chief ministership ushered in an over all doom of world class universities of (then) UP. Political interference coupled with free copying and proxy sittings in examinations & appointment of less educated VCs all over UP, spelled the doom.

**We would welcome personal views of our readers on the important subject of “State of Agricultural and SVUs of India”.**

Prof. Dr. R.N. Kohli,  
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#### **4. LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

The cover page of the October-2017 issue of NAVS Newsletter is impressive. Contents in this issue are rich and varied which give a glimpse of happening in veterinary sciences world over which will be helpful in updating the professionals. Updates of global issues and conferences etc are praiseworthy. I highly appreciate and value the time and efforts of Dr Kohli and also of many contributors. Please keep the flag of NAVS flying with more meaningful contributions by sincere participation of vets in various national programmes of Government of India and states. Prof. Dr. R.K. Singh, Director/Vice Chancellor, Indian Veterinary Research Institute (Deemed University) Izatnagar-243 122, India; Phone: +91-581-2300096; [directorivri@gmail.com](mailto:directorivri@gmail.com); [rks\\_virology@rediffmail.com](mailto:rks_virology@rediffmail.com).

Dear Dr Kohli: I owe you a heartiest "Thank You" for not only including my contribution in the October 2017 NAVS Newsletter, but also very kindly adding the huge compliment "renowned academician" against my name. I wish to add that the information from the newspaper clippings has not been reproduced verbatim, but are mostly excerpts wherein abbreviations, editing and recasting has been carried out to make them interesting read for a scientifically primed reader. The October 2017 issue is up to your usual standards. I am particularly impressed with Dr. J.S. Bhatia's write-up on the declining standards of Veterinary Education in the country, the prevailing apathy towards this vital ingredient for producing professionals equipped with minimum acceptable skills, and urgent remedial steps to lift from this "morass". Carry on the good work Dr. Kohli; there are many an appreciators. Prof. Dr. M.B. Chhabra, [chhabra.manmohan@gmail.com](mailto:chhabra.manmohan@gmail.com)

Dear Prof. Kohli, I have gone through the NAVS Newsletter's October 2017 issue in one go. It contains information for professionals/scientists/academicians working in the entire spectrum of livestock developmental programs. Besides, policy planners, academic managers, scientists, organizations, institutes etc. can draw benefit and also translate some suggestions made for growth and developments. It is noteworthy that every issue contains views/information from the fellows in form of articles, scientific notes, professional status, newer developments etc. I do feel that fellowship should offer additional information/comments/counter comments for healthy deliberations and help in widening the scope or relevance of the topic. Such approach may help the academy to have brain storming and or bringing out policy document or use the consolidated view for furtherance of professional activities. Though the circulation of Newsletter has gone many folds but still many of the fellows fail to draw the full benefit through soft copy. Should the organizers consider publishing it in print edition too? The NAVS Newsletter should be available in all the national and regional libraries of livestock and allied sectors, including Institutes. Dr Jitendra Singh Bhatia, Former ADG

(EDU), ICAR, B-101 Sector-2, Plot-3C, Mandakini Apartments, Dwarka, New Delhi 110075; Phones: 09316612588, 09311039604; Email ID: <bhatiajs05@rediffmail.com>

Dear Dr. Kohli: Happy to note that you have consented to continue to be the Editor of the NAVS *Newsletter*. You are doing a superb job in creating this Newsletter and the readers deeply appreciate your sincere efforts. Enormous regards. Prof. Dr. Amreek Singh, Professor Emeritus of Microscopic Anatomy, Atlantic Veterinary College, University of Prince Edward Island, Canada. Res: 39, Westwood Crescent, Charlottetown PE CIA 8X4, Canada; Telephone Residence: +011-902-892-0048; Email ID: <singh@upei.ca>

Thanks a lot for covering the proceedings of our 17th Indian Veterinary Congress in the October 2017 issue of the NAVS Newsletter. Best personal regards: Prof. (Dr.) Rishendra Verma, ARS, D.Sc. Ph.D. *Emeritus Scientist-ICAR, IVRI*; <rishendra.verma@yahoo.com>

Dear Dr Kohli: Words fail me to fully appreciate the NAVS Newsletter and spectra of the information covered in it. A retired veterinarian is benefitted by it. Regards: Dr Arun Varma; <drarunvarma@gmail.com>; Ph: 9313033642

Kind greetings!!! The NAVS Newsletter-October, 2017 issue is very interesting and updated one. Best regards. Dr Ruchi Tiwari <ruchi.vet@gmail.com>

Dr Kohli, Very impressive news: Nicely collected, well presented and self explanatory. Congratulations Sir. Dr S.P Gautam, Ph. +91 9891678342; <sp\_gautam2000@yahoo.com>; twitter #AnimalSociety.

#### NEW DISCOVERY ABOUT CANCER

Recently scientists at the #1 cancer research hospital in America made a groundbreaking discovery. They found cancer spreads a SECOND - and much quicker - way. The news made headlines worldwide. Here are some:

**Science Daily:**

Cancer cells can poison normal cells.

Like bacteria and viruses, cancer cells have the potential to infect normal cells, promote cancer progression.

**The New York Times:**

Scientist Ponder the Prospect of Contagious Cancer.

**Nature:**

Cancer cells can 'infect' normal neighbours.

Tiny RNAs shed by tumours can transform healthy cells into cancerous ones.

**The Washington Post**

Scientists just doubled the number of known contagious cancers.

## **5: FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK**



The quarter ending Dec 2017 was eventful. Convocation -cum- seminar was organised at Veterinary College, Sri Venkateswara Veterinary University, Triputi in most professional manner. Almost all the GC members participated. We gratefully acknowledge the facilities extended by the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor Dr. Y Hari Babu and Dr. Chander Shekhar Rao, the Dean of the Veterinary College. Each programme and initiative was a resounding success and none of this would have been possible without personal involvement of the Hon'ble VC and the Dean. The university authorities deserve kudos for excellent arrangements and visit to the temple of Lord Balaji Vanketashwara. I appreciate gesture of Dr. Parkash Rao, our ever smiling and Vice-President who showed his magnanimity by financing the dinner for the GC members, delegates and the organisers.

