

NATIONAL ACADEMY OF VETERINARY SCIENCES
(INDIA)

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



NAVS NEWSLETTER

NEW DELHI

FOR PRIVATE CIRCULATION ONLY

May, 2011

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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".

Editor's note

NAVS commenced the publication of a printed Newsletter on 1st September 2004 but the publication was discontinued after the issue dated 28th December 2007. Due to various problems, including financial constraints, the Academy did not bring out any publication during 2008 and 2009 calendar years.

On 6th July 2009 the Academy nominated me as Editor. An alphabetical Directory of the Academy was printed and published in early 2010 and copies were sent by post to the Fellows and Members of the Academy resident in India and also to various institutions. An electronic version was emailed to the Fellows resident abroad. This was followed by the publication of electronic versions of three Information Bulletins in the same year. These were emailed to the Fellows and Members resident in India and abroad.

In accordance with the decision taken by the new Governing Council in its meeting held on 17th February 2011, the publication of NAVS Newsletter has been recommenced with this issue, but for the time being it is being published only in electronic form. It will be sent by email to individual Fellows and Members of the Academy and to other institutions. It will also be posted shortly on the Academy's website: www.navsindia.org

Your comments and suggestions for improvement and items for inclusion in the next issue of the Newsletter may be sent to the Editor preferably by email or by post at the address given below:

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From President's desk



We are living in an era of knowledge where knowledge is power as well as foundation of well being and economy when transformed into skills and technologies. For generation of new knowledge and acquiring the existing knowledge, we need to strengthen both research and education, respectively in our Universities and Research institutions. In fact, teaching and research are complimentary to each other. While good research enriches the quality of teaching, quality teaching enhances the standard of research. Hence, there is need for marriage between universities and research institutions. This can be achieved by having effective and efficient inbuilt mechanism for exchange of the faculty, research students and scientists between the universities and research laboratories. This will ensure the access to better research facilities of the research institutions to the post graduate scholars working in the universities. The scientists from research laboratories may also be involved in PG teaching and guiding the research of PG students as co-guide or

major guide by their accreditation as a Faculty of the University for this purpose.

If we do not improve the research facilities and working environment in the universities, the talented and meritorious faculty is likely to move to the research institutions for better facilities and/or perks/avenues. It will further reduce the already inadequate faculty strength in the universities, thus indirectly affecting the teaching as well research quality. Though about a dozen of Veterinary, Animal Sciences and Fishery Universities have been established in India, only few of these have performed satisfactorily while others are yet to take off in want of adequate funding and logistic support system. Thus, there is a need to strengthen the existing Veterinary, Animal Sciences and Fishery Universities in terms of infrastructure, equipment and adequate funding for quality research and teaching. These Universities, particularly the Veterinary Universities face the major challenge of retaining the meritorious students in teaching/research, by instituting suitable schemes such as provision of post-doctoral Fellowship, Junior and Senior Resident-ship to the topper PG students would be useful to attract and retain sharp brains in the Universities/DUs.

For learning and skill development, more emphasis is required on hands on training in the universities. There is also a necessity to reorient the education so as to produce entrepreneurs who are not job seekers but rather job providers. We need entrepreneurs to set up as well as manage livestock based enterprises namely goatry, piggery, poultry, dairy plant, meat plant, dairy farm, sheep farm and vaccine production units. To accomplish this objective, TANVASU, Chennai has initiated one year duration PG Diploma courses in relevant disciplines to the B.V.Sc/B.V.Sc & AH degree holders. For facing the challenges of WTO, liberalization and globalization, the curricula in Veterinary and Animal Science education should give emphasis on Biosecurity, Biosafety, Risk assessment and management, SPS measures, GAP, GLP, GMP, HACCP, IPR, Biodiversity conservation, Food processing and hygiene, organic farming, climate

change adaptation and mitigation. Veterinary profession in India is facing several challenges which require joint efforts by all the veterinarians through the recognized professional bodies, namely VCI, State Veterinary Councils, IVA and NAVS. Besides service matters and NPA, pay scales, other immediate concerns include to have a SWOT analysis of the animal husbandry, dairy and livestock sectors; documentation of past achievements and history of the profession, assessment of manpower requirement and strategy and planning for generating adequate human resources, drawing future road map for the development of livestock, dairying, poultry and fishery sectors with the ultimate objective of providing food, nutritional and livelihood security to our growing population.

