



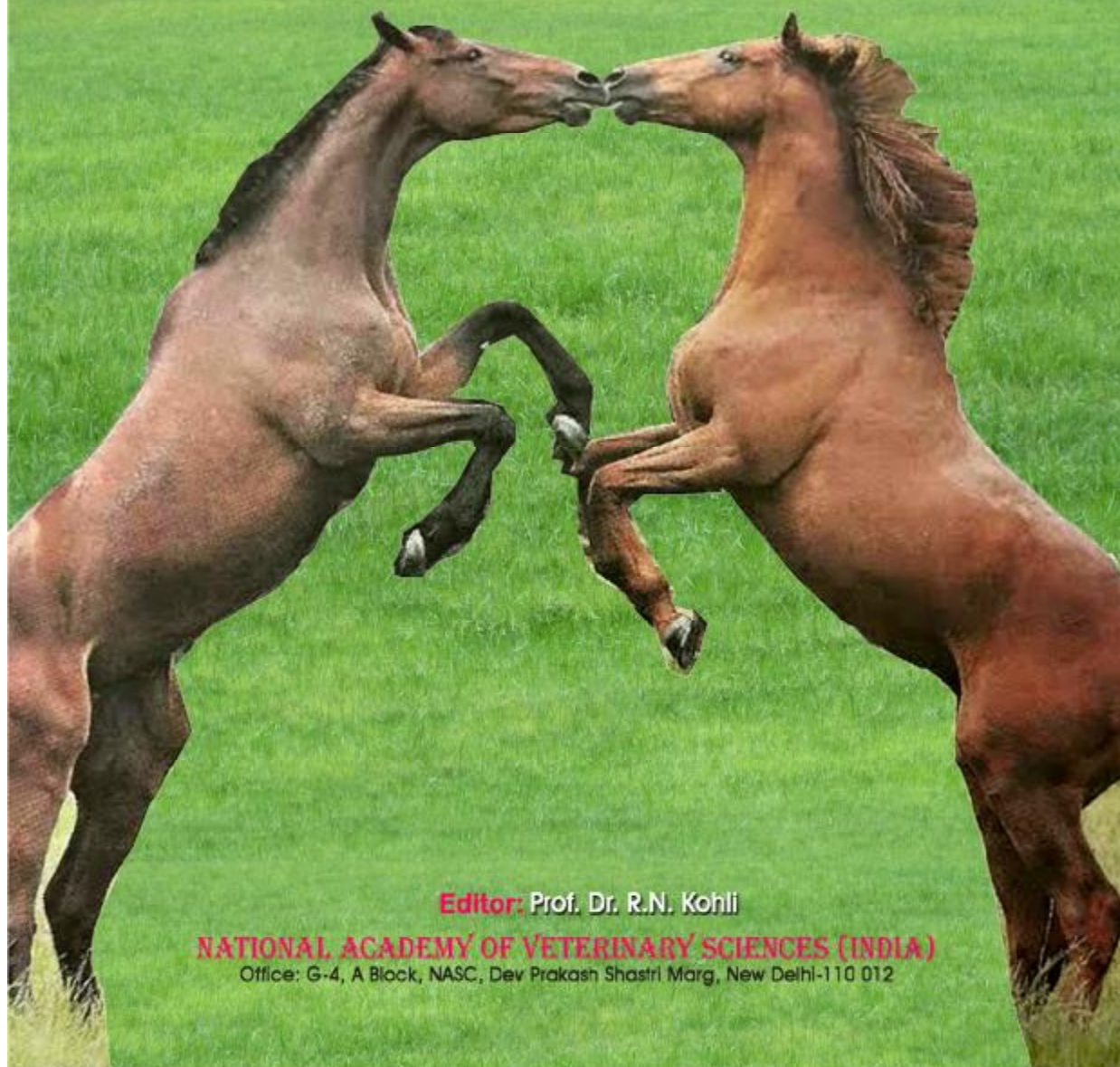
Oct. 2015

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# NAVS NEWSLETTER

(Quarterly)

FOR PRIVATE CIRCULATION ONLY  
NEW DELHI



**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)**

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**NAVS NEWSLETTER**

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**NEW DELHI**

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**OCTOBER, 2015**

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## NATIONAL ACADEMY OF VETERINARY SCIENCES (INDIA)

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“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”.

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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: to be held on 28<sup>th</sup> October 2015 at IVRI, Izatnagar, U.P.

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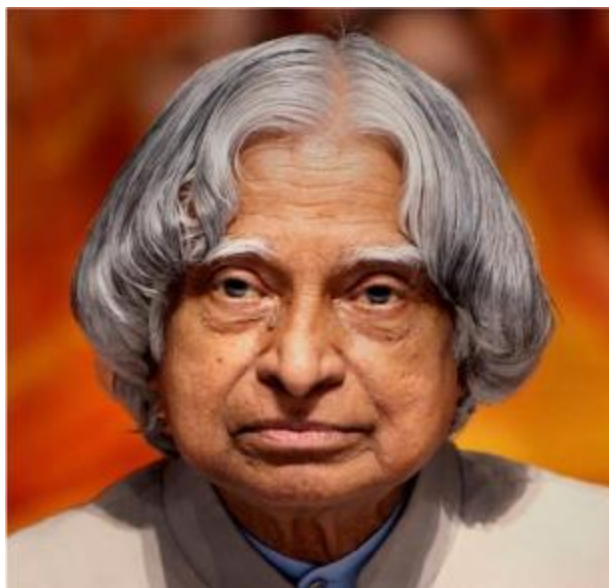
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## 2. EDITOR'S NOTE

### 2.1: Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam is no more

Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam, a simple honest Indian and one of the greatest scientists, teachers and intellectuals, is no more. India loved him and would miss him for a long time to come.

**Avul Pakir Jainulabdeen Abdul Kalam, - the People's President of India**, was born on October 15, 1931 in Rameswaram, Tamil Nadu. Dr. Kalam's life itself is an extraordinary narrative. A humble boat owner's son, he overcame penury and discrimination to first rise to the top of the scientific hierarchy and then became the nation's President — his humility and accessibility remaining untouched throughout. Dr. Kalam's Presidential years demonstrated the impact of unimpeachable personal integrity and high standards of personal morality and ethics adorning high office. He stood tall and unique among those engaged in public life in our generation and served as a beacon of hope and optimism about the future. This is the stuff legends are made of.



**Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam (1931-2015)**

Dr. Kalam always led an austere life. During his tenure at DRDO, he refused to move into the director's bungalow and stayed in the guest house, occupying a single room. His term as President, a glorious era, was similarly lacking in all pretences or show. After relinquishing office the former President dedicated his life to the youth of India.

Versatile, imbued with a missionary zeal, mentally and physically agile till the end, Dr. Kalam could not fathom a retired life.

After serving as the President of the India, he returned to his civilian life of education, writing and public service. The depth of his knowledge about Animal Husbandry and Dairy Science was commendable (See Chapter - 6 'View Point'). He was a recipient of numerous prestigious awards, including the Bharat Ratna, India's highest civilian honour. His spirit of inquiry, love for learning and sharing were his most endearing and enduring qualities. He loved being amongst students of all age groups, and had a magical ability to connect with young India. The present generation badly needed him to neutralize the negativity of many self-centered Indians who too exist alongside. NAVS (I) joins millions of his mourners worldwide and prays for his noble soul to rest in peace. May we have more like **Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam**.



## 2.2: NAVS HANDBOOK: Profile of Fellows and Contact Particulars of Members

As you are aware, the NAVS (I) is publishing an NAVS HANDBOOK. It will include a **brief profile (with photograph) of all the Fellows of the Academy on a prescribed format.** The updated contact particulars and photographs of Members and Associate Members will also be included in this Handbook. We have sent several email and postal requests to all concerned at their contact addresses available in the NAVS website ([www.navsindia.org](http://www.navsindia.org)) but the response so far has not been up to the mark. Some of our messages may not have reached the addressees because of change of their postal or / and email addresses. This final call is, therefore, being made. **The NAVS Fellows** who have not yet sent their profile along with a copy of their passport size photograph are requested to kindly email to me the same immediately. The profile should be as a running text only (not tabulated), should be of about 250 words only and should be emailed as an M S WORD file attachment. Similarly, the **NAVS Members and Associate Members** may send their UPDATED contact particulars with a copy of their passport size photograph for inclusion in the said NAVS Handbook.

Following e-mail address may be used for sending the requested material:  
**editornavshandbook15@gmail.com.**

**Please use the following format for sending the information:**

### **FORMAT FOR FELLOWS:**

(PHOTOGRAPH) (Surname) \_\_\_\_\_ (Name) \_\_\_\_\_

**FELLOW, ELECTED** \_\_\_\_\_ (Year of award)

(a) Born in \_\_\_\_\_ (Place) on \_\_\_\_\_ (Date)

(b) Educated at (College/University attended followed by degree obtained (with year of award):

(c) Positions held (In descending order, starting from the current or last position held, with period from \_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_).

(d) Awards / Honours:

(e) Fellow: \_\_\_\_\_ (Names of organization(s)).

(f) Research Areas / Number of Publications:

(g) Postal Address: \_\_\_\_\_; Telephones (with STD/ISD code): Office: \_\_\_\_\_

Residence: \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile \_\_\_\_\_ Email ID: \_\_\_\_\_

(h) Position(s) held in NAVS (I) Governing Council, **if any** (with dates): \_\_\_\_\_

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### 3. LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Congratulations Dr. Kohli. The smart amalgamation of off-veterinary contents with veterinary contents in the July 2015 issue of NAVS Newsletter reminds me to adopt a strategy to make a capsule of email addresses of deans, directors of research, directors of extension education and public relation cells of all veterinary colleges/universities to seek the information suitable to be inducted in forthcoming issues of the Newsletter. I shall be pro-active to send you more news at least from RAJUVAS and related sectors of animal husbandry (e.g. New Director of Animal Husbandry in Rajasthan state). **Dr. T. K. Gahlot**, Director Clinic, RAJUVAS, Bikaner.

Respected Prof. Kohli, Thank you once again for hard work and creative additions like "The Forty life tips", "Values, Morals and Ethics", "View points" and "Controversies in Animal Welfare" and "NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL VETERINARY NEWS", and many more new initiative have even prompted me to realize that institutions like IVRI are not contributing enough to NAVS Newsletter. The President's message is also very informative. I congratulate you and the Executive for bringing out this edition by incorporating wide coverage of news and other items in the Newsletter. I greatly value your hard work and our sincere appreciation. Please keep it up. We shall also contribute now onwards.

**Dr. Raj Kumar Singh, Director, IVRI** (Rajkumar Singh <[rks\\_virology@rediffmail.com](mailto:rks_virology@rediffmail.com)>)

Thank you very much, Dr. Kohli, for releasing the July 2015 issue of the NAVS Newsletter exactly on the due date as always. If some one wants to take a lesson on punctuality there is none better than Dr. Kohli to emulate. I send my deep appreciation to you for your noble services to the NAVS and the veterinary profession at large as the Editor of the Academy. We wish you good health and long life. **Prof. (Dr.) M. P. Yadav, email:** <[yadav\\_mp@hotmail.com](mailto:yadav_mp@hotmail.com)>; Immediate Past President, National Academy of Veterinary Sciences (NAVS), India.