When I took over as the President of the Academy, one of the challenges was to mobilise funds for the Academy. We have been able to mobilise funds to the tune of 15.5 lac during the quarter that includes one lac donated by our dynamic Vice-President. Dr. Parkash Rao. I on behalf of the GC thank him profusely. Ayurved Ltd was conferred the Corporate Life Membership. Sri Venkateshwara Veterinary University has also contributed Rs 5 lac to become Institutional Member. We acknowledge with thanks. It gives me immense pleasure to inform the esteemed readers that very soon Bihar Veterinary University is going to be institutional members by contributing five lac.

The Performa for NAVS Fellow, NAVS Member and NAVS Associate Member have been revised and being put on the Academy website for the benefit of all the aspirants. I would request all the young faculty members in Veterinary Colleges/Institutes to apply in larger numbers for membership which would facilitate them for the Fellowship in future. Senior and deserving faculty members may also apply in large numbers for the Fellowships. I must inform that to meet the aspiration of young academicians, we have increased the authorised strength of the Fellows from 450 to 500. All the eligible academicians must apply latest by 31 March 2017.

World Continuing Education Association has entered into partnership with World Veterinary Association. A video-conference was organised by World Veterinary Association (WVA). On behalf of the Association, Mr. Craig Fitzpatrick had interaction with me. The conference lasted for about 20 minutes on 08 Dec. 2017. The WCEA has the largest network of nursing,

technicians and veterinarians' courses and is focusing on developing nations. The members can approach through internet and mobile devices. Some of the veterinary education providers are from USA, UK, France and Australia. The Veterinary Universities /colleges/institutions must avail the facility.

As we stand at the cusp of another new and exciting new year, which will bring with it a new set of challenges and opportunities; we look forward to your continued support in making this year equally memorable and rewarding. We, together and with the blessing of ALMIGHTY, would achieve many more milestones!

I wish a lot of learning, laughter, love and happiness in year 2018 to all the Fellows, Members, Associate Members, the readers and their families!

Maj. Gen. Dr. Shri Kant Sharma  
[shrikant28@hotmail.com](mailto:shrikant28@hotmail.com)

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## 6: VET TRACKS

### 6-A. OBITUARY

#### 6-A.1: Prof. Dr. S. K. Verma is no more

We are sorry to announce the sad demise on 14th November 2017 of Dr. Sudarshan Kumar Verma, Ex. Professor and Head, Department of Veterinary Gynaecology and Obstetrics, COVS, Hisar. Many of us who had long association with this thorough gentleman veterinarian would miss a very happy-go-lucky friend. Those who have studied with him or have taught him regard him as an energetic learner. He was a great friend of numerous well known academicians, particularly from Hisar veterinary college. We all pray that heavens keep the departed in peace.

#### 6-A.2: Prof. Dr. R.D. Sharma passes away

Dr. R.D.Sharma, Former Additional Director of Research (Veterinary and Animal Sciences) and Professor-cum-Head, Department of Veterinary Gynaecology & Obstetrics, Punjab Agricultural University left for his heavenly abode at on 6th December 2017. He was fine and alert till his last moment and suffered a sudden cardiac arrest at 10 pm.

Dr. Sharma was a renowned veterinarian, dedicated teacher and a clinician par excellence who had great love for animals. Owing to his selfless service to the animals and the farmers, he earned a lot of respect from the community. He was famous for his soft spoken nature, ever helping attitude and dedication towards profession. Dr. Sharma had a passion for Obstetrics and could not bear the suffering of the animals.



He therefore, established a 24 hours clinical service in the Veterinary Hospital where the cases were attended even at odd hours. Keeping in view the contributions of Dr. R.D. Sharma towards society and science, Indian Societies for Study of Animal Reproduction started a prestigious award in his name for best scientific presentation in Obstetrics during the National Conventions. Many of his students are presently working on many eminent positions in India and abroad. Sudden demise of Dr. RD Sharma has left a void which will not be fulfilled so easily.

Dr. Rameshwar Das Sharma was born on 28<sup>th</sup> August, 1933 in Bhawanigarh, a small town of Punjab. He graduated (Bachelor of Veterinary Science & Animal Husbandry) from Punjab University in 1956, did his Masters from Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, USA in 1968 and Ph.D. (Veterinary Gynaecology and Obstetrics) from Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana in 1976. He initially worked as Veterinary Assistant Surgeon, Technical Assistant at Govt. Progeny Testing Farm, Hisar and later as Research Assistant (A.I.) at Department of Animal Husbandry, PAU, Hisar. Upon the bifurcation of erstwhile Punjab state (into Haryana and Punjab), the PAU started a new veterinary college in Ludhiana in 1969 by inducting some

teachers (including Dr. R.D. Sharma) who shifted from Hisar (along with some the UG & PG students) to Ludhiana. The constituents of Hisar campus of PAU became HAU. Dr. Sharma joined as Assistant Professor in the Department Veterinary Surgery (which at that time included Veterinary Gynaecology and Obstetrics as well as Veterinary Radiology) at the Ludhiana College.

About a year later I (R.N. Kohli) too joined this Department as Associate Professor of Surgery and became a Professor in 1971. Dr. R.D. Sharma was one of my closest colleagues and associates as well as a family friend in 1970s. Later, an independent department of Veterinary Gynaecology and Obstetrics was eventually created and Dr. Sharma became its first professor-cum-head, a position that he held for about 14 years, before taking over as Additional Director Research in 1991 till his superannuation in 1993. He also worked as Professor Emeritus for five years thereafter in the Department. He guided 12 M.V.Sc. and 09 PhD students as Major advisor and had more than 150 publications to his credit. Many laboratories for Obstetrics, Gynaecology, Andrology, Radioimmunoassay, Postgraduate Research and Cold Room for preserving fetuses for obstetrical training were established under his guidance because of which the department, later on, was recognized as Centre of Advance Faculty Training.

Dr. R.D. Sharma lived a happy life and was loved by one and all. He was a devoted veterinarian, a revered teacher and a thorough gentleman. We pray almighty to grant peace to his departed soul and give strength to members of his family to face the tragedy.

## **6-B: Appointments, transfers, promotions, awards, honors and felicitations**

### **6-B.1: GADVASU Professor Conferred with Lifetime Achievement Award**

Dr. Hari Mohan Saxena, Professor of Immunology at Guru Angad Dev Veterinary and Animal Sciences University (GADVASU), Ludhiana has been conferred with the coveted Lifetime achievement award in Veterinary Science by the Venus International Foundation at the Annual Research Meet 2017 organized at Chennai recently. The award was presented to him by the chief guest Dr. Christine Berberich from United Kingdom and the guest of honour Dr. Gavin Stewart from Singapore. The award has been bestowed upon Dr. Saxena for his research contributions in Immunology and infectious diseases.