M. P. Yadav

May 5, 2011

Obituary

The National Academy of Veterinary Sciences (India) has learned with grief the recent demise of the following distinguished Fellows of the Academy. It offers sincere heartfelt condolences to the members of their families and prays god to let the departed souls rest in peace:

Dr. V.D. Padmanabhan, the former Registrar of TANUVAS (1993 to 1998) and the former Editor of the Indian Veterinary Journal (1996 to 2004), passed away on 16th September, 2010 in Washington DC, USA. He was born on 1st November, 1940 and obtained his PhD. from IVRI in 1976. He became Professor of Microbiology in 1988 and made significant contributions in the field of Immunology. He was elected Fellow of the Academy in 1996.

Dr. G.P. Sen, the Founder President of the Indian Association of Veterinary Public Health who passed away on 29th November, 2010. He made outstanding professional contributions to Veterinary Science in general and veterinary public Health in particular. He made notable research on Brucellosis and in the development of vaccine against H.S.

Dr. V. Venktakrishnan, made significant contributions in the area of Animal Nutrition and was elected Fellow of the Academy in 2004-05. He left us for his heavenly abode in 2010 and will always be remembered for his dedicated services to the profession.

A request

A list of all the deceased fellows / members of the Academy was included in the NAVS directory published in the first quarter of 2010. Kindly help us in updating that list by regularly forwarding the relevant information from different regions of the country to the Secretary and the Editor.

NAVS IN THE NEWS

➤ NAVS President Prof. Dr. M. P. Yadav Wins Two Awards

The Indian Society for Advancement of Canine Practice conferred its prestigious Life Time Achievement Award to Prof. Dr. M. P. Yadav for his distinguished contribution to Canine Practice in particular and Veterinary Science in general. The Award was given during the 8th Annual Convention of ISACP and National Symposium on "Prevention and Management of Companion Animal Diseases vis-a-vis Human health", held at Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences & Technology-Jammu on 2nd February, 2011 during the Inaugural Session by his Excellency, Honorable Governor of Jammu & Kashmir Shri N. N. Vora.

The Indian Association of Veterinary Microbiologists, Immunologists and Specialists in Infectious Diseases (IAVMI) has conferred its prestigious Dr. P.G.Pandey Oration Award Lecture for the year 2009-10 on Prof. (Dr.) M.P.Yadav, for his outstanding contributions in the field of Veterinary Microbiology and Animal Health. The Award was given on 27th January, 2010 at Indira Gandhi Krishi Vishwavidyalaya, Raipur (Chhattisgarh) during the International Conference on "Protecting Animal Health Facilitating Trade in Livestock and Livestock Products". Dr. Yadav delivered the Award lecture on "Synergism of Conventional and Molecular Diagnostic Assays". He deliberated on evaluation of diagnostic techniques from conventional AGPT to biosensors, nano-technology and signal amplification related diagnosis. He also narrated about as how the synergism could be achieved between conventional and molecular diagnostic assays for specific and sensitive unequivocal diagnosis and emphasized the need of more than one test to be used for the diagnosis of animal diseases. The Oration Award has been instituted by IAVMI in the memory of late Dr. P.G.Pandey who did pioneering work on livestock diseases, namely Amphistomiasis, Hump Sore, fluorine toxicity, besides his valuable contributions for laying the foundation of higher standard for Veterinary Education and Research in India in his capacity as Research Officer, Director of IVRI and Principal, Veterinary College Mathura.

Dr.M.P.Yadav was born in Surkhuroo, Bulandshahar, India on 2 June 1945. He studied at Veterinary College, Mathura, 1963-68 and Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Izatnagar, 1969-72 to obtain his B.V.Sc & AH in 1966; M.V.Sc. in 1968; and Ph.D. in 1973. He was Professor Virology, 1981-82, and Prof. & Head, Division of Virology, 1982-87, Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Mukteswar; Principal Scientist & In-charge Animal Health Unit/Infectious Diseases Unit, 1987-93, and Director, 1993-2000, National Research Centre on Equines, Hisar; Director, Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Izatnagar, 2000-06; Vice-Chancellor, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel University of Agriculture & Technology, Meerut, 2006-09. He was elected as the President of NAVS in October 2010.