Thank you very much Sir for mailing us the soft copy of the July issue of NAVS Newsletter. The extra efforts taken by you need no mention. Please accept our complements. **Dr. Anup Kalra**, Executive Director, AYURVET Ltd. Email: Anup Kalra <[dranup.kalra@gmail.com](mailto:dranup.kalra@gmail.com)>

Respected Prof. Kohli, July 2015 issue of NAVS Newsletter contains a plethora of information on various subjects. You are doing a wonderful job for the veterinary professions by regularly publishing the newsletter and then circulating to all the Fellows and Members. Hearty congratulations for this commendable job. **Prof. Dr. Mahendra Pal**, Addis Ababa University, College of Veterinary Medicine, Department of Microbiology, Immunology and Public Health, P.O.Box: 34, Debre Zeit, Ethiopia Email:

Everything in the July 2015 issue of the NAVS Newsletter was excellent. I admire your dedication to your work. **Dr. J. L. Vegad;** Jawaharlal Vegad <[vegadjl@yahoo.com](mailto:vegadjl@yahoo.com)>

It is an excellently edited and well informed new letter and I am proud that I am student of such illustrious person. I got the news of inclusion of NPA for pension but have learnt that some people specially at IVRI are trying to sabotage the benefit by saying it is not applicable to Vets . Pl take up the matter with the President Dr Pathak and get a clarification issued so that the



benefit is not delayed. It is the usual tendency of our fellow Vets to sabotage any thing which benefits their fellows. Hope the matter will be taken up in all seriousness. Please give your contact no as I will like to call on you and visit you some time. My Mobile no is 9810075913 and you can call me any time. **Dr. V. K. Goel**, Managing Director, Metos Instruments India Pvt. Ltd, Delhi. (e-Mail: [drgoel@vsnl.com](mailto:drgoel@vsnl.com); [metos@vsnl.net](mailto:metos@vsnl.net); [www.metos.in](http://www.metos.in))

Dear Dr Kohli, We highly appreciate your hard work and sincerity in publishing the NAVS Newsletter and because of you this is reaching in the hands of all the fellows and members in time. It is very informative though I have yet to finish reading some technical writings. It will be commendable if NAVS becomes part and parcel of the Government's policy making. We are not aware how many vets are publishing their blogs. I think it will be good information if you may kindly publish in the news letter about the blogs created and handled by the vets for the profession. I am dealing with following three blogs: [www.indianparasitologists.blogspot.com](http://www.indianparasitologists.blogspot.com) ; [www.indianschistosomiasis.blogspot.com](http://www.indianschistosomiasis.blogspot.com); [www.jvcalumniassociation.blogspot.com](http://www.jvcalumniassociation.blogspot.com). It will be beneficial to link these blogs among each other for spreading the information and also helping others to benefit. **Dr MC Agrawal**; email: [<drmcagrawal@gmail.com>](mailto:drmcagrawal@gmail.com)

There is a need to consolidate Prof. Kohli's splendid efforts by bringing out a special NAVS Publication. Scientific articles, views of the fellowship, certain innovating and novel information /thoughts etc. contributed/ gathered may be compiled in form of a BOOK. Dr. Kohli may be requested to take up this venture. He may be given freedom to select his team to render him effective and timely support. **Dr. Jitendra Singh Bhatia** email: [<bhatiajs05@rediffmail.com>](mailto:bhatiajs05@rediffmail.com)

I enjoyed reading Dr. Bhasin's article under 'Viewpoint' and even as an outsider looking in, I agree with his analyses on causes of small dairy farmers' reduced profits. My question, however, is why his suggestions are not implemented with full vigor since he is in a position to make a difference? Leaving it to half baked scientists / technocrats nothing will be done. They always address farmers as "poor farmers" and leave nothing unturned to make sure they remain poor. **Dr. A. Karihaloo, USA.** email: A Karihaloo [<karihaloo@gmail.com>](mailto:karihaloo@gmail.com)

Really wonderful compilation...Must read for all vets....Keep it up Dr. Kohli  
**Dr. Jiwani Gupta**, [drjkgupta@gmail.com](mailto:drjkgupta@gmail.com)

Respected Dr. Kohli, the July 2015 issue of NAVS Newsletter is indeed richly loaded with not only professional news and information but also contains very useful social information. Congratulations for always bringing out such a marvelous newsletter on time, which is a herculean task. That way, you are rendering a great service to the profession.  
**Dr. V.D. Sharma**, Dehradun ([vdsharmadoon@gmail.com](mailto:vdsharmadoon@gmail.com))

I feel that you are providing information which is very useful for all professionals in a timely manner in the newsletter and I really appreciate and congratulate you for your dedication and hard work as an editor. **Dr. Nem Singh** ([singhnem1945@gmail.com](mailto:singhnem1945@gmail.com))

Thank you very much sir for the noble initiative taken by you for the cause of professionals.  
**Dr Shivshankar M Usturge**, Director of Research KVAFSU, Bidar.

I convey my respect and regards to you through this email after long time. I am sorry for this but I do remember you all the time. I express my gratitude to you for publishing excellent, informative Newsletters for the National Academy of Veterinary Sciences. I am in the US with my elder son. My wife died in 1995 while I was working at the Bihar Veterinary College Patna. If I am in Patna I will attend the NAVS Convention. **Dr. B.B. Verma**, Retired Associate Dean-cum-Principal, Bihar Veterinary College, Patna. E-mail: [<bbverma@email.com>](mailto:bbverma@email.com)

Thanks for the recent issues of NAVS Newsletter. I admire your enthusiasm and interest in bringing out such an informative Newsletter. I enjoyed reading them. Thanks again.

**Dr. Deoki N. Tripathy**, Professor Emeritus, University of Illinois, USA.

**email:** Deoki Tripathy [<tripathynandan@gmail.com>](mailto:tripathynandan@gmail.com)

### **58% Vet Students move to MBBS as cutoff marks fall - TOI**

A news item with above heading appearing in Times of India (Chennai edition) of July 28, 2015 is highly depressing for the profession. The situation of migration of students in bulk during the currency of the degree course to other professional streams has become a regular feature not only in TN but in certain other States too. The governing and regulatory authorities cannot sit on such like situations where besides, colossal loss of resources, the profession would not be able to build up human capital to the extent it is required to cater to the needs for the times to come. An all out efforts are required by the Centre and State Governments, the VCI and other major funding authorities including ICAR, the universities etc. to work out mechanisms wherein such slides could be prevented. Policy decisions if need arises should be taken in this direction at government level. **Jitendra Singh Bhatia** E-mail: [<jitendra42@icloud.com>](mailto:jitendra42@icloud.com)



#### 4: From the President's Desk

### Plant derived medicine to tackle resistance in livestock parasites

It is common knowledge that parasitic conditions of varied etiologies viz. helminthic, protozoan and arthropods, constitute major constraint to productivity, performance and profitability of livestock farming. Additionally, several of them are capable of causing human disease (zoonoses). Prior to the era of industrial chemicals, traditional medicines of plant origin formed the backbone of healthcare of humans as well as livestock. The advent of synthetic chemicals in the 20th century, found ready consumer preference due to their spectacular and "quick fix" actions, and rule the market even today. However, the last 3-4 decades have seen erosion of their efficacy due to large-scale emergence of resistance in parasites. At the same time, increasing concerns about their toxicity for animal, man and environment, compelled a relook at alternative control strategies. Till such time that immunization procedures could be developed against major parasitic diseases, a renewal of interest in the safe, sustainable and effective (yet relatively inexpensive) resource, that is, medicinally active plants / herbs, seems a viable option. The current quest for plant-derived bioactive compounds is of global reach and has the approval of agencies like WHO / FAO. The acceptability of this approach obviously depends on the scientific validation of the plant products. Several controlled studies have been carried out recently in the Indian sub-continent (and various other countries), generating a large volume of data on *in vitro*, *in vivo* and clinical efficacies of bio-active plants, singly or in combination for synergy. The target helminths in majority of these studies were the g.i. nematodes and liver flukes of ruminants and intestinal worms of poultry. Anthelmintic activity *in vitro* has been documented in 22 plants against trematodes, 8 against cestodes and 29 against nematodes. Around 32 were also found effective *in vivo* mainly against gastro-intestinal (gi) worms in small and large ruminants and in poultry. Some plants that have found recurrent mention are: *Butea frondosa* (palas), *Allium sativum* (garlic), *Embelia ribes* (baberang) and *Azadirachta indica* (neem) with alasonin, allicin, embilin and azadirachtin as active principles, respectively. Of particular interest is the identification of certain forage plants containing condensed tannins (CT) which combine good nutritional value with anthelmintic effect for management of gi nematodes, particularly in small ruminants. Apart from well-known tannifeous plants like *Prosopis cineraria* ('khejri' in Rajasthan) and *Artemisia absinthium*, several other CT- containing plants have been found to possess anthelmintic property.

Among anti-protozoal drugs, the anti-malarial 'artemisin' has been sourced from a Chinese herb, and for veterinary usage, halofuginone derived from extract of *Dichroa febrifuga* is a potent anti-theilerial agent. Against another serious protozoan disease of livestock,

'trypanosomiasis' with drug resistance and limited choice of therapy, a number of plants have been found to have significant anti-trypanosoma activity in studies carried out at our own IVRI. The economically important poultry coccidiosis used to be managed by the practice of prophylactic incorporation of commercial coccidiostats in feed. Lately, emergence of resistance and undesirable residues in poultry products, has vitiated this routine. Frantic search has now led to plants which exhibit anti-oxidant, probiotic, immunomodulatory and growth-promoting effects in addition to direct coccidia-suppression. Thereby a class of agents designated as "neutraceuticals" has been created. Arthropod parasites such as mosquitoes and ticks, apart from their direct ill-effects of discomfort, blood loss and dermatitis to their hosts, are highly important vectors of a variety of disease-agents affecting both man and animals. The active ingredients of several plants and herbs are known to possess repellent, insecticidal, growth-inhibitory and anti-moulting activities. Recently, an innovatory approach used the benefit of nanotechnology involving use of nanoparticles like those of synthesized titanium dioxide, to enhance the acaricidal activity of plants through improved delivery system. Natural products included in ethnoveterinary practice offer the world's resource-poor livestock farmers, a cheaper, eco-friendly and sustainable alternative.

In conclusion, plant-derived antiparasitic agents can be harnessed as component of an 'Integrated Pest Management' program. Furthermore, nature's basket holds a lot more than what man has discovered till date: possibly keys to many of the parasitic diseases which are presently unresponsive to standard therapy. A strong case is therefore made for promoting the scientific exploration of plants for their potential.

## 5: VET TRACKS



### 5-A: OBITUARY

#### 5-A-1: Veteran Animal Scientist Passes Away

**Dr Lachhman Singh Hundal**, former professor and head of Animal Sciences, Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana, passed away on 27<sup>th</sup> June, 2015 in Fresno California.

Guru Angad Dev Veterinary & Animal Sciences University (GADVASU) Teacher's Association held a condolence meeting to mourn his death. A large number of faculty members attended the meeting and prayed for the departed soul. Dr V K Gandotra, president, told that Dr Hundal, a renowned animal scientist was born in 1926 and belonged to Jalbhe village of district Jalandhar. An alumnus of veterinary college, Lahore, Dr Hundal started his career from Punjab Veterinary College, Hisar. He did his M.S. and PhD. from Ohio State of USA. After retirement, he was presently settled in California, USA. He is survived by his wife three sons and one daughter. Most of the veterinary fraternity of his present time and his students would miss him. He will be deeply mourned by the NAVS Editor who was his Close Friend and Colleague at Ludhiana from 1971 to 1981. May his soul rest in peace.

#### 5-A-: Veteran Veterinary Anatomist Dr. B.S. Nanda Passes Away



**Dr B S Nanda**

Dr B S Nanda, former Professor and Head of Veterinary Anatomy and Histology of Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana, and former Secretary, NAVS (I), passed away peacefully in sleep in the middle of night between 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> June 2015. His played a major role in the development of veterinary anatomy in India and will always be remembered for it.

Dr. Nanda was born in 1933 and had a distinguished academic career. He did his PhD from University of Ohio, USA, under the guidance of legendary Dr Robert Getty. He was among one of the authors in Sisson and Grossman's book which is often referred as "Bible of Veterinary Anatomy".

Dr. Nanda started his professional journey at Veterinary College Jabalpur and then joined as Associate Professor cum Head Department of Veterinary Anatomy and Histology Punjab Agricultural University Ludhiana on September 25, 1971 and became a Professor on 05.02.1974. He remained Head of the Department of Veterinary Anatomy and Histology at PAU from September, 1971 to September, 1978 and thereafter from June, 1979 to August, 1981. During his tenure, Dr Nanda played a pivotal role in establishing the research laboratories of the department including the one which has often been rated as 'the best veterinary anatomy research laboratory of India'.

Dr. B.S. Nanda worked on several foreign assignments as a Professor of Veterinary Anatomy in the Universities at Baghdad, Iraq, Maiduguri, Nigeria, and Tripoli, Libya. He was a man of few words, worked for long hours in the department and was one of the most revered teachers. The students respected him. Among his numerous colleagues who would mourn his demise is the NAVS editor (R.N.K.) who was closely associated with him at Ludhiana, Baghdad, Nigeria and Libya from 1971 onwards. We, at NAVS (I) pray for eternal peace of the departed soul and offer our heartfelt condolences to the members of his family. May God give them strength to face their personal loss.