Dr. Saxena is a senior Professor and has been involved in teaching



Immunology and research work on infectious diseases of domestic animals. Dr. Saxena has made original research contributions in diagnosis and control of Brucellosis and Hemorrhagic Septicemia in cattle and molecular pathogenesis of Infectious Bursal Disease of chickens. His current interest is in the application of bacteriophages (viruses which kill bacteria) in improved diagnosis, therapy

and prevention of important bacterial diseases of livestock where vaccine failures and bacterial resistance to antibiotics are rampant.

Dr. Saxena is a recipient of National Excellence Award and Eminent Educationist Award and is a Fellow of World Innovation Foundation, UK and National Academy of Veterinary Sciences, India. He has obtained patents in USA, Europe, China and South Africa for his innovations and won several prizes including four gold medals and one silver medal for his research contributions.

### 6-B.2: NAVS President as Chief Guest at AROI (NZ) Conference

North Zone Association of Radiation Oncologist of India is an Association of Radiation Oncologist of seven northern states namely Delhi, Utter Pradesh, Utterakhand, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Haryana and Punjab and is part of national association of radiation oncologist of India (AROI). Cancer is an epidemic of 21<sup>st</sup> century and the incidence is increasing day by day. It is expected that the incidence of cancer will be doubled by the year 2030. Presently 10 lac new cases are diagnosed every year and more than 2 lac people die of this dreaded disease every year.

Its annual conference was organised at Hisar in Auditorium of Guru Jambheshwar University of Science and Technology for two days beginning 16 Dec 2017. Maj Gen Shri Kant, SM, VSM, President of the NAVS (I) and former Vice- Chancellor LUVAS was invited as the Chief Guest for the inaugural Ceremony on 16 Dec 2017. This was probably for the first time that a distinguished Veterinarian was invited as the Chief Guest. After delivering the speech, the Gen Officer wished a huge success for the conference.





### 6-B.3: Dr. Pradeep Kumar Kapoor Felicitated

Dr. Pradeep Kumar Kapoor, Director of Research, LUVAS, Hisar, was awarded Rashtra Ratna Award on the occasion of Death anniversary of Great Bharat Ratna Baba Bheem Rao Ambedkar for outstanding individual achievements and distinguished services to the nation by the Pratima Raksha Samman Samiti (Karnal) in December 2017 at Karnal Club.

### 6-B.4: Award on Yoga named after Prof. Dr. G.C.Jain

Yoga Institutes are established to teach Yoga - the natural science of health in India and in many other parts of the world. Keeping this aspect in view, the Rajasthan State Government established a self governed Council "Rajasthan Swasthya Yog Parishad" in the 1974. The council is associated with many universities and centres in India but now runs a few hundred yoga centres in Rajasthan to teach and practice yoga science.

Prof. Dr. G.C.Jain, a well known Veterinarian, is practicing yoga for the last twenty years and is associated with many centres not only in India but also in USA. Currently he is teaching Yoga for the last five years at one centre affiliated with Devine Life Society Rishikesh at Jaipur. He is also a life member of Rajasthan Swasthya Yog Parishad and has published more than 50 technical articles on Yoga Science and General Health in its pioneer monthly journal "YOG SAURABH ". Considering his contribution in the field of Yoga, the "Rajasthan Swasthya Yog Parishad" awarded to him the "Best Writer Award" in the year 2012-13 and also decided to honour a best yoga performer every year with an award named after him as i. e. "Prof. Dr. G.C. Jain Award" - in the form of a shield. This award is being given annually for the last four years and will continue to be given lifelong. This year's Prof. Dr. G.C. Jain Award award was given to Mrs. Archana Sapra.



## **7. VIEW POINT**

### **ANIMAL WELFARE**

**(With special reference to Concepts and Controversies of Dog Population Control, Rabies Containment, Regulation of Livestock Markets Rules 2017, and Jellykettu, Maramadi, and Slaughter House Rules 2001)**

**Prof. Dr. Rama Kumar V.**

Human perception of animal welfare varies with one's understanding of or emotional attachment with animals. Social and cultural background can influence this perception. Globally the difference (of perception) exists among animal activists, animal lovers, animal owners and the veterinarians as each of them deal with animals from different angles. Even among veterinarians there could be points of contention between those who plead for species welfare and those who support individual animal's welfare. People may love certain species i.e. a lover of cats may prefer to be away from dogs, pigs or cows. Some (individual or community) may favor certain systems of animal rearing, animal habits or habitat. Some venerate certain species, breeds or colour of animals. Sentiment, fads and taboo's on animals is not uncommon. There is need to recognize and resolve varying perceptions when we define cruelty and welfare objectively. Some recent judgments of high courts of different states on Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Regulation of Livestock Markets) Rules 2017 is an example of such perception. Political upheaval in states more so in Kerala, hiding the fact that there is no ban on slaughtering of animals provided it is done in a hygienic and compassionate manner also need be addressed in public interest. [Here attention is humbly invited to clause 9(e), Section 11 and section 38 of PCA Act 1960 and Prevention of cruelty to animals (slaughter house) rules 2001]. At least one such prejudiced view, placed before the Supreme Court by an advocate is that dog was the only animal prescribed in PCA Act for culling. Another argument to justify illegal culling of dogs in Kerala by comparing it with the innumerable goats and poultry birds slaughtered for food each day. Those who justify illegal culling of dogs withhold the fact that there is no ban on slaughter or 'culling of animals' provided it is done within legal limits and is prescribed in the act for different purposes.

Attitude of man towards animals varies from recognition of pain, stress or discomfort of animals (compassion), to the most negative aspect of it that consider animal as a source of inconvenience to be avoided, segregated or even exterminated. Several intermediate levels may exist within these extreme attitudes. While dislike need not amount to cruelty, love need not result in welfare. These need be tested scientifically for

which the knowledge of Veterinary ethnology [i.e. animal behavior vis-a-vis human behavior] is essential.