Apart from the recent awards, Dr. Yadav has earlier received several awards and honors including the coveted OIE International Meritorious Award, World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) Award, Dr. P.Bhattacharya Memorial Award of NAAS, Dr. C.M.Singh Samman and Vigyan Gaurav Award, during the course of his career. **Email:** yadav_mp@hotmail.com

➤ **The new governing council holds its first meeting**

The first meeting of the new Governing Council of NAVS (2010-13) was held under the Chairmanship of Prof. (Dr.). M.P. Yadav on 17th February 2011 at Indian Dairy Association House, Sector IV, R.K. Puram, New Delhi. It deliberated on many issues of concern to the profession.

➤ **Dr. S. Abdul Rahman Elected as President, Commonwealth Veterinary Association**



Dr. S. Abdul Rahman, a distinguished Fellow of NAVS and former Director of Instructions (Veterinary) University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore, and Secretary of the Commonwealth Veterinary Association (CVA) was unanimously elected as the President of Commonwealth Veterinary Association at the meeting of the Executive Committee of CVA comprising of Australia, Fiji, United Kingdom, South Africa, Canada and Nigeria, held at Accra, Ghana on 20th March, 2011.

Dr. Rahman is the first Indian and first from Asia to occupy this position. The CVA was formed in 1967 and has a membership of 54 Commonwealth countries of the world. Dr. Rahman heads this organization.

Dr. S. Abdul Rahman graduated with a bachelor's degree in Veterinary Science from Mysore Veterinary College, Bangalore in 1965 and a Masters from University of Madras in 1969 and PhD in Veterinary Parasitology from University of Queensland, Australia in 1976. He was awarded the Fellowship of the Royal Veterinary College, Spain in 1990. Dr Rahman has published more than 100 scientific papers and has authored a book on Veterinary Parasitology. His current interests include Veterinary Public Health especially involving Zoonoses to include control programmes for Rabies, Hydatidosis, Cysticercosis and Epidemiology and Control of Emerging Diseases, and Animal Welfare.

Dr. Rahman served as President of Karnataka Veterinary Association, and as Secretary and Vice President of Indian Veterinary Association for 16 years and also served as the Council Member of India to the Commonwealth Veterinary Association and Permanent Member representing India at the World Veterinary Association and Federation of Association of Veterinarians of Asia. He has participated and presented papers and chaired sessions at numerous national and international conferences on various topics ranging from Veterinary Parasitology, Veterinary Education, Control of Rabies and Animal Welfare all over the world. He is a member of the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) Working Group on Animal Welfare, and was the Chairman and a Member of OIE Ad hoc Group on

Stray Dog Control The Ad hoc group was responsible for the OIE guidelines on Dog population management He is the Executive Director of the Alliance for Rabies Control (ARC), UK.

➤ **Life Time Achievement Award for Prof. Dr. D. N. Garg**



Prof. Dr. D.N.Garg, a 1999 Fellow and Member of the Governing Council of the Academy since 2007, has been awarded the Life Time Achievement Award for the year 2010-11 by the Indian Association of Veterinary Public Health Specialists (IAVPHS) in recognition of his life long contributions to the subject of veterinary public health. The award was presented to him at the inauguration function of the 9th Annual Conference of IAVPHS held at Bombay Veterinary College, Mumbai, on 28th-29th January, 2011. Dr Garg's main contributions were in teaching and research areas of public health microbiology, rare zoonotic infections and their epidemiology as well as bovine reproductive mycoplasmal infections.

Prof. Dr. D. N. Garg was born in Dehradun (Uttarakhand) on 01.01.1945 and was educated at College of Veterinary and Animal Science, GB Pant Univ. Agri. & Technology, Pant Nagar, (Uttarakhand) for BVSc & AH (1964) and M.V.Sc (1966) and at CCS HAU, Hisar, for his PhD (1970). He was a Professor in the Department of Veterinary Public Health, CCS Haryana Agricultural University (HAU), Hisar, from 2001-2004; Dean, COVSc, HAU, Hisar, from 1999-2001; and Addl. Director of Research, HAU, Hisar, from 1998-1999. His Research areas included Veterinary Public Health & Epidemiology/ Veterinary Microbiology with super speciality in Mycoplasmology. E-mail ID: dng2660@yahoo.in

Our heartiest congratulations and best wishes to Prof. Dr. Garg.