## **5.B: APPOINTMENTS, TRANSFERS, PROMOTIONS AND FELICITATIONS**

### **5.B.1: Administrative Changes in RAJUVAS**

Following administrative changes in RAJUVAS, Bikaner, have taken place recently. As the previous Dean & Faculty Chairman Prof. (Dr.) B. K. Beniwal, superannuated today after 35 years in service of the profession, Prof. (Dr.) Tribhuwan Sharma took over as Dean & Faculty Chairman, RAJUVAS. Prof. (Dr.) S. K. Kashyap is DSW (Dean Student's Welfare) & Convenor, Placement Cell, while Prof. (Dr.) R. K. Dhuria is Director Extension Education & Convenor, Public Relation Cell. Prof. (Dr.) A. P. Singh is the new Director PME (Prioritization, Monitoring & Evaluation). We congratulate the new appointees.

### **5.B.2: Prof. (Dr.) Col. A. K. Gahlot is Expert Member of SKUAST Council**

RAJUVAS Vice-Chancellor Prof. (Dr.) Col. A. K. Gahlot has been nominated as Expert Member in the University Council of SKUAST Jammu (Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Jammu).

Hon'ble Vice Chancellor RAJUVAS Prof. (Dr.) Col. A. K. Gahlot has been included as a member of State Level Advisory Committee for work plan on Camel Development. This committee will suggest necessary revision, observation and monitoring of work plan for camel development in the Rajasthan state.

### **5.B.3: Dr. Mohinder Oberoi recalled by FAO**

Dr. Mohinder Oberoi, who had returned to India last year after being an FAO consultant in Nepal, has been recalled by FAO for consultancy on Trans-boundary and Zoonotic Emerging infectious diseases. We at NAVS are elated to hear the good news and heartily congratulate him. It is obvious that the hard work he did during his earlier assignment has been duly appreciated by the FAO. We wish him the best for the new assignment.

### **5.B.4: Recognition to Prof M.P. Yadav:**

Prof. ( Dr.) Mahendra Pal Yadav, Ex-President, National Academy of Veterinary Sciences and Ex-Director, Indian Veterinary Research Institute (IVRI), Izatnagar was recognized by The National Alliance of Indo-Canadians for his scientific leadership in the field of Veterinary Science and Livestock Development recently (August 20, 2015) during his visit to

Canada/Toronto. Prof. Yadav is also a recipient of many awards and recognitions including OIE Meritorious Award in animal health.

### 5.B.5: Dr. Veer Singh Elected Fellow of NABS & Nominated to NDRI Board



Dr. Veer Singh, Professor and Head, Department of Veterinary Parasitology, Veterinary College, Sardarkrushinagar, Gujrat, and a Fellow of NAVS, has been elected as a Fellow of NABS (National Academy of Biological Sciences) 2014 for Outstanding Contribution in Biological Sciences in India. The award ceremony was held on 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2015 at University of Mysore, Mysore during the annual meeting coupled with NABS-National Seminar

with the theme "*Biological Products for Crop, Animal and Human Health: Problems and Prospects*" to be organized by National Academy of Biological Sciences, Chennai, India.

Dr. Veer Singh, Professor and Head, Department of Veterinary Parasitology, College of Veterinary Science and A. H., S. D. A.U., Sardarkrushinagar-385 506, Gujrat, also writes to inform that he has been nominated as a Member of the Board of Management of NDRI, Karnal, by the President, ICAR, Govt. of India, New Delhi.

### 5.B.6: Centenarian Veterinarian's 104<sup>th</sup> Birthday



The 104<sup>th</sup> Birthday of Prof. J.P. Kukreti, one of the oldest India born Veterinarians and a Foreign Honorary Fellow of the Academy, will be celebrated this October.

The National Academy of Veterinary Sciences (India) joins the members of his extended family, his friends and relatives, and the whole family of Veterinarians of Indian origin in India and abroad in heartily felicitating Prof. J.P. Kukreti at this auspicious occasion and wish him many more healthy-happy returns of the day. May he achieve complete fulfillment of his life's personal and professional dreams and aspirations.

To the left is his most recent photograph taken in USA with the members of several members of his extended family.

(For a detailed profile of Prof. Kukreti, kindly refer to the January 2013 issue of NAVS Newsletter on NAVS website)

## **6. VIEW POINT**

### **6.1: National Milk Vision 2020**

**Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam**

During the last six decades, Indian Dairy Industry has experienced a marked change and India has become a developed dairying nation. I extend my greetings to all the members of dairy fraternity and congratulate them for creating a robust system of dairy management leading to this transition. I am sure, in the coming years, they will undertake more pro-active steps to further enhance the rate of growth of this industry in the 21st Century.

#### **INDIAN DAIRY SCENARIO**

Today the average per-capita availability of milk in India has reached 246 gm per day. When the world milk production in 2008 is around 700 million tonnes, India has produced 106 million tonnes. This was achieved due to the bovine population of 283 million (185 millions cattle and 98 millions buffaloes) and its strong wide spread milk procurement system established by NDDB, through the operation flood programme — 15 state federations, 177 District unions and 1,28,799 village cooperative societies. Today, the livestock sector contribution to agriculture GDP is around 25-28%. Dairy sector contribution is around 65-70% to livestock sector. We have less than 1000 milk processing centres in India. The goals of the 11th five year plan for the livestock sector are expected to achieve an overall growth between 6% to 7% per annum for the sector as a whole and the milk production growth is estimated to 5% per annum from 100 million tonnes from 2008 to 126.42 million tonnes by 2011-12.

#### **NATIONAL MILK VISION**

As envisaged in the India vision 2020, particularly for MILK we need to launch a “National Milk Vision” in an integrated manner in the following fronts.

- Cattle breeding
- Feed and Nutrition
- Cattle healthcare
- Farm management
- Milk procurement and  
Transportation

**Cattle breeding:** It is essential to have a progressive national level breeding policy and make the consistent policies at the state level to enhance the input to output (feed to milk) ratio. The major technology implemented and tried so are cross-breeding through Artificial insemination (AI), Embryo Transfer (ET) and development of transgenic animals. It is necessary to enhance and enrich the number of semen banks, properly trained manpower, infrastructure for monitoring blood levels of cross-breed cows and availability of good quality and proven bulls. Also we need to add more than 30,000 AI centers before the 11th plan period. In order to active the progress, it may be established in Public Private Partnership mode to provide efficient door-step quality breeding services to farmers. Embryo transfer has to be commercialized and made into an economically viable proposition. Patenting of Cross breeds through DNA markers for adoption may be considered in the short term.

**Feed and nutrition:** Feed accounts for almost 60% of the cost inputs for milk production and has a direct bearing on the yield of cattle. Presently the primary feed for cattle is crop residue and seasonal fodder because of which the yield, particularly of cross-bred animals, has been low in



lean seasons. The area under cultivated Fodder production is limited only to 4.60% of the total cultivable land, it is essential to increase fodder production by increasing area under cultivation to 12% of the total cultivable land. Also there is a need to carry out research for dry land fodder production techniques.

Other research and inventions carried out by the various agencies may be found out and its suitability of its adoption Indian environment such as straw soaked in urea water, appropriate feeding systems for buffaloes and cattle, medicated urea-molasses blocks (UMB) for parasite control, agro-forestry systems of livestock production and the use of herbal anti-helminthics in cattle, genetic characterization of livestock, laboratory based feed evaluation systems (in vitro and nuclear techniques); feeding systems using unconventional low cost feeds and integrated rice/forage production may be considered. Apart from that an appropriate management intervention has to be focused towards increasing average milk production per cow per day; increasing lactation length; decreasing age to first calving and decreasing calving interval, could expect to triple the yield and average income. The utilization of grassland and wasteland for fodder cultivation was expected to take place only in the medium to long term because of social factors associated with the development of such lands.

Apart from that, large quantity of oil cakes is being exported. Consequently, the price of groundnut cake, soya extraction, rapeseed extraction and sunflower extraction has increased by 60 to 66 percent in the last one year. This has resulted in the increased cost of feeding and maintenance of milch cattle resulting in increased cost of production. Recently I have come across effective method of removing the toxicity from Jatropha oil cake which could become the feed for the cattle. According to International Dairy Federation (IDF), the farmers in India get paid lowest price for their produce in the world. There is already developing a situation of crisis and dairy farmers find it more profitable to sell off buffaloes since export of meat is fetching good price due to its export initiatives by the government. We need to come out with the policies which will enrich the feed and nutrition of the cattle at an affordable price.

**Cattle Healthcare:** India has 283 million cattle which is largest in the world. India now occupies number one position in the world in respect of milk production and fourth position in egg production. But based on the comparative analysis of milk yield in various countries, for instance, shows that milk yield per cattle in major milk producing countries is 6-12 times higher than India. It is largely due to the presence of large number of unproductive cattle, scarcity of feed resources. In this connection, it is better to study the model created by Baba Sri Bhadariya Maharaj in the desert area of Pokhran. His Ashram is providing shelter to nearly 20,000 stray cows, feeding them and converting them as milk yielding cows. Baba is providing free milk and butter milk to the travelers in the desert.

The most fundamental factor behind low productivity is ill health, lack of nutrition and poor stock of a large number of cattle in the bovine population. High yield per cattle, which is the function of its breeding, feed and nutrition, healthcare and farm management is the obvious casualty. It is essential to conduct training programmes to farmers, so that they are aware of effective breeding programmes, availability about veterinary drugs and antibiotics, satisfactory hygiene conditions for housing cattle. Providing better accessibility of veterinary services at the village level is essential.

**Farm Management:** Farm management is one of the factors that influences productivity of cattle and thereby milk production. Currently there are very few organized dairy farms in the country. Most dairy farming is undertaken by small farmers whose primary activity is

agriculture. Their land holdings are small with few heads of cattle. They need proper education and training so that their cattle are housed in hygienic conditions, providing a feed with increased nutritive value, providing adequate healthcare, automating the milking process at the central level, provide adequate water to the cattle.

**Improving the Milk yield:** With the creation of favorable conditions discussed above, we should target the milk yield per milch animal to be at 1000-1200 liters per year in the short term, 1500-2400 liters per year in the medium term and 2400-3000 liters per year in the long term. The use of Bovine Somatotropin Treatment (BST) by BG Hormone for increasing milk yield may be examined for use in the medium to long term.

**Procurement and Transportation:** We also need to concentrate on Milk procurement and transportation by empowering the village cooperative societies to take up this task with the involvement of private entrepreneurs. They should have local quality testing centers and type to create awareness among the farmers about low microbial counts and low degree of contamination.

**Processing and Marketing:** It is essential to empower the farmers by creating awareness on the importance of bacteria free quality of milk. This will need provision of adequate chilling plant facilities, proper maintenance of equipments and provision of venture capital loans for periodic enhancing of processing capabilities. The level of processing is expected to be around 15% in the short term, 20% in the medium term and 30% in the long term. We need to empower the farmers so that large and modern commercially viable units entering into the indigenous dairy products manufacturing by bringing improved quality standards, commercially viable technologies, nano technology based packing and refrigerated transportation system for hygienic distribution and increased shelf-life.

**World Trade:** Today, India is not a major player in the international trade. The India's share in world trade of dairy product is negligible (0.2%) and in case of meat and poultry also India's share is very low (0.5%). Global export of milk product in milk equivalent terms is projected at 40.4 million tonnes in 2008, up almost 3 percent from the previous year. The current export of dairy products from India during the 2007-08 is around 178 million dollars. In the long term, we should aspire for exports of at least 15 to 20% of our production costing over \$4 Billion. For this, it is essential to concentrate on (1) improving the quality of raw milk, (2) Dairy hygiene standards (3) maintaining consistency of supplies (3) formulating a consistent export policy and (4) improving our packaging systems. At the same time, we need to formulate a clearly enunciated export policy for dairy products which could include incentives for exports particularly in view of the global competition.

**Launch of National Milk Vision:** When we launch a National Milk Vision, as a variant of White revolution, we will empower the farmers with the implementation of above missions, will certainly put India on the high yielding milk map and also bring sustainable development in the rural area enriching the Agriculture, animal husbandry and food processing creating value added employment opportunities to the 60 million families. The second green revolution will be hastened up due to this National Milk Vision, because it will act as feeder channel and result into a economic multiplier for the nation especially during the recession.