Universal Declaration of Animal Welfare (UDAW) calls upon the United Nations to recognize animals as sentient beings, capable of experiencing pain and suffering, and to recognize that animal welfare is an issue of importance as part of the social development of nations. Two major viewpoints exist on animal welfare: One view accepts human exploration of non-human animals for food, research, clothing or entertainment, so long as unnecessary stress and suffering is avoided; and the second view (the position held by animal right groups) holds that animals should not be used or regarded by man as a property. Some even consider use of milk as exploitation of the offspring, while some from the same group argue that cow is compared to 'mother' as it gives us milk. The absence of logic and scientific certainty highlights an obvious lack of exclusive research (R&D) on animal resources of India, be it domestic, companion, wild, feral or laboratory animals and birds.

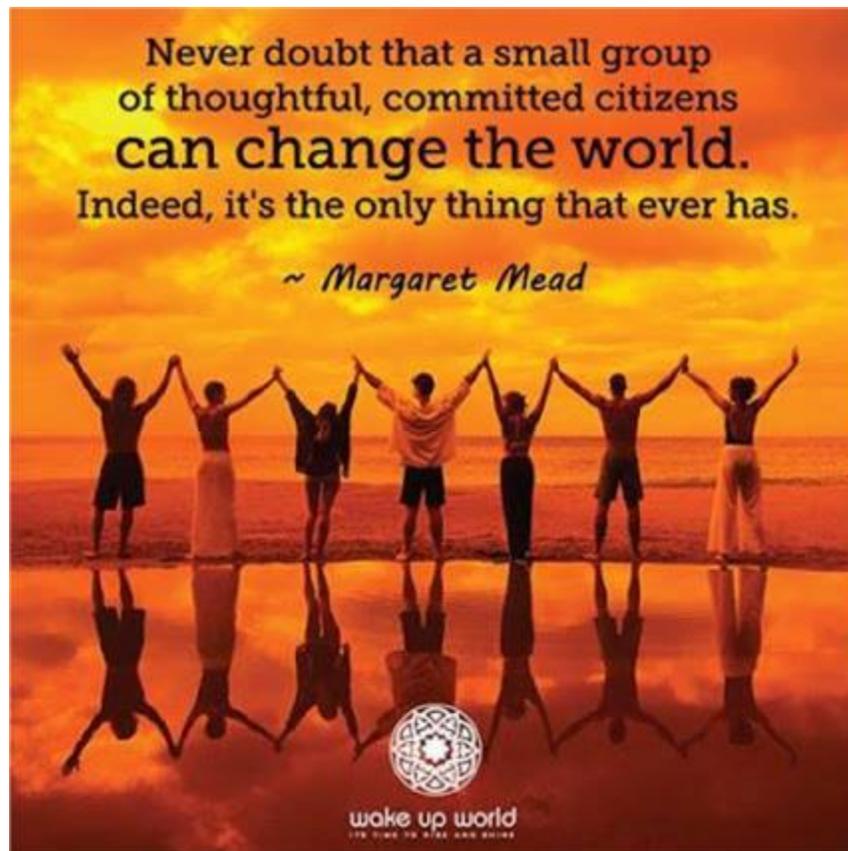
The concern for the well-being of non-human living beings (animals) is part of India's culture. In Rig Veda, one finds mention of animals as part of Indian life and life style. Kautilya's Artha shastra provides strict protocols for the management of animals, their hygienic management. Atharva veda describes use of slaughter houses (underground space or caves) as centres of learning of structure and disease detection. Indus Valley Civilization maintained a religious belief that our ancestors return in animal form. An Ashokan edict written in 'Pali' script on the IX rock edict (300 B.C) collected during excavation reads on its fourth line '*Panesu Saimo*'. The nearest Sanskrit version could be "*sarveshu praaneshu samyamah*" meaning "compassion for living beings". [Barua B.M. (1955) "*Ashoka and his inscriptions*", Calcutta]. Possibly the clause (g) of article 51A (directive principles in chapter IV of the constitution of India) drew inspiration from the system aforementioned. The constituent assembly in its collective wisdom included compassion along protection of natural resources from pollution, mutilation or wastage.

It is important to understand that while a negative attitude need not always amount to cruelty and a positive attitude alone may not result in welfare. A tendency to assume that an animal is under stress or its basic needs remain uncompensated can be subjective, if such observations are not supported by observable and (even) measurable scientific indicators. One cannot objectively measure suffering through physiological parameters and that it has to be linked with behavioral parameters and tested. The indicators such as early detection of behavioral anomalies, study of preferences, ergo-metric evaluation of animals' ambience, resting place, shelter, accessories used for feeding

them or for their comfort etc. indicates glaring lack of research on animal behavior vis-à-vis human behavior. At occasions in the past courts had to depend on small islands of information based on studies on small population. This calls for statutory an animal (veterinary) research council with regional centres synergizing and validating their finding

*Love and Sentimentality: Behaviour scientists classify positive feeling into love and sentimentality. The former involves interaction (among animals and/ or between animals and man) including indulgence like care giving, care taking, comfort seeking, agnostic behaviour, group behaviour (working as a team) etc. Indulgence enriches the life of both partners involved; it can excite, soothe and (as experts feel) contributes towards self-worth and awareness of self. Sentimentality on the other hand, has a predominance of emotion; it depresses and leaves one (man or animal) confused.*

*(Prof. Dr. Rama Kumar V is the former Secretary of Veterinary Council of India)*



## 8. NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL VETERINARY NEWS

### 8.1: ICAR- NIANP, Bengaluru organizes One Day Technical Seminar for Veterinary Officers on 'Feed and fertility management in dairy animals'

One day technical seminar on 'Feed and fertility management in dairy animals' was organized at ICAR-NIANP, Bengaluru on 5<sup>th</sup> August 2017. Dr Suresh S Honnappagol, Animal Husbandry Commissioner, Govt. of India was the Chief Guest. After releasing the technical folder on Doublesynch and Estradoublesynch: Novel and efficient strategies for estrus synchronization and fertility improvement in livestock' he spoke on the various schemes of DADF including the sexing of semen, programmes on indigenous cattle and the various strategies for doubling the farmer's income. Dr B S Prakash, Assistant Director General (AN & P), ICAR, New Delhi was the Guest of Honour and released the technical compendium. He explained about the oestrous synchronization protocols and the excellent results recorded at various centres



of AICRP. Dr Raghavendra Bhatta, Director, NIANP Presided over the function and explained about the various programmes of the Institutes and highlighted the achievements of the Institute. About 150 Veterinary Officers from the Department of Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Services, Govt. of Karnataka, Karnataka Milk Federation and Krishi Vigyana Kendras from Karnataka

attended the seminar. Four technical presentations were made by the Scientists of ICAR-NIANP on feed and fodder resources, ration balancing, issues and measures to improve fertility and recent advances in semen evaluation techniques. Ration balancing using "Feed Assist" software developed at ICAR-NIANP and low cost method of fodder sprout production were also demonstrated.