➤ **Prof. Dr. K. Pradhan joins as Chancellor in Orrisa**

Prof. Dr. K. Pradhan, a distinguished and well known Fellow of our Academy, has joined as Chancellor of Shiksha O Anusandhan University, Bhubneswar on 1st January, 2011. Prof. Pradhan is a distinguished Veterinary Academician with an experience of over 40 years as Professor, Dean, Director, and Vice-Chancellor. He is well known for his contributions in nutrition and biochemistry. Before working as Secretary of the National Academy of Agricultural Sciences up to 2002, he served as Vice Chancellor of Rajasthan Agricultural University, Bikaner and Orissa University of Agriculture and Technology, Bhubneswar.

We congratulate Prof. Pradhan and wish him health and happiness.

➤ Lt. General Narayan Mohanty - The New VCI President



The Veterinary Council of India has been reconstituted after its recent elections and we are pleased that **Lt. Gen. Narayan Mohanty, an eminent veterinarian who was elected Fellow of National Academy of Veterinary Sciences in 2005, has taken over as its president.**

In 2007, the Government of India took a historic decision to create the post of Director General Remount Veterinary Services (DG RVS) in the rank of a Lt. General and Lt. Gen. Narayan Mohanty, PVSM, AVSM, VSM (Retd.) was the first to occupy the position of Director General of Remount Veterinary Corps (RVC) in the Indian Army. (At his retirement in July, 2008, after a very successful stint, Lt. Gen. Jai Krishan Srivastava took over as the second Director General of RVS on 24th February 2009).

Lt. Gen. Mohanty was selected as Commissioned Officer in the Army on 21st September, 1970. A graduate in Veterinary Science from Orissa Veterinary College, Bhubaneswar under Orissa University of Agriculture and Technology, Bhubaneswar, he has obtained postgraduate degree in Veterinary Surgery from the same University. He also holds a National Diploma in Equine Husbandry Medicine & Surgery from Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Izatnagar. Lt. Gen. Mohanty had a distinguished and extraordinary career of over 38 years in the Army. He was instrumental in raising the Remount Veterinary Corps (RVS) to heights comparable to best in the world. During his career in the Army he has held a panorama of prestigious assignments, one of the most significant of which was his tenure in Rashtrapati Bhawan where he had the unique privilege of serving with two Hon'ble Presidents of India. He has the distinction of commanding Remount Depot., Hempur & Equine Breeding Stud, Babugarh. He has also held the assignment of Director, RVS, Eastern Army for 3 years. Under his dynamic stewardship, the prestigious scientific project of carrying out Embryo Transfer Technology (ETT) in Horses fructified and led to the production of the first ETT foal named as 'GAURAV' at the Army Equine Breeding Stud, Babugarh.

Lt. Gen. N. Mohanty also held a number of assignments in Equestrian Federation of India and was the Vice-President of EFI. He had the rare privilege of participating in 1982 Asian Games as International Judge and participated at Doha Asian Games as Coach-cum-Manager by Indian Contingent. The General Officer successfully augmented the security arrangement of the Military World Games at Hyderabad. He was the Head of the prestigious Defense Service Officers Institute (DSOI) of three services Army, Navy and Air force as Vice-President (Adm.) for 4 years. He has made conscious efforts to analyze the latest developments in the scientific world and military operations, and visited a large number of international institutions around the world with the sole objective of fabricating collaboration between them and the Indian Army. In the Defence Circle, Lt. Gen. Mohanty has been considered as one of the most outstanding military leaders. As an astute orator, the General has the rare distinction of having been invited by renowned Universities, noted Academic Institutions, various Government and other organizations, social and corporate forums,

scientific gatherings as Chief Guest or Guest of Honour to grace & address. His addresses in diversified fields have been extremely thought provoking, motivating and well received.