So far, we have seen how can we shape our missions towards achieving National milk vision, but you may think where is the success story which we can emulate? Yes we have number of success stories which are making a difference in the life of rural citizens such as Gujarat Amul model pioneered by Kurien, BAIF, JK Trust and other successful models

operating in the state governments. Since I have a personal experience with one of the organizations such as BAIF, I would like to share with you the experience, so that it successful model can be emulated across India in association with Indian Dairy association and NDDDB with the committed societal organizations.

### **BHARATIYA AGRO INDUSTRIES FOUNDATION (BAIF) MODEL FOR TRIBAL REHABILITATION & DRY REGIONS**

I have witnessed the integrated village cluster development programme during my visit with Dr. Narayan G Hegde, an IIM graduate who is an expert in farming and Dairying. The two village clusters of south Gujarat - Chonda and Lachakadi had a population of 5000. From these villages every summer the tribal people migrate to nearby towns. The BAIF model was installed in these two villages with peoples' co-operation and the participation of state authorities. Firstly water harvesting was undertaken to get water for every individual. Every home was provided with livestock and also a market for milk. Simultaneously, fruit orchards were established with various fruit crops such as cashew and mangoes, which are tolerant to drought. When I visited, these villages, there was a connecting road and water ponds. The tribal population, with radiant smiles on their faces, was harvesting crops, packaging and carrying milk to different supply points. I happened to see the economic growth and prosperity of the tribal people, which has been facilitated by BAIF with people's participation. I understand that this model - Vadi (Orchard) has now been replicated in many places by the state governments of Maharashtra, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka, Bihar, Jharkhand, Uttaranchal, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa and West Bengal covering over 47,000 villages. The prosperity has spread to over 2.5 million families. Self employment has been created for over one million unemployed youth.

**Dairy Husbandry:** Since, I am with the dairy community; I would like to talk about that the dairy practices of BAIF. They have carried out promotion of dairy husbandry through upgradation of low productive non-descript cattle on priority basis as most of the villagers owned a few cattle and the programme ensured techno-economic viability and prosperity for small farmers. BAIF members demonstrated the feasibility of producing high yielding cows by breeding uneconomic nondescript cattle with exotic dairy breeds while conserving the elite native breeds. Unemployed local youth were trained to undertake livestock breeding, pregnancy diagnosis, disease prevention vaccinations, primary health care, forage production, feeding and other technical aspects of livestock development in rural areas, assigning 12-15 villages for each Para Veterinary assistant. This programme has enabled needy farmers to regain their confidence and produce good quality cattle. Door to door service has helped them to avail of timely services and to develop confidence in technology adoption. This programme has also conserved community pastures and forests and promoted organic farming, women empowerment and nutritional security through easy supply of milk and enhanced agricultural production.

BAIF has nearly 1850 cattle breeding centres which they proposed to increase to 5000 in the next three years. The whole country will need over 30,000 cattle breeding centres, so that we can generate the cattle needed by 50 million families. This will need replication of BAIF type organisation in different parts of the country and simultaneously, providing additional input to BAIF, so that they can train and empower the locals to undertake the tasks involved in cattle breeding, cattle care, milk processing and marketing. Indian Dairy Association has to work with such a target which will enable generation of 2 million jobs in the rural sector, promote organic farming improve the environment and facilitate availability of milk which could be exported by

our farmers. The aim should be to export at least 5% of the global demand by the end of 11th plan period year 2012.

Some of the actions needed for promoting exports of dairy products are:

We have to generate a consistent export policy with suitable incentives and long term market creation goal.

Formulation and implementation of a quality assurance system for the export of dairy products through an independent agency.

Formulation and implementation of product diversification strategy to cope with wide fluctuation in pricing of international milk products, particularly milk powder.

The farmers should be train and given the incentive to maintain high degree of hygiene from cattle, vessel, transportation, delivery and the right type of feed given to the cattle.

Activating the water bodies in the rural village should become corporate social responsibility of the industries and the enterprises in that region.

### **CONCLUSION: MILK PURA**

I visualize out of 7000 PURA complexes in the country; at least 2000 will be Milk PURA complexes. They will be empowered with the dairy missions such as milk production and development of milk products. Since, we are going through economic turbulence; this is the time we have to empower our milk farmers to make a difference in the growth of the GDP for which no foreign aid is needed, no foreign technology is needed. It will be a purely Indian effort; hence prosperity will be assured even during a period of economic turbulence. Can the milk men of country take up this challenge and overcome the effects of economic turbulence due to global recession?

With these words, I inaugurate the 37th Dairy Industry Conference of Indian Dairy Association and I greet the organizers and the participants of the conference for success in their mission of inclusive development through “National Milk Vision”. May God bless You.

I would like to administer an oath to all the milk farmers.

### **OATH FOR DAIRY FARMERS**

I love dairy farming and it is a noble profession.

Every cattle is my friend and is a wealth generator.

I will treat the cattle with kindness and compassion and always keep them disease free and healthy.

I will ensure cleanliness of all the feeds given to the cattle and maintain the cattle are in a clean environment.

I will get trained in producing value added milk for export and ensure that the standard hygiene of milk is maintained right from cattle, vessel, storage, transportation and delivery.

- I will make my dairy profession as a passion and serve the nation.

*(Abridged from an address delivered by Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam in 2009 at the 37<sup>th</sup> Dairy Industry Conference held in Panjim, Goa)*

## **6.2: Concept of One Health and World Yoga Day**

### **Rama Kumar V**

My paper reported recently that 1 out of every 10 persons in India is suffering from depression. Mental health relates to behavior which is need driven. Yoga, though claimed by some as a spiritual discipline, it is universally considered as a process that synergize the body with mind. It helps achieve the transcendence of ego or irrational desire. Homeostasis is the scientific term used by physiologists to describe the harmony among various systems of human body like the digestive, loco-motor, respiratory, reproductive, excretory etc. or organs like heart, lung, muscle, kidney etc. Ill health or mental stress may result in loss of homeostasis or the harmony as aforementioned. A healthy body interacts with its immediate environment (say, other people, organisms and events). While harmony of various systems of body is 'internal homeostasis' (IH), adjustment of the body with other biotic and abiotic elements outside body, is termed as external homeostasis (EH)\*. The claimed therapeutic effect of Yoga, music or art is the result of the harmony these activities achieve in the body system (mind and body). EH too is not entirely independent; it can be influenced by events anywhere within \*biosphere (call it global homeostasis or GH). When the changes in the biosphere are mild or gradual, organisms rearrange their form and function to match with the changed situation. This compromise when permanent leads to "biological diversity". For example the original bear species differentiated into sub-species like sloth bear, brown bear, polar bear, panda etc. by readjusting themselves to the weather conditions of the eco-system they live in. Evolution is the rearrangement happening through centuries. If change is sudden or impact is precipitous beyond the THRESHOLD of an organism it may lead to disease, deficiency, crisis or even death. Species that cannot stand the impact of change become extinct. Monitoring the incidence or trend of such impact(s) is the real challenge before one health. In fact one health may very well be the future parameter for planning sustainable development. Though Yoga can be beneficial, any attempt to manipulate human activity by force or coercion is both dangerous and often fruitless.

Spreading The CONCEPT OF ONE HEALTH can be rewarding if it is scientifically planned and efficiently managed. The idea of 'One Health' is different from the current hospital linked medical service or the preventive actions through healthcare & hygiene by Public health departments or local bodies (municipalities). It is a concept of totality involving the efforts of most, if not all, departments of government or agencies involved in governance to attain "optimal health for people, animals and the environment". (Dr. Rama Kumar V, Former Secretary, Veterinary Council of India, New Delhi)

[\*Ecology is the study of interaction of an organism with its biotic and abiotic elements.].

## **6.3: Pesticides and plastic products: An emerging threat to life**

### **Kedar Karki**

Xeno-estrogens are synthetic substances that differ from those produced by living organism and imitate or enhance the effect of estrogens. The estrogenic stimulation is an unintended side effect of these agents or their metabolites. The field of xeno-hormones is new and has existed since 1991 only. These chemicals directly disrupt the endocrine system of the body and thereby affect the normal body functions.

The organs which are mostly at high risk are male and female reproductive systems although skeleton, thyroid, liver, kidney, and immune systems are also affected. Some of these substances like DDE, a metabolite of DDT, may persist in the body fat for decades. There are apprehensions pointing towards the cumulative biochemical disruptions in genetic material that may even be transmitted through generations. Due to their extensive use, these chemicals have been polluting the environment globally for the last 50 years.

Pesticides were previously thought of as the source of xeno-estrogen. However, now many pharmaceuticals, chlorinated pesticides, polychlorinated biphenyls, and certain chemicals used in plastics and solvents have also been identified. In fact about 1,00,000 registered chemicals have hormone-like activity besides having toxic and carcinogenic effects. To exert any effect, hormones must first bind with specific proteins called receptors to form hormone-receptor complex which binds to DNA in a cell's nucleus to activate specific genes.

Xeno-estrogens either occupy the receptor sites to prevent hormone binding or result in inappropriate activation of genes, causing reduction or improvement in cellular activity. This way they interfere with normal hormone function of the body. They may cause permanent or irreversible damage to the developing embryo and newborn and their sexual, physical or mental development may be arrested.

Pesticides, commercial and or domestic, include atrazine, alachlor, aldicarb, , benomyl, lindane, carbaryl, chlordane, cypermerthrin, and dicofol, among many. Heavy Metals include: Cadmium used in nickel, cadmium batteries, coating, pigments, stabilizers in plastics and synthetic products and alloys, fossil fuels; lead used in lead batteries, paints, pipes, leaded gasoline; and mercury used in nickel/ cadmium batteries fluorescent lighting ballasts, etc.

Organochlorines include: a) Dioxin, whose examples include incinerator emissions, and metal smelting; Polybrominatedbiphenyls and PCBs used in electrical transformers; and Pentachlorophenol wood preservative used in textile industry. Plastic ingredients and surface actants include: Bisphenol; Phthalates polycarbons; and Styrenes alky/nonyle phenol ethoxylates. Xeno-estrogens enter the human body through food chain like meat milk eggs from animal origins as well as through green vegetables, contaminated water. In fatty tissue of animals these substances accumulate for decades. Contaminated water and vegetables containing pesticides are also responsible.

Plastic bottles containing drinking water and containers of various food items are an important source. The polycarbonate bottles used to hold drinking water have been found to contain Bisphenol-A of which 2-5 parts per billion have been found enough to cause breast cancer cells to proliferate. Preservatives methyl paraben used in skin lotion and gels are also weak estrogen. Alkyl hydroxyl benzoate preservatives like methyl-ethyl and butyleparaben are also weakly estrogenic and are able to compete with female hormone estradiol for binding to estrogen receptors. Subcutaneous administration of butyleparaben produces a positive estrogenic response

on uterine tissues. Some of the baby shampoos contain about 50 times more than the daily adult dose of estradiol. A small amount of this shampoo on the child every day may result in the development of breast or pubic hair.

The chemical called Diethylhexylphthalate, which is used as plasticizer for PVC, may leach from the plastic into certain liquids. Prolonged exposure to the fluids in these bags may affect testicle development in young boys. The same effect they may exert in animals also which can be seen as an increase in infertility in domestic animals.

Considering the ubiquitous nature and severe multiple adverse effect of xeno-estrogen on human and animal life, the preventive measures need to be adapted are of utmost importance. In order to save the future generations, we have to be alert now.

Some of the vital measures to be adapted could be: a) Don't use plastic items to store food and water. Glass or ceramics are preferable. b) Use simple detergent with fewer chemicals. c) Minimize the use of chemical pesticides.

Natural pest control measures like integrated pest management must be adapted. Use of hormone mimicking chemicals in consumer products should be stopped. Avoid using organo-chlorines in products like PVC plastics, dry cleaners. Use of sunscreen lotion, gels and other cosmetic items should be minimized. Natural oils as skin moisturizers should replace these items. Harmful food preservatives should be banned. Waste effluents from factories should not be diverted to river or to water bodies without treatment. Extensive use of commercial shampoo should be discouraged.