### 8.2: Government considering NPA case of UP Veterinarians

Chirantan Kadian in a post on social media on 4<sup>th</sup> October 2017 informs that the Government has announced and given a written assurance to put up the NPA case to the cabinet (within one month) and the DACP recommendations to the Pay and Allowances committee. It was also assured that no action will be taken against agitating veterinarians. UP Veterinary Association (UPVA) has credited this 'victory' to their "unity and fearless fight".

The HP vets are also celebrating as many new posts of SVO DD and additional director are likely to be created after cabinet approval.

### **8.3: ICLAS Scholarship Program for Veterinarians in Laboratory Medical Science and Medicine**

The ICLAS Scholarship Program for Veterinarians has had four awardees since the program began in 2014. These awardees have been (one each) from Argentina, Pakistan, Brazil and Iran. ICLAS scholarships are awarded to pay two-thirds of the total funds needed; the applicant and/or his or her employer is/are required to provide one-third of the costs. Scholarships may be used to cover tuition, travel, housing, and daily expenses up to a maximum of €6,000 per applicant. **A new round of applications will occur in December of 2018.**

Training for veterinarians in the field of laboratory animal science and medicine is difficult to obtain in many regions of the world, particularly in areas with emerging economies where medical research is in developmental stages. For many veterinarians, the time and financial and personal cost of leaving employment and family to attend an established training program in a distant area presents too big an obstacle to overcome. One option that can minimize these concerns is a program of modular, on-line classes combined with short periods of practical training on accredited programs. There are several such programs in Europe and North America, and programs are being developed in South America and India. These programs are recognized by groups such as FELASA, CALAM, and ECLAM, and provide official certificates of training upon completion.

The Objective of these programs is to offer scholarships to enable veterinarians who live in areas without access to training and who lack the necessary funds to complete specified training programs which meet some essential criteria.

Qualified Veterinarians who would like to apply for a scholarship, or organizations who would be interested in sponsoring an applicant on this program, may please contact Cynthia Pekow, acting ICLAS Secretary General, email: [info@iclas.org](mailto:info@iclas.org) or check their website.

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### **8.4: World Veterinary Association Congress 2018**

The WVC2017 was closed by the handover ceremony to the next host of the 34th World Veterinary Association Congress. Dr Rafael Laguens, a member of the Organizing Committee of the WVAC2018, addressed the participants and invited them the World Veterinary Association Congress 2018 taking place in Barcelona, Spain on 5 – 8 May, 2018. He continued by saying that WVAC2018 will provide a unique and amazing opportunity for all veterinarians in all

branches of the profession to come together to explore the challenges that face animal health and welfare, to find solutions where possible, and to demonstrate the value of the profession for the public good in a changing world. The conference will host leading speakers from all over the globe to discuss ongoing issues of concern and to explore new horizons in the treatment and prevention of animal diseases and conditions. Share your ideas, expand your knowledge and make life-long connections at this year's must attend event.

## 8.5: Indian Council of Food and Agriculture (ICFA) Hosts a National Round Table on Dairy

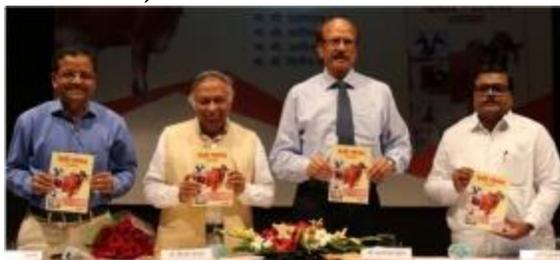
ICFA hosted National Round Table on Dairy on 27<sup>th</sup> October 2017 at New Delhi, joined by over 50 CEOs and heads of institutions and chaired by the Secretary to Government of India for AHD&F, Mr. Devendra Choudhary. The sector possess strong potential for new business ventures and increasing farmers income, as it moves from current Rs. 1 lac crore to its actual level of Rs. 6 lac crores in next 20 years.



On this occasion ICFA also released its study report on Dairy Sector. Releasing the report are: Dr. JK Jena, Deputy Director General, ICAR, Mr. RS Sodhi, MD of AMUL, Mr. Vijay Sardana, chairman, ICFA Working Group on Agro Trade and Dr. MJ Khan, Chairman, ICFA.

## 8.6: Marathi publication on *Bos Indicus* (*Deshi Govansh*)

Dr. Vijay Bhatkar, Vice Chancellor of Nalanda University and member of SVROP - a very promising initiative for research by central government on *Panchgavya* - recently released a Marathi publication on *Bos Indicus* (*Deshi Govansh*) at Pune.



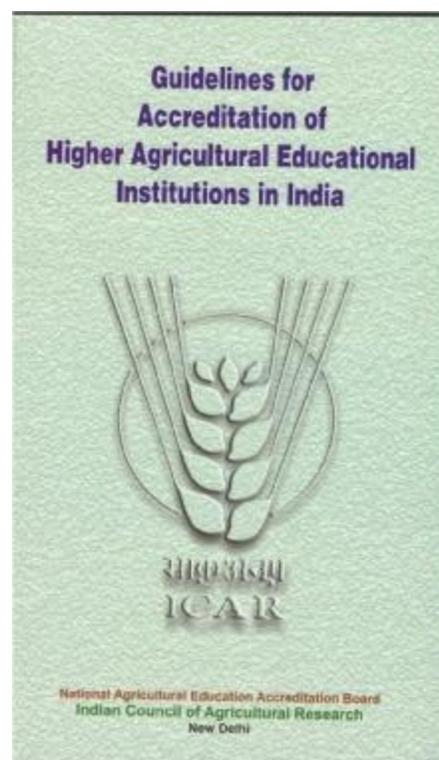
The book is a compilation of scripts by Sakal group on native cows by experts for conservation and propagation Indian breeds. Dr Bhatkar has praised importance of native cows through his foreword in the book and has expressed

need to strengthen research on *Panchagavya* for human health, soil fertility and environment in the interest of global warming. The book consists of thirteen chapters on scope for rearing of native cows, including their breeds and management, selection, nutrition, health, breeding strategies, reproduction and details on cow products etc. It discusses the role of *Goshalas*, Breeders' Associations, and NBAGR along with some success stories.