Lt. Gen. N. Mohanty has been decorated with Param Vishisht Seva Medal (PVSM) by Hon'ble President of India in 2009; Ati Vishisht Seva Medal (AVSM) by Hon'ble President of India in 2005 and Vishisht Seva Medal (VSM) by Hon'ble President of India in 2003. He was specially felicitated by Hon'ble Chief Minister of Orissa for the contribution made in equestrian sports and scientific temper in equine breeding in the country. Government of Odisha also awarded him the "SHRIKHETRA SABARI SAMMAN" (2008) for outstanding contributions made in the field of Science and Technology, field of War and field of Equestrian Sports in the country, and "PRIDE OF INDIA" for being an outstanding military leader in the country. He has similarly been specially been felicitated also by Orissa University of Agriculture and Technology, Bhubaneswar; Assam Agricultural University; Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Bareilly and Sher-E-Kashmir University, Jammu, for his outstanding contributions in the field of Veterinary Sciences and military.

➤ **Prof. (Dr.) Arvind Kumar Srivastava felicitated**

The Publisher, News Letter, ISACP, Lucknow, India has sent the following information about Prof. (Dr.) Arvind Kumar Srivastava, a Fellow and member of the Governing Council of the Academy. The Academy congratulates Dr. Srivastava for the achievement.

"Indian Society for Advancement of Canine Practice, informs all of you with a great pleasure that our Secretary General, Prof. (Dr.) Arvind Kumar Srivastava has been felicitated by I.B.C., Cambridge, England (U.K.) as the "**Leading Scientists of World – 2011**". The ISACP is proud of him and congratulate him for his this Great Achievement. He has put high our flag not only as a Veterinarian but also as a Great Indian Personality".

➤ **Presentations and Recommendations of National Convention on Zoonotic Diseases held at N.D.R.I. Karnal, on October 30, 2010:**

Along with the NAVS Convocation, a National Convention on Zoonotic Diseases was held at N.D.R.I. Karnal, on October 29 & 30, 2010. Following is a gist of the recommendations of the Convention, received from NDRI:

Session-I : The first technical was chaired by Dr. M.L. Madan and co-chaired by Dr. Lal Krishna. Dr. R.K. Singh acted as rapporteur for the session. Five lectures were presented during this session.

- Prof. (Dr.) M. P. Yadav emphasized on "Bacterial zoonotic diseases and their importance in health and food science" and conveyed that action should be initiated at individual disease level. He elaborated on the use of rapid pathogen detection in any disease and also in food processing industry which could help in quality assurance of the product and ensure the safety of consumers.
- Dr. H. K. Pradhan gave a detailed overview on the "Importance of highly pathogenic avian influenza (H5N1)" and emphasized on various mode of virus transmission, diagnosis, control strategies like culling, vaccination or a combination of both, drug resistance with virus.

- Dr. G. Saikumar presented his work on “Zoonotic swine influenza among Indian pigs” and described about importance of swine influenza in Indian context. He discussed on the outbreak of Swine influenza in Pigs of Uttar Pradesh with molecular characterization of virus isolate. He emphasized on rigorous surveillance of swine flu.
- Dr. R. K. Singh emphasized on “Cross-species transmission of influenza A viruses and zoonosis with a focus on equine influenza (H3N8) virus”. He discussed on the ecology of virus which is the major challenge. He described about the characterization of Indian isolate of equine influenza virus and showed the preparedness of National Research Centre on Equines on the development of new generation diagnostics and vaccine to combat the deadly infection in equine husbandry.
- Dr. B. Pattnaik gave a detailed overview on the “HACCP method for management of infectious and contagious zoonotic diseases”. He emphasized on the identification of critical control points in view of the control of infectious diseases and also emphasized for constitution of an institute for Veterinary Epidemiology and Disaster Management

Recommendations

1. Need for a National center of excellence/ institute for Veterinary Epidemiology and Disaster Management.
2. Establishment of HACCP for all infectious and contagious diseases.
3. Integration of Public Health Services.
4. Development of system for monitoring after vaccination.

Capacity building:

1. Lab infrastructure i). Wet Labs and ii). Dry Labs.
2. Trained human resources.
3. Lab networking.
4. Multi-disciplinary teams.
5. Bio-safety/ Bio-security.

Session-II: The second technical session was chaired by Dr. M. P. Yadav, with Dr. B. Pattanaik as co-chairman and Dr. Sai Kumar as rapporteur. This session had five presentations.