(A version of this article appeared in print on August 07, 2015 of The Himalayan Times, Nepal. The author is a Nepal national, who graduated from Veterinary College Ludhiana, India. <karkikedar96@gmail.com>).

**The NAVS Fellows** who have not yet sent their profile along with a copy of their passport size photograph are requested to kindly email to me the same immediately. The profile should be as a running text only (not tabulated), should be of about 250 words only and should be emailed as an M S WORD file attachment. Similarly, the **NAVS Members and Associate Members** may send their UPDATED contact particulars with a copy of their passport size photograph for inclusion in the said NAVS Handbook. (See P. 6-7 'Editor's Note' For Details) **THIS IS THE LAST CALL.**

## **7. NAVS NEWS**

### **7.1: 14<sup>th</sup> NAVS Convocation-cum-Conference on Anti-Microbial Resistance in Livestock Health And Production**

National Academy of Veterinary Sciences (NAVS), ICAR – Indian Veterinary Research Institute (IVRI), Izatnagar and Animal Nutrition Association (ANA), India, are going to organize XIV NAVS convocation-cum-conference on **Antimicrobial Resistance in Livestock Health and Production** on 28 October, 2015 at ICAR-IVRI, Izatnagar. This will be a great occasion to mark NAVS Convocation, completion of 125 years of research at IVRI and significant contributions made by Animal Nutrition Association, which is one of the member organizations of World Association of Animal Production (WAAP), Rome, in the field of animal health and production. A large number of dignitaries and doyens of animal and veterinary sciences are expected to grace the occasion, present lead papers and participate in various discussions on the topic.

The Fellows, Members and Associate Members of the Academy and all the other interested Veterinarians are cordially invited to participate in the NAVS convocation-cum-conference. For all further details regarding participation, please contact:

Dr. Ashok Kumar, Project Coordinator, Outreach Programme on Zoonotic Diseases & Head Division of Veterinary Public Health, Indian Veterinary Research Institute (IVRI), Izatnagar (Bareilly)UP. India-243122, +91-581-2301326 (O)Telefax), +91-9412761307 (M)  
(**email: ashok kumar** <[ashokakt@rediffmail.com](mailto:ashokakt@rediffmail.com)>)

### **7.2: NAVS General Body Meeting at IVRI, Izatnagar, U.P.**

The next General Body Meeting of the Academy will be held on 28<sup>th</sup> October, 2015 during the NAVS Convocation-cum-Conference being held on the same date at Indian Veterinary Research Institute (IVRI), Izatnagar (Bareilly) U.P. India. All the Fellows and Members of the Academy are requested to attend the GB meeting. The agenda for the meeting will be sent by the Secretary General, NAVS (I), in due course.

### **7.3: Nominations for NAVS Fellowship / Membership**

NAVS invites nominations for its Fellowship / Membership / Associate Membership. The interested veterinarians may apply latest by 15<sup>th</sup> December 2015. Eligibility criteria, nomination forms and score card may be downloaded from our website ([www.navsindia.org](http://www.navsindia.org)). Completed nomination forms may be sent to the Secretary General, NAVS, at his residential address: Dr. Rishendra Verma, 1219/6, E-Block, Rajendra Nagar, Izatnagar - 243122, District Bareilly, U.P.



## **8. NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL VETERINARY NEWS**

### **8.1: World Veterinary Association (WVA) News:**

**(a)** World Veterinary Association (WVA) joins the International One Health Coalition of the One Health Platform

In alignment with the Zoonosis strategic priority, the WVA joined the International One Health Coalition (IOHC) as part of the newly established One Health Platform. This coalition is a collaborative partnership with existing international governmental and non-governmental organizations and institutions with the aim to reinforce the One Health concept. The main objectives of the One Health Platform include the promotion of a cross-sectoral and collaborative approach to improve the health and well-being of humans, animals and their environments, to fostering scientific research into zoonosis and vector-borne infectious diseases and to develop the most appropriate communication. (To learn more about the One Health Platform: [www.onehealthplatform.com](http://www.onehealthplatform.com))

**(b)** At the Opening Ceremony of the of the World Veterinary Congress that was held in Istanbul, Turkey on 14 September 2015, the Turkish Minister of agriculture, Mr. Kutbettin Arza, presented to the College of Veterinarians of Costa Rica representative, Dr Joe Alejandra Vargas Blanco the World Veterinary Day 2015 and a price of 1.000 US\$. The College of Veterinarians of Costa Rica together with the Costa Rican National Animal Health Service, selected as the winner of the WVD 2015 award for their comprehensive awareness campaign on the prevention of equine encephalitis and West Nile fever. The campaign included the dissemination of the information on Equine Encephalitis and West Nile fever to the wide public via mass media on national level and via social networks, continuous training of health professionals on zoonotic diseases and the creation of the Costa Rican Society of Specialist in Zoonosis and scientific studies.

**(c)** On 15 September 2015, the WVA hold its 3rd Summit with high-level support of FAO, OIE and WHO on the theme of “One Health – concrete actions in the field of Animal Health”. The organisations representatives delivered presentations on private-public partnership experiences in the field of Animal Health. During the Summit, a panel discussions moderated by Dr Bonnie Buntain took place where the organisations representatives exchanged vies and replied to questions from the audience on different One Health issues.

**(d)** On 15 September 2015, WVA President, Dr René Carlson and World Animal Protection Chief Executive, Mike Baker signed on the revised Memorandum of Understanding. In their 2016 collaboration action plan, the two organisations agreed to focus on the support and promotion of continued excellence in veterinary animal welfare education and initiatives that support government veterinary services in understanding the issues affecting animals in communities, in farming, in disasters and in the wild.

## **8.2: Zoonotic infections threaten us like never before: A leading expert**

Zoonotic infections threaten us like never before and a One Health, multidisciplinary approach - linking human, animal and environmental health - is needed to tackle the problem, world-leading expert Professor Tom Solomon was scheduled to tell vets at the British Veterinary Association's Members' Day in Edinburgh on 24 September 2015. Professor Solomon, Director of the Institute of Infection and Global Health at the University of Liverpool argues that by working together vets and medics can play a vital role in preventing infections passing from animals to humans through surveillance, disease recognition and improved diagnostics. A globally-recognised expert on neurology and infectious diseases, Professor Solomon recently headed up part of the UK effort to combat Ebola and bring the disease under control in West Africa. He specialises in research into zoonotic neurological diseases including the mosquito-spread Japanese encephalitis. Professor Solomon said: The "One Health" concept recognises that human, animal and environmental health are linked, and encourages multidisciplinary approaches to tackle such problems. "Over the last twenty years our multidisciplinary research group has been helping reduce the burden of this, and other emerging infections, through better surveillance and disease recognition, improved diagnostics and clinical care, and widespread vaccination."

## **8.3: Public health, animal health and security sector must unite to strengthen health systems**

World Veterinary Association believes that public health, animal health and security sector must speak with one voice on the need to strengthen health systems. Last month (July, 2015), the OIE global conference on bio-threat reduction brought together all the key players of the health and security sectors. This 3-day conference focused on enhancing collaboration and on building a consensus for action to strengthen the ability of public and animal health systems to prevent, detect and respond to all biological threats whether they are deliberate, accidental or natural, in particular at the animal source of animal diseases transmissible to humans. The recommendations of this conference have just been published.

<http://www.oie.int/.../public-health-animal-health-and-secur.../>

## **8.4: “You are helping us protect over 270,000 animals in Nepal”: World Animal Protection**

After two major earthquakes devastated Nepal in April and May this year, we have been on the ground working with local authorities to protect animals and their owners' livelihoods. In Nepal animals are vulnerable to extreme weather conditions, from scorching sunshine, to monsoon rain and freezing overnight conditions. With most shelters destroyed or severely damaged in the earthquakes, this has been highlighted as a key need for animals in the country.

The stress caused by the earthquake has resulted in many animals refusing to use their damaged and rebuilt shelters. It has also had severe impacts on milk production in cows, buffalo and goats. This is not only a sign of extremely poor health, it is also causing huge problems for both the offspring of the animals who rely on the milk to survive, as well as the owners of the animals who depend on the milk for their livelihoods.

**Together with Nepal Government veterinarians, we will be addressing these issues and protecting over 270,000 animals in the country.**

To make sure your donations are used to protect the largest number of animals in the areas most in need, we carry out comprehensive assessments alongside the emergency treatment of animals in urgent need.

Thanks to you we can provide the materials for the construction of 1,400 brand new shelters in the worst hit areas. Over 8,000 animals will benefit immediately and an estimated 250,000 will come to benefit from the shelters over the next 7 years.

Poor quality food is also preventing livestock from recovering across the country. However higher quality food and supplements will become more readily available in the country over the coming weeks and months. So we are taking this opportunity to work with local communities to empower them to make the best choices for their animals.

([http://www.worldanimalprotection.org.in/news/you-are-helping-us-protect-over-270000-animals-nepal?utm\\_source=Newsletter&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=Nepal](http://www.worldanimalprotection.org.in/news/you-are-helping-us-protect-over-270000-animals-nepal?utm_source=Newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Nepal) ) 01 July 2015

### **8.5: Russia imports U.S. female dairy cattle**

Russia may have banned imports of many U.S. agricultural products, but the door remains open for U.S. female dairy cattle, according to monthly trade figures released by USDA's Foreign Ag Service. Russia imported 2,222 U.S. female dairy cattle in May, pushing the month's world total to 3,342 head, the highest monthly export total since August 2014. Mexico (528 head), Canada (422) and Ecuador (170) split the remainder of May exports. On Aug. 6, 2014, Russia issued an order banning certain agricultural imports from the United States, the European Union-28, Canada, Australia and Norway for one year. On June 24, 2015, President Putin extended the ban until Aug. 6, 2016. The ban includes most meats and dairy products. Year-to-date (Y-T-D), U.S. female dairy cattle exports total 9,316 head, still the lowest five-month total since 2009. May exports were valued at \$8.48 million, with sales to Russia valued at just over \$6.0 million. Y-T-D, U.S. female dairy cattle exports are valued at \$23.956 million.

Dairy embryo exports: While female dairy cattle exports were up, exports of dairy embryos fell to a 7-month low. Just 285 dairy embryos were exported in May, the smallest number since November 2014. Japan (77), the United Kingdom (59) and Uruguay (54) were the leading markets for the month. May exports were valued at \$310,000, bringing the Y-T-D total to \$2.29 million.

(By Dave Natzke, Editor, Dairy Herd Management) (Source: USDA's Foreign Ag Service)

### **8.6: Veterinarians set antibiotic goal for animals**

“By 2030 New Zealand Inc will not need antibiotics for the maintenance of animal health and wellness,” New Zealand Veterinary Association (NZVA) President Dr Steve Merchant said today (July 20, 2015). Around 70 percent of human infectious diseases, including meningitis, anthrax and salmonellosis (food poisoning) have come from animals. “With sharply increasing levels of resistance to antibiotics worldwide, we want animals and, by extension, humans to enter the ‘post-antibiotic’ era as safely as possible.” Dr Merchant said this is a significant undertaking, requiring considerable teamwork and commitment from the veterinary profession, working with the medical, scientific, government and relevant primary industry

sectors. He described the prize as “enormous” for New Zealand Inc and the world. “Given the wide acceptance that the future for antibiotics is limited, and the close links between animals, humans and the environment we share, achieving this goal is essential,” Dr Merchant said. “New Zealand is well suited to this challenge; given our size, proximity of the various specialities and relevant industry sectors, and already low use of antibiotics.” Examples include:

- Zero use of antibiotics in aquaculture
- New Zealand is the world’s third lowest user of antibiotics on animals
- Increasing focus on animal ‘wellness’
- New Zealand’s grass-based farm management systems.

“These represent a sound platform, and veterinarians’ role at the intersection of animal life, human life and the environment makes ours a logical profession to be taking a lead,” Dr Merchant said. “Achieving this goal will require a concerted international collaborative effort involving attitudinal and behavioural change across government, research, human health professionals, pharmaceutical companies, and a range of associated industries – as well as the public.” “Veterinarians will use and advocate for careful antibacterial management and monitoring based on responsible use of existing antibiotics, as we work with our industry partners to jointly test and develop the necessary alternatives.”