The book consists of writings of 30 different authors in 256 pages and 08 colour pages. The book is compiled by deputy editor of daily news paper, *Agrowon* Mr Amit Gadre and Professor Dr N M Markandeya from Veterinary College, Parbhani. It is worth to note that three editions have been distributed within two months of publication of the book and trend to conserve native cow breeds is increasing in all states all over the country. The book is carrying ISBN number as 978-93-86204-44-8.

### 8.7: New guidelines for accreditation of higher agricultural educational institution in India Released

New guidelines for accreditation of higher agricultural educational institution in India have been printed and released by National Agricultural Education Accreditation Board. ICAR, NEW DELHI. It includes veterinary universities too. Being a member of the committee assigned this work got a copy of it. Some pages have been scanned and are being sent to you. Might make a news item for NEWS Letter. Full printed copy may please request from education division of ICAR. Please do not quote my name for this. Just sending for information as this is a very important step.



## 9. SCIENCE, HEALTH & SOCIETY

### 9.1: Indian Doctor Becomes WHO's Deputy Director General

Dr Soumya Swaminathan has been appointed as the Deputy Director-general of the WHO, the second-highest post in the organisation, and the highest ever to be held by an Indian. Dr Swaminathan currently holds senior positions as the chief of the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), and as a secretary of the Department of Health Research in the Health Ministry of India. The 58-year-old Paediatrician and Clinical Scientist is known profoundly for her research work in Tuberculosis (TB) and HIV. Her appointment in WHO was announced by the Director-General, Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus on Oct. 3, 2017. Dr Soumya will be the head of the WHO Programmes.



Dr Soumya is the daughter of Dr. M.S. Swaminathan, world-renowned agriculture scientist, who is famously considered as the father of the Indian green revolution. Dr Soumya graduated from the Armed Forces Medical College in Pune, holds an MD degree from the All India Institute of Medical Sciences. Later, she went on to do a fellowship at the Children's Hospital of Los Angeles.

### 9.2: Is This the Final Medical Discovery?

A new discovery is changing the nature of medicine.....because instead of trying to fight disease (like we've done all along).....Harvard researchers have discovered how to re-program your body to create an *unlimited* amount of new, healthy cells (to replace old, dying, and diseased cells). Just a few years ago, scientists thought this was impossible. They believed everyone was born with a “set” number of new cells they could make. And after you burned through this preset limit... suffering, disease, and death quickly followed. But now, thanks to a new discovery — explained below — that is no longer the case. These Harvard scientists have figured out how to take off the limiter, so you may never run out of healthy cells. The researchers are calling it “the final medical discovery.” Because if you can pump out an unlimited army of healthy, new cells... well... what else do you need? It's the difference between having a set number of dollar bills in your bank account... or... a press able to pump out an endless stream of cash. It naturally occurs in some animals that never suffer diseases related to old age. And now, scientists know how it can work the same miracles for you. For details: [<alsearsmd@send.alsearsmd.com>](mailto:alsearsmd@send.alsearsmd.com)

### 9.3: New “cancer pill” may render chemo obsolete

According to Al Sears, MD, CNS, a quiet revolt is underway against the drug companies at America's #1 cancer hospital, where handful of doctors — with the support of the hospital's director — have decided to buck chemo,

radiation and surgery. Instead, they're now prescribing a tiny pill — one that's much safer, cheaper, and far more effective. According to a leading biochemist there, "over 1,000 of my patients are taking this." The hospital is even conducting clinical trials on its cancer-killing power... with astounding results. The same thing is happening at institutions like Baylor and John Hopkins. But although establishment physicians now know it works better than chemo and all other drugs...They won't advertise it — because Big Pharma would attack them and have them discredited, just like so many others. That's why I doubt 1 in 10,000 Americans have heard about this \$1 pill or the nutrient behind it. But here's the thing... I've been on the cutting-edge of this new breakthrough for years now and recommend it to all of my patients. I answer to my Hippocratic Oath — not the drug companies. And I don't care what they say about me. That's why I've blown the lid on this disease-ending breakthrough in a new dossier. In it you'll find how cancer is just the tip of the iceberg... In fact, it's proven to be *more effective* than 19 of Big Pharma's best-selling drugs — without side effects. Is it any wonder why Big Pharma is doing everything in their power to suppress this story? But they can't keep a lid on it any longer. The truth is out there — and 2017 could be the year the tables now finally turn on the \$1.2 trillion drug industry.

Details: [<alsearsmd@send.alsearsmd.com>](mailto:alsearsmd@send.alsearsmd.com)

#### 9.4: The air we breathe is making us fat

A researcher from Duke University placed two groups of rats in separate chambers. One group was exposed to Beijing's super toxic air. That city has some of the worst air pollution in the world. The second group breathed filtered air.

The two groups ate *exactly* the same diet. After 19 days, the rats exposed to the air pollution were 18% fatter. Their LDL levels were 50% higher and their triglycerides were 46% higher. This indicates high levels of fat in their blood. To make matters worse, their lungs were 25% heavier and their livers weighed 16% more — a clear sign of inflammation. (Wei Y et al. "Chronic exposure to air pollution particles increases the risk of obesity and metabolic syndrome: findings from a natural experiment in Beijing." FASEB. 2016. DOI: 10.1096/fj.201500142)

#### 9.5: Fish with a side of plastic?

Our ancestors thrived on eating fish fresh from the ocean. After all, fish is a pure source of protein and healthy omega-3 fats. But our modern fish supply is vastly different than anything our ancestors ate. As our oceans have become more and more polluted, so has our seafood. In fact, the fish on your dinner plate today is likely loaded with plastic trash. Let me explain...

Every year, billions of pounds of plastic waste pour into our oceans and rivers. I'm talking about things like grocery bags, drinking straws, water bottles and

more. It's now estimated that up to *51 trillion* pieces of plastic contaminate our oceans. In addition, millions of tiny microbeads flow into your local sewer system every day. Manufacturers add these gritty specks to face and body scrubs, shower gels, toothpaste and other personal care products. They're too small to be filtered out of our water supply. Taking just one shower could result in 100,000 of these tiny plastic particles making their way into the ocean. This trash is carried along the ocean's currents in massive swirls that cover about 40% of the world's ocean surfaces. These plastics are on almost every beach in the world and the polar icecaps. And they don't just float on the ocean's surface. They've now made their way into deep sea sediments more than two miles beneath sea level.