- Dr. P. D. Juyol, discussed about “*Emerging and Reemerging Food Borne Parasitic Zoonoses in India*”. He suggested that use of molecular epidemiological investigation along with capacity building, health education; controlled slaughtering can be useful to control zoonoses in India.
- Prof. (Dr.) P. P. Gupta, discussed “*Diagnosis of Zoonotic Mycotic Diseases in Animals and Human*”. He emphasized the complication of mycotic diseases in AIDS and usage of immune-suppressive drugs. He also stated that no pathognomonic lesions and inadequate diagnostic facilities could further complicate its diagnosis & prevention.
- Dr. Gaya Prasad, discussed “*Future Strategies to Prevent and Control Zoonotic Disease*”. Speaker discussed about factors which are responsible for emerging & re-

emerging diseases and their economic impacts in various countries. He stated the importance of vigilance at grass-root levels.

- Dr. Manish Kakkar, discussed “Road map to Combat Zoonoses in India (RCZI) Initiative: Building a Case for Inter-sectoral Collaboration”. He stated India as hot spot of emerging and re-emerging diseases with evidence of recent data and achievement of their five year programme as road map to control zoonoses
- Dr. Manish Kakkar discussed “*WHO initiatives to deal with emerging zoonoses*”. He discussed various initiatives which have been taken for tackling emerging zoonoses by WHO like GPHIN & GOARN etc.

Recommendations

1. Effective surveillance and monitoring with sensitive tools
2. Establishment of epidemiology and disaster management institute
3. Awareness
4. Collaborative research work between veterinary, medical institutes/laboratories and all stake holders

Proceedings of Brainstorming & Wrap up Session

Chairman: Dr A Ahmed, Ex DDG, Education

Co Chairman: Dr HK Pradhan, National Consultant (AI), WHO Country Office for India

Rapporteur: Dr Manish Kakkar, Public Health Specialist, Public Health Foundation of India, New Delhi

Panelists: Dr D. N Garg, Ex Dean, COVS, HAU, Hissar; Dr JL Vegad, Ex Dean, COVS, JNKVV, Jabalpur; Dr Lal Krishna, Ex ADG (AH), ICAR; Dr PN Khanna; and Dr Gaya Prasad, ADH(AH),ICAR.

Recommendations:

Recommendations should be followed by action and thus prioritization is needed both within and between sectors to advance zoonoses prevention and control. These include arriving at a common list of zoonoses and corresponding interventions for their effective control between human and animal health sectors that could be targeted on a priority basis (HK Pradhan)

All sectors should converge and identify common goals for mutual benefit and effective action. (ML Madan)

ACTION: Identify list of priority zoonoses and list the intervention, identify agencies for implementation of these interventions and assign roles and responsibilities.

Identify and create mechanisms for greater and more frequent interaction between stakeholders in different sectors related to zoonoses prevention and control (Gaya Prasad)

ACTION: Map all the mechanisms and platforms available and working on zoonoses prevention and control; disseminate the information as far wide as possible

Political will is necessary for success of any initiative. The initiative could thus take the form of a national mission on zoonotic disease control. The initial push could come from the good offices of ICAR and NAVS. (MP Yadav & ML Madan)

ACTION: As an initial effort, a base paper may be developed from this consultation advocating for the above and larger collaboration between sectors. This will also serve as a sign of commitment from the veterinary sciences sector. In addition to governmental agencies and departments, this policy paper should be shared with inter governmental

agencies, NGOs, international organizations and private sector as well for more inclusive movement.

In prudent public health decision making, structure should follow function; function should not follow structure. Since the problem at hand i.e. prevention and control of zoonoses that have multi factorial determinants, there needs to be flexibility in the type of approach that could allow greater inter sectoral collaboration and coordination. Several mechanisms are possible and the success could be very context specific. All these possibilities be explored before preparing for a large scale initiative. (Manish Kakkar)

Epidemiological investigation is central and critical to zoonotic disease prevention and control. Both veterinarian and para veterinarian support is inadequate in peripheries where they are needed the most. Veterinary epidemiology capacity is lacking in India. An important reason is the lack of expertise within veterinary academic institutions as well as diminishing emphasis on the discipline in these institutions. Hence, veterinary epidemiology function should be strengthened in both curricular and research initiatives. (RK Singh, Manish Kakkar and A Ahmed).