### **8.7: Dr. Sanjeev Kumar Balyan Visits DUVASU, Mathura**

Union Minister of State for Agriculture Dr. Sanjeev Kumar Balyan visited U.P. Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Pashu Chikitsa Vigyan Vishwavidyalaya Evam Go Anusandhan Sansthan (DUVASU), Mathura, on June 15, 2015. In his interaction with the Vice Chancellor, Prof. A.C. Varshney, and Senior Officers of the University on Rashtriya Gokul Mission Project, the Hon’ble Minister informed that the University may get this project very shortly and funds made available for the same. He also visited the museum and the new campus of DUVASU and appreciated various activities of the University

Earlier, on April 28, 2015, Member of Parliament Smt. Hema Malini also visited DUVASU, Mathura, and inaugurated the Go Anusandhan Sansthan Parisar and dedicated it to the service of nation. The mandate of Go Anusandhan Sansthan is to carry out research on conservation of native breeds of cattle in India and to improve their milk production, and on other related areas. The Vice Chancellor briefed about various academic and other activities of the University and Prof. S.K. Garg, Dean College of Veterinary Science and Animal Husbandry, made a brief presentation about overall university activities. Hon’ble M.P. visited museum, dairy farm and poultry unit of the University and appreciated the management and maintenance of various breeds of cattle, buffalo and several varieties of poultry at ILFC.

### **8.8: LUVAS Signs MOU with U.K.’s Pirbright Institute**

Lala Lajpat Rai University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences (LUVAS), Hisar, India, has inked first ever international memorandum of understanding (MOU) with The Pirbright Institute, United Kingdom, the world’s premier institute that works on preventing and controlling animal diseases.



The MOU was signed by Maj Gen Shri Kant, Vice Chancellor on the behalf of LUVAS and Prof John Fazakerley, Director on behalf of the Pirbright Institute in the presence of Dr. Ravindra Sharma, Dr Narender Maan and Dr Sushila Maan of the LUVAS and Prof. Bryan Charleston, Prof Peter Mertens, and Prof Satya Parida of the Pirbright Institute, UK. on 27 Aug 2015

### **8.9: Vet Varsity Surgeon wins International Fellowship**

Ludhiana-26-August, 2015

Dr Vandana Sangwan, Assistant Professor, Guru Angad Dev Veterinary & Animal Sciences University, Ludhiana has been awarded Bernstein International Travel Fellowship by the International Veterinary Radiology Association (IVRA) for the research paper “Pericarditis induced blood flow changes in common carotid artery and external jugular vein in cattle: B mode and Doppler ultrasonography study”. The co-authors were J Mohindroo, A Kumar, CS Randhawa and SS Singh. She presented this paper during the 17th meeting of IVRA which was held in Fremantle, Perth, Western Australia. About 200 radiology diplomats and veterinary practitioners from 32 countries attended the programme. She is recipient of many awards and honours for her research contributions earlier.

Dr Ashwani Kumar, Assistant Professor also attended this international event and presented two research papers in this meeting. One was “Ultrasonographic findings from the right, left and cranial thoracic approaches in the diagnosis of reticular diaphragmatic hernia in cattle and buffaloes” authored by A Kumar, V Sangwan, J Mohindroo, NS Saini and SS Singh. Another paper entitled “Radiographic and ultrasonographic diagnosis and surgical management of double diaphragmatic hernia in cow” by NS Saini, A Kumar, V Sangwan, SK Mahajan and A Anand was presented as poster. To attend this event Dr Kumar was sponsored jointly by Centre for International Cooperation in Science (CICS), Chennai, India and GADVASU, Ludhiana. Dr J Mohindroo, Professor-cum-Head informed that the Department of Veterinary Surgery and Radiology of GADVASU has contributed significantly in the areas of diagnostic imaging and this was the third time that the research work done in this Department has brought the prestigious award. Earlier this award was won by Dr NS Saini (1997) and Dr Ashwani Kumar (2012). He further informed that this department pioneered in ultrasonographic diagnosis of reticular diaphragmatic hernia in bovine and the research work being done at GADVASU is being recognized worldwide. Recently the department has been awarded All India Network Project on

Diagnostic Imaging and Surgery by ICAR, under which the department is planning to establish CT Unit which will further strengthen Diagnostic Imaging unit of Varsity and will benefit dairy, equine and pet owners of Punjab and neighbouring states.

### **8.10: 39<sup>th</sup> I.S.V.S. Annual Congress and Surgery Symposium Held at Srinagar**

The 39<sup>th</sup> Annual Congress of the Indian Society for Veterinary Surgery (ISVS) and National Symposium on “Recent Innovations in Diagnosis and Treatment of Surgical Disorders in Ruminants and Equines with particular applicability in Hilly Terrain” was held at Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Kashmir, Srinagar (J&K), from September 1-3, 2015. Dr. Dil Mohd. Makhdoomi, Professor-cum-Head of the Department of Veterinary Surgery and Radiology of the University was the Organizing Secretary of the 3-day event.



Shri N.N. Vohra, Hon'ble Governor of J&K State and Chancellor of SKUAST-Kashmir was the Chief Guest at the Inaugural Function, while Shri Sajad Gani Lone, Hon'ble Minister for Science and Technology and Animal Husbandry, was the Guest of Honour. Inaugurating the Congress Governor N.N. Vohra observed that given the vast area, suitable climate, availability of good pasture lands, etc., there is a lot of potential for the development of Animal Husbandry sector of the State, which needs to be fully harnessed. The hon'ble Minister Sajjad Gani Lone spoke on the occasion about various programmes and initiatives launched by his ministry for the development of Animal Husbandry and praised Veterinary doctors, the alumni of SKUAST Kashmir for their performance in the field and stressed upon the scientists to bridge the gap between Science and commerce as far as livestock industry and the latest developments in the Veterinary Science were concerned. Dr Tej Partap Vice-Chancellor lauded the role of Veterinary Faculty in bringing laurels to the SKUASK-K. He appreciated and congratulated Veterinary students and teachers for excelling in the competitive examinations at National levels by the students of the veterinary Faculty. Prof Sarfaraz Ahmed Wani, Dean presented the profile of veterinary Faculty. Addressing the gatherings of surgeons and academicians including eminent scientists from country and abroad, The organizing Secretary expressed his great pleasure for the presence of more than 400 delegates attending the national congress of veterinary Surgeons first time in Kashmir and lauded the role played by veterinary surgery in jammu and Kashmir.

The conference comprised six technical sessions and two poster sessions. The presenter laid emphasis on recent innovations and updates in veterinary surgery. The quality of the presentations and the papers for this congress were quite high relative to most conferences since last several years and majority of papers were on the upper side which was a tribute to the efforts in putting together a good program and the attention individuals have given to the papers. Indeed, this has been a great learning and knowledge sharing experience that has enhanced everyone's knowledge. During the conference the Governor presented Awards to the Veterinary Scientists and experts for their outstanding contributions in this field and released a Compendium on the occasion. The scientists who were honoured included eminent scientists namely Dr. A.K. Sharma, Dr. L. Nagarajan and Dr. B.N. Nagaraja as fellows for 2014 and Prof. Dil Mohmmad Makhdoomi ,who was conferred as fellow of ISVS for the year 2015 for his outstanding work in the field of Veterinary profession development in general and Veterinary Surgery and Radiology in particular. The awards included a citation, certificate and Shawl. Besides the chief guest distributed the awards among awardees Dr Ratan Singh Memorial award to Dr. S. Thilagar, Dr. R.P.S. Tyagi Oration award to Dr. M.S. Vasanth, Dr. O. Ramakrishna Oration Award Dr. D.B. Patil and Anil-Arun Chandna Award (Surgeon of the year) to Dr. A.M. Pawde.

Honorable Vice chancellor was the chief Guest for the valedictory function who distributed awards among the awardees of 38<sup>th</sup> Annual congress held at Bikaner,Rajasthan.As per the recommendations of the judges, ISVS declared six best paper awards from six different sessions which included a paper in Avian Surgery by a team of Scientists from Veterinary faculty by Prof. Makhdoomi and fellow scientists.The team shall receive the award in 40<sup>th</sup> Annual conference in Tamil Nadu Veterinary University.The elections of the executive body of ISVS were also conducted and Dr. S.Thilagar Vice Chancellor ,Tamil Nadu Veterinary University was elected as the president and Prof. Dil Mohamed Makhdoomi from SKUAST Kashmir as Vice president and Dr MM Ansari , Assoc. Prof.as Zonal Secretary of the Indian Society for Veterinary Surgery.

Zeal and tireless efforts shown by various committees constituted for the event with smile on their faces was the force behind the successful conduct of the congress.

### **8.11: Veterinary Council of India (VCI) Recognizes ACVM Graduates**

The Apollo College of Veterinary Medicine (ACVM), Jaipur, affiliated with the Rajasthan University of Veterinary and Animal Science (RAJUVAS), Bikaner, is the first private sector veterinary college in India. It opened a new chapter in the history of privatization of veterinary education in the country. It started in a rented building with the first batch of 21 students in October, 2003. Soon thereafter the construction started in a 20-acre campus on Agra Road. In January 2006 they moved into their own new building. The students who have passed out so far have been performing well and some of them have bagged meritorious positions amongst the graduating students of the three Colleges of the University. However, lack of timely recognition of the college by the Veterinary Council of India (VCI) a lot of anxiety was caused to the students, academic staff and administration of the College that ultimately led to a case in the Supreme Court of India. This was in addition to ownership squabbles including police complaints etc. The conditions deteriorated to such an extent that a senior professor of the college stated that the veterinary profession in Rajasthan was in turmoil. The state of Rajasthan,

which had the distinction of creating Public Private Partnership in Veterinary and Animal Husbandry sector, was in the grip of a clear divide between Public and Private Relationship. Efforts to resolve this 'turmoil' were in their final phase by 2013-14 when it was expected from the Supreme Court to pass its final order so that the affected students, staff members, employees and administration of ACVM ceases to suffer any more. In March 2014, a founding member of the administration wrote an open letter to the Supreme Court. The decision by the court, though delayed, provided a sigh of relief to the veterinary profession as a whole as it was a step in the direction of meeting the much needed demand for veterinarians in the country.

Sadly, the full implementation of the Supreme Court verdict took almost another one year. However, all is well that ends well. The VCI has now recognized the degree of all the graduates of ACVM and the graduates received their degrees at the first convocation of RAJUVAS held recently. Those who were still studying at ACVM have been shifted to the Bikaner Veterinary College of the same University. It is quite satisfying that all the students who earned graduation from the ACVM (and from another private veterinary college of Rajasthan) were conferred their VCI recognized degrees at the aforesaid convocation of RAJUVAS on 16.09.2015. This happened because the colleges in Rajasthan from where these students earned graduation have been granted a time bound recognition by VCI. The Founder President & Trustee, ACVM / Apollo Animal Medical Group, India, Dr. Raj Khare, 1728 West Cheltenham Ave Philadelphia, Pa. 19126 USA, in his letters (copies of which are with NAVS Newsletter) has profusely complimented and congratulated numerous persons including Hon'ble Radha Mohanji Agriculture Minister, GOI, Hon'ble Dr. Sanjeev Kumar Balyan, Minister of State, Dept. of Animal Husbandry, GOI, Dr. Umesh Sharma, President, VCI, for their commendable guidance and action in clearing the existing confusion and taking the bold step of recognizing all the previously graduated students from ACVM up to July 24<sup>th</sup>; 2015 so as to relieve the long standing tension among the affected students/graduates. Dr. Raj Khare has also circulated a reply dated September 4, 2015 which he received from Mr. Akhilesh Kamal, Director NPRSM (Director I&C, DADF), with reference to the grievance on the implementation of decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court on the recognition of degree of the said students. An abridged portion of that letter is reproduced below:

"In pursuance to the directions of Hon'ble Supreme Court, in respect of the other student who have been admitted and pursuing their studies on the date of the judgment i.e., 25.07.2014, the Central Government had sought the report from VCI for recognition of the degree as per section 15(2) read with section 21(4) of IVC Act,1984 on 04.08.2014 and thereafter following up with VCI for furnishing the report so that the judgment of Hon'ble Supreme Court can be implemented in letter and spirit in a time bound manner".