These plastic particles act like a sponge. They pick up pollution, pesticides, bacteria, chemicals, flame retardants and heavy metals. But they also absorb algae and bacteria and start smelling like fish. Tiny fish and other sea creatures mistake these particles for a natural food source. They gorge themselves on this junk.<sup>1</sup> Much of that plastic ends up in their guts. And by entering fish, these plastics enter our food supply. In a recent study, 25% of the fish sampled in markets in California had plastics in their guts.<sup>2</sup> We already know that some of the chemicals in these plastics — like bisphenol A and phthalates — disrupt your hormones. They lead to estrogen overload in men and women alike. They lower a man's testosterone. They disrupt thyroid function to make you gain weight. They bring on extreme symptoms of PMS and menopause. They can lead to diabetes, neurological problems, heart disease, and infertility.<sup>3</sup> They're linked to breast and other hormone-related cancers.

These microplastics also cause lung and gut injury in people. The tiniest particles can cross cell membranes, the blood brain barrier and a mother's placenta. They can cause oxidative stress, cell damage and inflammation.<sup>4</sup> I don't want you to feel like you have to stop eating fish. But it's important to make smart choices to preserve the planet and your health. Here's what I recommend to my family and my patients:

### Choosing the Right Kind of Fish

1. Avoid this "fishy" mistake: After hearing that ocean fish are full of plastics, you may decide that farm-raised fish are a better choice...

They're not. Farmed fish are fed genetically modified corn, soy and canola oil. They're fed antibiotics, chemicals, and growth hormones to speed up production. They also contain high levels of PCBs, dioxins, mercury and other toxins. And there is still no guarantee that they're plastic-free.

2. Know where your fish is on the food chain: Big fish feed on smaller fish and so on down the line. So the bigger the fish, the more plastic it contains. Overall, stay away from fish that are at the top of the food chain. This includes tuna, shark, swordfish, tilefish and king mackerel. These fish swim at the top of the food chain and they are the most contaminated fish in the world's oceans.

Try to stick to fish that are lower down on the food chain. They have a lower concentration of plastics. Good choices are herring, sardines, halibut and haddock.

3. Know where in the world your fish comes from: The ocean with the largest amount of plastic is the North Pacific. That's followed by the Indian Ocean, the North Atlantic and the South Pacific. Limit your fish consumption from these regions. The South Atlantic and the Mediterranean Sea have the least plastic contamination.<sup>5</sup>

Great-tasting fish from these regions include mullet, Spanish mackerel, red snapper, grouper and spotted sea trout.

4. Be a smart consumer: If you can't buy fish from a local source, ask the fishmonger in your grocery store where your fish comes from. I find them to be extremely knowledgeable and helpful. If your grocery store cannot guarantee where its fish comes from, I recommend ordering online. Today you can order fish from almost anywhere in the world. That way you can pick the fish you want, from the ocean you want. Most places fillet it, pack it on ice and send it out the same day.

1. Chelsea M. Rochman "Ecologically relevant data are policy-relevant data." *Science*. 03 Jun 2016: Vol. 352, Issue 6290, pp. 1172. DOI: 10.1126/science.aaf8697.

2. Rochman, C.M., Tahir, A., Williams, S.L., et al. (2015). "Anthropogenic debris in seafood: Plastic debris and fibers from textiles in fish and bivalves sold for human consumption." *Scientific Reports*. 2015.

3. Ziv-Gai, A., et al. "The effects of in-utero bisphenol-A exposure reproductive capacity in several generations of mice." *Toxicology and Applied Pharmacology*. 2015.

4. A. Dick Vethaak and Heather A. Leslie, "Plastic Debris Is a Human Health Issue." *Environ. Sci. Technol.* 2016.

5. Gray A. Plastic pollution: which two oceans contain the most? [www.weforum.org](http://www.weforum.org)

(For Details: <https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/#inbox/15ef2c27956e7085>)

9.6: CRISPR Bacon: Chinese Scientists Create GM Pigs with Reduced Body Fat

[Original story from Institute of Zoology at the Chinese Academy of Sciences](#)

*Infrared pictures of 6-month-old pigs taken at zero, two, and four hours after cold exposure show that the pigs' thermoregulation was improved after insertion of the new gene. Zheng et al. / PNAS*

Here's something that may sound like a contradiction in terms: low-fat pigs. But, that's exactly what Chinese scientists have created using new genetic engineering techniques. In a paper published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, the scientists report that they have created 12 healthy pigs with about 24 percent less body fat than normal pigs.

The scientists created low-fat pigs in the hopes of providing pig farmers with animals that would be less expensive to raise and would suffer less in cold weather. "This is a big issue for the pig industry," says Jianguo Zhao of the Institute of Zoology at the Chinese Academy of Sciences in Beijing, who led the research. "It's pretty exciting."

The animals have less body fat because they have a gene that allows them to regulate their body temperatures better by burning fat. That could save farmers millions of dollars in heating and feeding costs, as well as prevent millions of piglets from suffering and dying in cold weather. "They could maintain their body temperature much better, which means that they could survive better in the cold weather," Zhao said in an interview.

"This is a paper that is technologically quite important," says R. Michael Roberts, a professor in the department of animal sciences at the University of Missouri, who edited the paper for the scientific journal. "It demonstrates a way that you can improve the welfare of animals at the same as also improving the product from those animals — the meat.

The FDA has approved a genetically modified salmon, but the approval took decades and has been met with intense opposition from environmental and food-safety groups. Others say they hope genetically modified livestock will eventually become more acceptable to regulators and the public,

"The population of our planet is predicted to reach about 10 billion by 2050, and we need to use modern genetic approaches to help us increase the food supply to feed that growing population," says Chris Davies, an associate professor in the school of veterinary medicine at Utah State University in Salt Lake City. The Chinese scientists created the animals using a new gene-editing technique known as CRISPR-Cas9. It enables scientists to make changes in DNA much more easily and precisely than ever before.