At the same time, veterinary epidemiology should move hand in hand with biological sciences without which it is an incomplete function. Moreover, there is a need to develop the concept and cadre of field veterinarians who should then be teaching and mentoring others. Veterinary college faculty may not be most appropriate resource to take up this function unless they can be groomed in to take up this role. (ML Madan)

ACTION: Advocate for increased uptake of undergraduates in veterinary and para-veterinary training institutions. Popularize the discipline of veterinary epidemiology and veterinary public health. Greater collaboration is needed with medical institutions to provide holistic training for zoonoses prevention and control.

Quality of veterinary epidemiological surveillance and disease reporting systems has declined over years and there is a need to strengthen this function to make use of the networks for early warning and control of disease events in animals. Some of the 'out-of-the-box' solutions that have been tried include involvement of farmers community through use of telephone hotlines e.g. in Punjan by GADVASU and Maharashtra. (A Ahmed, Madan). At the same time, reporting of disease events in animals must be encouraged; officials should not be castigated for such acts (MP Yadav).

For effective prevention and control of zoonotic diseases, greater private sector and NGO involvement is critical. (Gaya Prasad).

ACTION: The leadership for these reforms should come from departments of Animal Husbandry at central and state levels. Clear roles could be identified for research organizations and academic institutions that could then support these initiatives.

While lot needs to be done and the public health community is struggling to find a feasible model to operationalize 'One Health' concept, several models are available which could be studied and potentially scaled up, at least in part or in combination with other existing initiatives, for effective zoonoses prevention and control. These best practices should thus be well documented and disseminated as far wide as possible amongst the stakeholder. (Manish Kakkar).

Often planning and preparedness strategies result in duplication of efforts due to lack of information on existing infrastructure and expertise in the country in different sectors. Similar hampering effect is seen on response capacity especially in peripheries. Mapping of

resources on zoonotic disease prevention and control in the country is thus needed urgently. (HK Pradhan and Manish Kakkar)

ACTION: Document best practices on zoonoses prevention and control in India and map the technical resources (training, research and implementation) available in the country.

NATIONAL AND International news

➤ **250th foundation day of the veterinary profession**

Modern Veterinary Medicine originated in France. In 1664 a veterinarian named **Solleysel** published the first complete veterinary classic of this period which marked the decline of the ferrier's control of veterinary medicine. The second dominating French veterinarian **Bourgelat** (1712 - 1779) shifted from the practice of law to equine husbandry. He worked on glanders and succeeded in eradicating it from the French army. He was then requested to establish what was to become the world's first Veterinary School at Lyon in France which was opened in January, 1761. It marked the beginning of modern veterinary science.

The World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) has proposed that the Year 2011 be celebrated as **WORLD VETERINARY YEAR** since 2011 will mark the 250th anniversary of the Veterinary Profession since the first veterinary school was founded in LYON in the year 1761. We are celebrating the 250th foundation day of the profession this year.

The Indian Veterinary Association launched the celebrations on 24th of January 2011 from ANAND, Gujarat in collaboration of Gujarat Veterinary Association. On the same day the celebrations were launched the world over.

The Animal Welfare Society Doctor's Forum, Gurgaon (Haryana); **National Academy of Veterinary Sciences, India**

(NAVSI), New Delhi and CGS Pet Hospital, DLF-III Gurgaon (Haryana) jointly celebrated the 250th foundation day of the veterinary profession in CGS Hospital Complex on 24th January 2011. Prof. (Dr.) M.P. Yadav, President NAVS was the Chief Guest on this occasion. Fifty two doctors from the NCR participated in the celebration. Dr. I.S. Yadav, a graduate of 1948 and Dr. S.P.Singal, a graduate of 1954, were honored at this occasion with a shawl and a citation for their services to the profession.

➤ **World Veterinary Day to focus on rabies prevention**

World Veterinary Day 2011, April 30, will raise awareness of veterinarians' role in rabies prevention and control.

The World Veterinary Association (WVA) initiated World Veterinary Day in 2000 as an annual celebration of the veterinary profession, falling on the last Saturday of April. The WVA, World Organization for Animal Health (OIE), and Global Alliance for Rabies Control have partnered to promote this year's theme of rabies prevention.



According to the GARC, rabies causes at least 55,000 human deaths annually in Africa and Asia. Almost all human cases of rabies result from bites by rabid dogs.