"Now VCI, vide its report dated 28.07.2015 has recommended the amendment in the First Schedule to the IVC Act,1984 for recognizing the qualification awarded on or before 24.07.2015 by Rajasthan University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Bikaner in respect of Apollo College of Veterinary Medicine, Jaipur and Mahatma Gandhi Veterinary College, Bharatpur. VCI has also decided that remaining students who are pursuing their studies including internship in Apollo College of Veterinary Medicine, Jaipur and Mahatma Gandhi Veterinary College, Bharatpur under Rajasthan University of Animal and Veterinary Sciences, Bikaner will be shifted to College of Veterinary Science, Bikaner at whatsoever stage of their study including internship. The University authorities shall make necessary arrangement towards/shifting of such students from these two private veterinary colleges to College of Veterinary Science, Bikaner



under Rajasthan University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Bikaner. The recommendation of VCI has been accepted by the Competent Authority in the Department and notification thereof is under printing.”

Though the Indian veterinarians in general and the veterinary educational professionals in particular, are unanimously and justifiably elated at these developments, the ACVM story is not yet over. Lately the admissions in these private veterinary colleges were stopped under instructions from the Veterinary Council of India (V.C.I) who have now circulated new guide lines for opening new private veterinary colleges in the country wherein the V.C.I has laid down new conditions including a requirement of a security deposit of Rupees Five Crores for starting a new veterinary college in private sector. In the aforesaid congratulatory letters issued by Dr. Raj Khare to the concerned offices, he has explained that since the ACVM was established in 2003, has already been functioning in its own well equipped buildings and several batches of students have graduated and earned the BVSc &AH degrees now recognized by VCI, ACVM it was not a new college. He adds: “Although it was not a new college, we accepted the condition and made a request to the V.C.I for giving us a relaxation in allowing fresh admission and allowing us time to deposit the security amount in phases i.e. Rupees one Crore each year since our only income comes from the fee charged from the students.”

Many veterinary educationists (including the NAVS editor) feel that in view of the dire shortage of veterinarians in the country, public-private partnership in this sector should not be discouraged. It is believed that application of a new rule retrospectively is not considered logical by majority of people. To Dr. J.S. Bhatia, an eminent educationist, it ‘sounds irrational that these colleges (ACVM & MGVC) are being asked to apply afresh as per the new guidelines for establishing a new veterinary college in private sector. It is astonishing that the colleges that have produced 6-7 batches of graduates be abruptly considered closed. The VCI ought to have considered alternate modalities (well within the provisions of the IVC Act and regulations framed therein) to upscale some shortcomings that have erupted on account of non availability of permission to admit students. Expecting these colleges to make a fresh beginning is not a justified approach’. Most of us would tend to agree with him and wish that the institutions established after a lot of investments and dedicated efforts of numerous people should not be allowed to suffer an unnatural death and damage the interest of the nation at large. .

## 8.12: New Books: (A) Veterinary Mycology and Veterinary Bacteriology

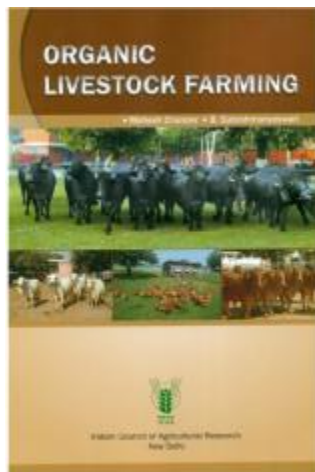
Dr. Indranil Samanta,  
Department of Veterinary  
Microbiology, West  
Bengal University of  
Animal and Fishery  
Sciences, 37, K.B. Sarani,  
Kolkata- 700037,  
([isamanta76@gmail.com](mailto:isamanta76@gmail.com)  
>), writes to inform that  
his two books cited above

have recently been published. For details:

<http://www.springer.com/in/book/9788132222798>), <http://www.bookfatoryindia.com/index.php?p=sr&Uc=9789381450550> or <http://www.amazon.in/Veterinary-Bacteriology-Indranil-Samanta-ebook/dp/B00WFGUJA8>)



## **(B): Organic Livestock Farming: A Recent Publication of interest**



**Organic Livestock Farming** by Mahesh Chander & B Subrahmanyeswari is published by Directorate of Knowledge Management in Agriculture, ICAR, New Delhi.

Food production systems have been continuously improving since the days of hunter gatherers, adjusting to the emerging demands for quantity and quality. Organic agriculture is considered to be a most recent, sophisticated, knowledge & skills intensive quality assuring system of food production. Obviously, many are looking for information on this new system of food production. This need has been met to some extent by the book “Organic Livestock Farming”, recently published by the ICAR. This book is a good source of information for all those interested to know the basics of organic livestock farming which is an emerging area and complete information is not readily available. It is very useful for trainers and livestock farmers interested in this new system of livestock production.

(This book priced ₹ 520 + Rs50 postal charges can be ordered from Shri. S.K. Joshi, Business Manager, Directorate of Knowledge Management in Agriculture, Indian Council of Agricultural Research, Krishi Anusandhan Bhavan-I, Pusa, New Delhi-110 012 INDIA; [bmicar@icar.org.in](mailto:bmicar@icar.org.in); Phone: 91-11-25843657.

As you know, organic farming is coming up in a big way, whether one likes it or not !! I am attaching here information about the Book: ORGANIC LIVESTOCK FARMING published by ICAR. This book was reviewed by Dr N Balaraman for Indian Veterinary Journal in its 2013 issue.

Since June 1 2015, organic livestock standards (developed by APEDA & BIS) are being implemented for domestic organic livestock farming. Many states are declaring themselves as organic state (Sikkim for instance is going to be full organic state w.e.f 1 Jan, 2016), the scientific/academic community can not afford to be silent on this matter but come forward and enrich this emerging area.

## 9. SCIENCE, HEALTH & SOCIETY

### 9.1: 9 interesting facts about our National Anthem

It is a reflex in every Indian to rise the moment you hear the pride inducing words from our national anthem, leaving all what one is busy with. Soulful composition and the evocative lyrics surely move you into the realm of patriotism, at least momentarily.

1. The false myth that Jana Gana Mana was written and composed by Tagore to praise George the Fourth, who visited India in 1911.

In a letter dated 19th March 1939, Tagore wrote - "I should only insult myself if I cared to answer those who consider me capable of such unbounded stupidity as to sing in praise of George the Fourth or George the Fifth as the Eternal Charioteer leading the pilgrims on their journey through countless ages of the timeless history of mankind. That pretty much explains it."

2. A hoax message spread like wild fire across e-mail, Whatsapp and social media, that UNESCO announced our anthem as the 'Best National Anthem' in the world. UNESCO intervened and denied any such declaration from their end.

3. The first rendition of the song was during a convention of the Indian National Congress on December 16th, 1911. 'Jana Gana Mana' was performed for the first time in Hamburg on 11th September, 1942. It was only on 24th January 1950 that this song was officially declared as India's national anthem.

4. The musical notations for the English translation of our national anthem were set by Margaret, wife of poet James H. Cousins, who was the principal of Besant Theosophical College.

5. Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose commissioned a free translation of the national anthem from Sanskritized Bengali to Urdu-Hindi. The translation was written by Captain Abid Ali, composed by Captain Ram Singh Thakur and was called Subah Sukh Chain.

6. There is no provision of law which compels anyone to sing the national anthem. It is not considered disrespectful to the nation or to the anthem if a person chooses only to stand up in respectful silence.

7. Formal rendition of the anthem should take 52 seconds by law, and not 54 seconds.

8. Interestingly, Rabindranath Tagore has written the national anthem of Bangladesh as well.

9. In 2005, many protested and called for deleting the word Sindh and to replace it with the word Kashmir. Argument was that Sindh is now a part of Kashmir.

On 7th of July, 2015, Rajasthan Governor, Kalyan Singh has called for replacing the word Adhinayaka with the word Mangal, basing his argument on the myth Tagore himself busted back in 1939 itself.

([IndiaToday.in](http://IndiaToday.in) New Delhi, July 8, 2015)

## 9.2: About Telomeres

**Dr. Al Sears, MD, CNS, 11905 Southern Blvd., Royal Palm Beach, FL 33411**, attended a conference in Rome on "tissue science and regenerative medicine." in July and delivered a lecture on telomeres to present results from his latest study of his own patients. It was exciting for him to be able to share this new technology with fellow doctors. This is a sneak peek at the stunning results of his study in his own words:

"I've been tracking the progress of my patients who are taking part in my *telomerase activation protocol*. They're all following a specific set of guidelines that give them the best chance of switching on the telomerase enzyme. As you know, telomerase is the enzyme that rebuilds your telomeres. And that's where the magic happens. When you turn on that enzyme, your telomeres gradually get longer. And that lengthening is what slows down your aging. Over time, your body creates younger and younger cells. And when I measure telomere length, the longer telomeres correspond with a younger biological age."

"Let's say you come to my clinic and I do the first round of tests. You may be 60 years old, but have a biological age of someone who's 64. That means you're aging faster than you should be. It means stress and other factors are shortening your life, while zapping your energy and performance. So the goal is to turn on telomerase, so your cells start regenerating and "growing younger." Over time, I'll be able to measure your progress and I can show you on a graph how much "younger" you're getting. That's what I'm doing in my clinic, and that's what I showed the doctors at that conference in Rome".

## 9.3: Drinking Water on Empty Stomach Immediately After Waking Up!

Drinking water immediately after waking up is a popular ritual in Japan. Scientists agree that is very beneficial to our health. For our readers we publish below a description of use of water. For curing various kinds of diseases drinking water has been found to be very successful in the Japanese medical society, treating numerous diseases, including:

Epilepsy, bronchitis asthma, diarrhea, vomiting, urine and kidney diseases, diabetes, menstrual disorders, meningitis, arthritis, headache, heart beating fast, all eye diseases, prevents fatness etc.

1. Drink 4 x 160 ml of water immediately after waking up, even before brushing teeth.
2. Now you can brush your teeth, but don't eat yet anything for another 45 minutes.
3. After 45 minutes you may eat normally.
4. After eating breakfast, lunch and dinner do not drink or eat anything for another 2 hours.
5. Those unable from sickness or age to drink 4 glasses of water can gradually increase the content little by little each day.
6. People who practice this routine will cure above mentioned diseases and enjoy the full benefit of healthy life.

Below we will describe the list of days it takes to practice this routine for curing certain kinds of diseases:

1. Gastric – 10 days
2. High blood pressure – 30 days
3. Constipation – 10 days
4. TB – 90 days
5. Diabetes – 30 days

Patients with arthritis should practice this treatment only for 3 days the first week, and continue daily from next week.

This treatment method has no side effects, however at the commencement of treatment you may have to urinate a few times. It is better if we continue this and make this procedure as a routine work in our life. Drink Water and Stay healthy and Active. (<http://www.dailynutritionnews.com/drinking-water-empty-stomach-immediately-waking/>)

**In reply to some negative comments on the above post, a top commentator replied as under:**

Why are people so dumb! Water is great because our body is made of more than 80% water, our brain sits in water and so does our heart, so drinking water is not only good for inside but also for outside, for skin in particular! But you have to eat healthy and exercise at least 30 minutes walk everyday and sleep on time at least 8 hrs a night without smoking or drinking alcohol then you'll live longer and might not need to see a doctor and you'll be clean inside and out! So the article was not lying but was geared to normal people who do know how to live healthy and clean life! But if you go to McDo, plastic food or smoke you might as well go get you head checked out!

#### **9.4: Rice and Fish Culture in Indonesia**



Rice-fish culture involves farmers introducing fish into their rice fields. This technique is good for both the fish and the rice. Safely hidden from birds, the fish thrive in the dense rice plants, while they in turn provide a source of fertilizer with their droppings, eat insect pests and help to circulate oxygen around the rice field. Farmers tell us that keeping fish in rice fields can increase rice yields by up to 10% – plus they have the additional supplies of fish.

#### **9.5: Toward International Year of Pulses 2016, experts gathered in Bangkok to discuss multiple benefits of pulses**

Pulses, often referred to as ‘poor people’s meat,’ are under threat with prices increasing and production declining in the Asian region, an FAO convened consultation on pulses heard today.

The production of pulses, a nutritious food, is under pressure from a variety of sources, according to speakers at the Regional Consultation on the Promotion of Pulses for Multiple Benefits in Asia.

The meeting is organized by FAO in collaboration with the International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) and the International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA). The keynote speaker, MS Swaminathan, is a renowned Indian geneticist, well-known internationally for his leading role in India's Green Revolution.