Pigs lack a gene, called UPC1, which most other mammals have. The gene helps animals regulate their body temperatures in cold temperatures. The scientists edited a mouse version of the gene into pig cells. They then used those cells to create more than 2,553 cloned pig embryos. Next, scientists implanted the genetically modified cloned pig embryos into 13 female pigs. Three of the female surrogate mother pigs became pregnant, producing 12 male piglets, the researchers report. Tests on the piglets showed they were much better at regulating their body temperatures than normal pigs. They also had about 24 percent less fat on their bodies, the researchers report. "People like to eat the pork with less fat but higher lean meat," Zhao says. The animals were slaughtered when they were six months old so scientists could analyze their bodies. They seemed perfectly healthy and normal, Zhao says. At least one male even mated, producing healthy offspring, he says.

#### Reference

Zheng, Qiantao et al. "Reconstitution Ofucp1using CRISPR/Cas9 In The White Adipose Tissue Of Pigs Decreases Fat Deposition And Improves Thermogenic Capacity." Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (2017): 201707853. Web.

## **9.7: The One Health Approach and Sustainable Development Goals in Africa: *Resolutions/Recommendations of the 2-day International Conference.***

Based on their observations, participants at the One Health Approach and Sustainable Development Goals in Africa Conference (An International Decade of People of Africa Descent, 2015 – 2024 Event) resolved as follows:

1. There is the need for the creation of a community of practice as a way of promoting One Health through knowledge sharing, knowledge transfer among professionals
2. Educational curriculum should be revised to enhance the teaching of One Health Approach in schools in Africa.
3. That keeping children in school will eradicate child labour.
4. Women's rights should be promoted and protected by African governments, especially in conflict zones.
5. African governments should create clean-air laws that restrict air pollution in the environment.
6. African governments should take affirmative actions towards climate change
7. That indigenous medicine options be made available in public healthcare centres.
8. African indigenous knowledge, belief system and culture must be accorded due respect by governments and people in all ramifications.
9. An all-inclusive approach embracing the involvement of all stakeholders is required to eradicate the menace of drug abuse on youth in Africa.

Adeyemi J. Ademowo, PhD (Ibadan)

*Chairman, Local Organizing Committee*

## **9.8: New Book by an eminent Veterinarian:**

**Healthy Living** by Prof. Dr. Gyan Chand Jain

LAP Lambert Academic Publishing (2017-06-09)

**Book Details:**

ISBN-13: 978-3-330-08467-4

ISBN-10: 3330084677

EAN: 9783330084674

Book language: English

By (author) : Gyan Jain

Number of pages: 588

Published on: 2017-06-09

Category: Integrative medicine

### **About the Book**

The purpose of this book is to introduce some of the basic practices and guidelines of healthy living. It has incorporated all such characters which are

essential to achieve good health by keeping a balance between positive and negative thinks based on the principles of biological, physiological and mechanical tests of the body chemistry and metabolic changes. One thing that can be done to lead a healthier life style is to change the way you eat. Exercising, yoga and meditation may also keep the body youthful and in good shape. Physical and yoga exercise strengthen and make bones, muscle tissue, and joints strong and elastic. A wholesome diet and lifestyle can help a person live a long healthy life. Portioning your food correctly can do wonders. Application of Biotechnology takes us to understand the various areas of pure biological sciences including animal cell culture, biochemistry, embryology, genetics, microbiology, and molecular biology. However, the information given may provide with some basic guidelines for developing your own healthy living plan.

This book in fact can serve guide lines (Health Bible) for persons practicing holistic medicine

#### **Brief Resume of the Author**

Yogacharya Prof. Dr. G.C.Jain born in 1936, is a graduate, post graduate in veterinary science ( gold medalist in both), Ph.D. (physiology), ARS (Agriculture Research Service of ICAR-INDIA), Fellow of Indian Society for the study of Animal Reproduction(ISSAR) and Principal Scientist ( ICAR-Rtd.) Dr. Jain is credited with publication of 280 papers in Medico -Veterinary & allied Journals, Seven Books along with more than 50 technical papers in the Yog Saurabh a monthly journal of Rajasthan Swasthya Yog Parishad and with 55 years experience of research and teaching. He has a great aptitude for Yoga science and credited with National and International awards with a participation in 110 National and International Conferences. His work on Endocrinology, Biotechnology, Health, Yoga, and Nutrition is internationally recognized. His recent book on "Healthy Living" is a unique publication of 2017 by Lambert Academic Publishing, a publication House in Germany and is marketed throughout the world by leading publishers and "on net" also. The book is useful for everybody including practicing clinicians interested in nutrition, yoga and practice of healthy life.

## 10. FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Calendar of Conferences, Conventions and Symposia in India and abroad

Get your event listed in this section by mailing complete details to the Editor: [rnkohli@gmail.com](mailto:rnkohli@gmail.com)

10.1: XXXI Annual Conference of IAVMI & National Symposium on 'Innovations in Animal Health- Current Challenges and Future Prospective', **January 29-31, 2018** at Sri Venkateswara Veterinary University, **Tirupati - 517 502, AP**. Organized by: Indian Association of Veterinary Microbiology, Immunology and Specialists in Infectious Diseases (IAVMI). Contact for details: Dr. Ashok K. Tiwari; Email: [<aktiwari71d@gmail.com>](mailto:aktiwari71d@gmail.com), or Dr. Bollini Sreedevi, Organizing Secretary, [<iavmi2018tirupati@gmail.com>](mailto:iavmi2018tirupati@gmail.com)

10.2: 46<sup>th</sup> Dairy Industry Conference, **Feb. 8<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup> at Kochi, Kerala**. Venue: Adlux International Convention and Exhibition centre. For further details visit: [www.46dic.com](http://www.46dic.com); Email: [info@46dic.com](mailto:info@46dic.com)

10.3: 18th Indian Veterinary Congress (IAAVR), **23-24 Feb 2018, Tirupati, A.P.** Venue: Srivenkateswara Veterinary University. Contact: Dr. Rishendra Verma, Secretary, IAAVR; +91-9359117376(M), +91-581-2586453(R)

10.4: World Veterinary Association Congress 2018 - Barcelona, Spain 5-8 May 2018; Check out this great video inviting you to Barcelona for the 34th World Veterinary Association Congress 2018; <https://youtu.be/99Q1Spd05eg>

10.5: Global Experts Meeting on Infectious Diseases, **August 13-14, 2018, Tokyo, Japan**. Meeting International has announced Global Experts Meeting on Infectious Diseases, to be held during August 13-14, 2018 Tokyo, Japan, to share and explore their research findings as keynote presentations, Oral talks, Poster Presentations, Workshops, and Exhibitions. Details: MeetingInternational



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