"Prevention at the animal source is the key strategy in dealing with rabies, and veterinarians are therefore crucial to its control," according to the GARC. "Today only 10 percent of the financial resources used to treat people after a dog bite would suffice to fund national veterinary services of the world to eradicate rabies in animals and stop virtually all human cases."

The WVA and OIE will again offer the World Veterinary Day Award for the most successful celebration of the occasion by a national veterinary association working alone or in cooperation with other veterinary groups.

In 2010, Vets Care Organization Pakistan won the \$1,000 award for marking World Veterinary Day with a two-day free clinic at the University of Veterinary & Animal Sciences Lahore.

The 2011 World Veterinary Day Award will recognize the national veterinary association that best promotes the rabies theme by involving stakeholders in World Veterinary Day. The deadline for national associations to apply for the award is May 1. Information about World Veterinary Day and the World

Veterinary Day Award is available at www.worldvet.org

The World Veterinary Day was celebrated this year all over the world, including India, on 30th April, 2011. The functions highlighted the contributions made by the Veterinarians in the welfare of humanity through dedicated service to the livestock, poultry and other animals, as well as to the public health and several other areas. Prof. Dr. M.P. Yadav, President NAVS, was the Chief Guest at one such programme held at NDRI, Karnal.

➤ NEW PRIVATE VETERINARY COLLEGES IN INDIA

The establishment of the Apollo College of Veterinary Medicine, in Jaipur, Rajasthan, in 2003 heralded the beginning of a new era of privatization of veterinary education in the country. Subsequently, more private veterinary colleges have been established in Rajasthan at Chomu, Sikar, Bharatpur and Jodhpur and several more seem to be in the developmental pipeline. Some private veterinary colleges are also coming up in other states e.g. U.P., M.P. and Punjab.

Recently, the State Government of Uttarakhand has also given a 'No Objection Certificate' for starting a New College of Veterinary Medicine to be established at Dehradun during the coming academic year (2011-12). The College will impart instruction as per the requirements and guidelines prescribed of the Veterinary Council of India and would lead to the award of B.V.Sc.&A.H degree by Uttarakhand Technical University, Dehradun, to which the College will be affiliated. The name of the college will be "Doon College of Veterinary Medicine" (DCVM) and it will be a privately funded institution established by a trust. The trust

plans to establish an Indian Institute of Health Sciences which will include the faculties of Veterinary Medicine, Human Medicine, Dentistry, Nursing, Physiotherapy

and Business Administration etc. DCVM will be developed under the first phase of the plan.

STOP PRESS

THE ACADEMY HAS REGISTERED ITS WEBSITE AND THE SAME IS NOW OPERATIONAL. ALL THE DATA OF THE ACADEMY IS GRADUALLY BEING POSTED ON THE WEBSITE.

KINDLY VISIT US AT

www.navsindia.org

Compiled & edited by Prof. Dr. R.N. Kohli (rnkohli@gmail.com) and circulated for and on behalf of the National Academy of Veterinary Sciences (India). **For private circulation only.**



NATIONAL ACADEMY OF VETERINARY SCIENCES (INDIA)

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

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5 March 2011

Dear Fellow,

New Governing Council of NAVS has come into existence with your candid support. In the first meeting of the Governing Council, there had been several thoughts to uplift the activity of NAVS including the necessity of having own office of NAVS for the prosperity for the Members and Fellows in times to come.

The Governing Council floated the idea that NAVS Fellows need to configure to contribute generously if the Academy has to reach its level of functioning with other Academies of various sciences. It could be possible if there is sound financial availability. The members present in the Governing Council donated from Rs 5000 to 1 lakh each in the first meeting.

I, on behalf of new Governing Council, propose that all the Fellows contribute generously so that Veterinary profession's academic activities are enhanced and are on par with other academies of various sciences.

I am looking forward for your support as a Fellow and would request to suggest other means for collating finance from other agencies/corporate offices or organizations which is necessary for the upliftment of the Academy. The members who wish to support may commit to the Secretary NAVS, Prof. Gaya Prasad, ADG (AH), ICAR, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi-110114 (email: gprasad1986@gmail.com; telephone: 011-23386668; cell: 09582898968).

With greetings.

Yours Sincerely,


(Prof. M.P. Yadav)

Correspondence Address: Dr Gaya Prasad, Secretary (NAVS-India), Assistant Director General (Animal Health)

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