“Contribution of pulses is still key in achieving food and nutrition security of the millions of people living in this region and it will remain so in the future,” said Hiroyuki Konuma, FAO Assistant Director-General and Regional Representative for Asia and the Pacific. “Pulses are a part of their culture, beliefs, economy and also an integral part of their farming systems with direct involvement of women farmers and the time has come to provide renewed thrust to this group of crops.”

**“The year 2016 has been declared the “Year of Pulses”** and in this regard, this consultation is very timely and appropriate,” Konuma said. “Collaboration of ICRISAT and ICARDA, both involved in the fields of pulses, indicates the importance of working together both regionally and nationally to provide support to the millions of pulse growers of this region.”

Professor Swaminathan explained that an increase in the production of protein-rich pulses such as lentils, chickpeas and other varieties, could help feed the world, as global population is expected to surpass nine billion by 2050, and thus contribute to meeting the Zero Hunger Challenge introduced by the UN Secretary-General in 2012. However, climate smart agricultural approaches would be necessary and more efficient use of water to achieve ‘more crop per drop.’ He added that policy makers would also need to play a critical role to assist smallholders through remunerative price support and assured markets.

Konuma pointed out that farming of pulses is being pushed to more marginal and non-productive lands due to conflicts with competing crops such as rice and wheat and thus production of pulses remains low. The prices of pulses are at least three times higher than those of rice and wheat.

“Removal of pulses from age old cropping patterns is also believed to be one of the reasons of low productivity of soils,” added Konuma, pointing out that in this, International Year of Soils 2015, the agricultural community needs to pay greater attention to improvements in the production of pulses.

“Being a crop of rain fed areas, pulses are also highly vulnerable to natural disasters and climate change and effects of the changing environmental conditions on pulses therefore have a greater impact on this crop,” Konuma said.

The participants discussed the need to develop high yielding pulse varieties which will complement the environment of small scale farmers.

Poor nutrition and micronutrient deficiencies continue to be a serious matter across the region, particularly as they affect children. Given the reliance by poorer communities on pulses for nutrition, greater efforts are needed to boost production of pulses and contribute to the future of regional food security. (29/06/2015 Bangkok, Thailand)

## **9.6: How to Overcome Late Night Sugar Craving Naturally?**

As you break the day’s hustle and bustle, the need for something sweet *yet* unhealthy will arise. Especially, if you have a strong sweet tooth; sugar craving at night might seem

unavoidable. According to a recent survey, more than 60% of the world faces night-time sugar craving. If you are a part of this populace, consider yourself as lucky! Since, there are ways of overcoming this urge to eat sugary items at night.

### **The Science Behind Hunger**

Science declares that late night craving is caused due to many reasons. The actual symptoms differ from one person to another. This is why you should analyze your medical condition before opting for a cure. According to experienced dieticians, nutritional deficiency does not cause sugar craving. Instead, it is caused due to behavioral changes! For instance, if you have had a strong sugar tooth from childhood, you *will* face late night sugar cravings. On the other hand, hormonal changes and sensory stimulation increases the need for sugar.

### **Sleep On Time**

Moving on, you should learn to eat and sleep on time. People who consume healthy meals and follow a balanced lifestyle are less likely to face late night sugar cravings! Likewise, don't consume early dinners. This is because you may feel hungry late at night. "Hunger" is a major reason behind late night sugar craving. If the gap between your dinner and sleep-time increases, you may end up consuming more food. Thus, keep this gap as small as possible and eat five small meals throughout the day. Balanced dietary routines will regulate your blood sugar level and reduce the chances of late night food crunch.

### **Stay Away from Food**

You can get rid of late night sugar cravings by following a harder route too! Try to get rid of unhealthy snacks, junk food and heavy sweets from your house. This way, you will not have access to sugary treats when you feel hungry.

### **The Ultimate Bottom Line**

Finally, remember that you are not expected to run away from sweets and desserts to curb late night hunger! Instead, be careful with the diet you consume. Make sure you eat a healthy diet with the right kind of ingredients. The change has to come from within. For example, you can substitute high-caloric ice creams with dark chocolate or fruits. The foremost change will definitely revitalize your health and save you from late night sugar craving naturally.

## **9.7: World's first malaria vaccine clears one of the final hurdles**

The European Medicines Agency gave a positive scientific opinion after assessing its safety and effectiveness. It represents a 'green light' for the Mosquirix jab, developed by GlaxoSmithKline.

The World Health Organization will consider later this year whether to recommend it for children, among whom trials have yielded mixed results. Malaria kills around 584,000 people a year worldwide, most of them children under five in sub-Saharan Africa.

### **'Dream come true'**

Mosquirix, otherwise known as the RTS,S vaccine, is the first against a parasitic infection in humans.

Dr Ripley Ballou, head of research at GSK vaccines, said: "This is a hugely significant moment. I've been working on this vaccine for 30 years and this is a dream come true."

The company has not revealed the price of the vaccine, but has pledged not to make a profit from it.

## **9.8: GADVASU Ludhiana caters emu meat for meat lovers**

**Ludhiana-06-August, 2015**

Guru Angad Dev Veterinary & Animal Sciences University has initiated an Emu Meat popularity drive and is selling dressed boneless Emu Meat to the public at a reduced and affordable price of Rs. 120/kg. Dr. Manish Kumar Chaitli Head of Department of Livestock Products Technology revealed that Emu meat is an excellent option for health conscious non-vegetarian consumers. Emu meat is a high quality red meat, pleasing to the palate. It has a finer texture than goat/sheep meat and is two to three times higher in iron content. It is low in cholesterol and high in minerals such as iron, zinc, phosphorus, magnesium and vitamin such as B2, B6 and B12. Therefore if you are looking for a healthy, nutritious, low-fat meal, with a distinctive taste, emu meat is the perfect product. Modern research shows 'EMU meat is an excellent diet for people suffering from heart-ailments. EMU meat is easily digestible, very tasty and hence it serves as a very good alternative for mutton and chevon. Emu meat has an advantage over other meats as it provides the taste of red meat while containing properties of white meat. American Heart Association recommends Emu Meat to heart patients due to its low-fat and cholesterol contents. Hygienic, wholesome Emu meat and its various products such as pickle, nuggets, patties etc. will also be available in the Department of Livestock Products Technology, College of Veterinary Science, Guru Angad Dev Veterinary & Animal Sciences University at very nominal price on working days.

## **9.9: India moves to establish melamine limits for infant formula**

India has moved to establish a maximum limit for melamine in liquid and powdered infant formula. <http://www.dairyreporter.com/Regulation-Safety/India-moves-to-establish-melamine-limits-for-infant-formula>

## **9.10: World Antibiotic Awareness Week: 16-22 November 2015**

### **Antibiotics: handle with care**

World Antibiotic Awareness Week aims to increase awareness of global antibiotic resistance and to encourage best practices among the general public, health workers and policy makers to avoid the further emergence and spread of antibiotic resistance.

A global action plan to tackle the growing problem of resistance to antibiotics and other antimicrobial medicines was endorsed at the Sixty-eighth World Health Assembly in May 2015. One of the key objectives of the plan is to improve awareness and understanding of antimicrobial resistance through effective communication, education and training.

The theme of the campaign, Antibiotics: Handle with Care, reflects the overarching message that antibiotics are a precious resource and should be preserved. They should be used to treat bacterial infections, only when prescribed by a certified health professional. Antibiotics should never be shared and the full course of treatment should be completed – not saved for the future. WHO is encouraging all Member States and health partners to join this campaign and help raise awareness of this issue. A variety of resources will be made available to support local campaigns including factsheets, infographics, posters and multi-media materials.

For more information on the campaign, please contact: [chapmans@who.int](mailto:chapmans@who.int).



## **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: 6th meeting of the LASA ([www.lasaindia.in](http://www.lasaindia.in)), 15-16 October, 2015, Navi Mumbai**

The 6th meeting of the “Laboratory Animal Scientists Association” (LASA) India will be held at ACTREC ([www.actrec.gov.in](http://www.actrec.gov.in)), Navi Mumbai during 15-16 October, 2015. Official first announcement of the meeting can be viewed on our website: [www.lasaindia.in](http://www.lasaindia.in).

### **10.2: World Veterinary Association: Zoonotic Disease Online Course Offered in October, 2015**

Recent outbreaks of plague, tularemia and increasing incidents of rabies exposure highlight the importance of zoonotic disease education for veterinarians, physicians, and public health professionals. Prevention and response efforts will require a One Health approach. The Center for Food Security and Public Health (CFSPH) at Iowa State University College of Veterinary Medicine will offer a web-based course, Zoonoses: Protecting People and Their Pets, October 19 – November 27, 2015. To find out more and to register, visit <http://zoonoses.info>.

### **10.3: International Symposium on Ecology and Health Management of Asiatic Elephant in its landscape, 10-11 November, 2015, New Delhi.** For details Contact: Dr. B.M. Arora, E-mail: [asianelephant2015@gmail.com](mailto:asianelephant2015@gmail.com); Mobile: 919456245380

### **10.4: 7th Kerala Veterinary Science Congress, 14-15 November 2015, Pookode, Kerala**

Organized by Indian Veterinary Association, Kerala, in association with the Animal Husbandry Department, Government of Kerala at the College of Veterinary & Animal Sciences Pookode, Wayanad campus of Kerala Veterinary & Animal Sciences University. The KVSC-2015 will be an international platform for interaction among academicians, researchers, practicing field veterinarians, wild life experts and policy makers from all across the globe. For more details please visit [www.ivakvsc.org](http://www.ivakvsc.org) or email: [vetsciencecongress@gmail.com](mailto:vetsciencecongress@gmail.com)

### **10.5: XXIX Annual Convention of IAVMI, November 27-29, 2015, Guwahati, Assam**

The XXIX Annual Convention of Indian Association of Veterinary Microbiologists, Immunologists and Specialists in Infectious Diseases (IAVMI) and Global Symposium on “Animal Health: Newer Technologies and their Applications” is to be held at Guwahati from November 27-29, 2015. For details contact: [malikphisar@hotmail.com](mailto:malikphisar@hotmail.com) or Dr S K Das, Ph# +919435014705

### **10.6: International Conference on Nanomaterials and Nanotechnology (NANO-15) - 7-10 December 2015, Tiruchengode, Tamil Nadu**

Organised by Centre for Nanoscience and Technology K.S.Rangasamy College of Technology, Tiruchengode, Tamil Nadu, India in Association World Class University (WCU),

GIST, South Korea. *Salient features:* 6 Plenary talks includes two **Nobel Laureates** (Prof. Robert Huber, Germany and Prof. Kurt Wuethrich, USA) and four distinguished scientists Prof.S.Banerjee, Prof.Baldev Raj, Prof.G.Sundararajan, and Prof. Malik Maaza; 17 Key note addresses; 60 Invited talks and more than 26 participating countries .

**10.7: 25<sup>th</sup> National Congress of Veterinary Parasitology, 16 - 18 December, 2015, Madras Veterinary College, Chennai**

25<sup>th</sup> National Congress of Veterinary Parasitology and National Symposium on “One health approach - Plausible solution for sustainable parasite control“ will be held at Madras Veterinary College, Chennai from 16 - 18 December, 2015, For details contact: [ncvp25mvc@gmail.com](mailto:ncvp25mvc@gmail.com); Phone: 044-25304000 (Extn. 2042, 2051)

**10.8: 44<sup>th</sup> Dairy Industry Conference, February 18-20, 2016, NDRI, Karnal**

Indian Dairy Association (North Zone) is organizing the 44<sup>th</sup> Dairy Industry Conference with the theme: “**Make in India: Dairying 2030**” during February 18-20, 2016, at NDRI, Karnal. For details Contact: Mr. A.K. Sharma, Secretary General - DIC, Phones: 0184-2259293 / 2259294; Mobile: 919416391999; E-mail: [aksndri55@gmail.com](mailto:aksndri55@gmail.com); [info@44dicndri.in](mailto:info@44dicndri.in); Web: [www.44dicndri.in](http://www.44dicndri.in)

**10.9: International Veterinary Information Services (ISVS) Announces Distance Education [DE] Calendar for 2016**

Many distance education (DE) courses are open for enrolment at the **Centre for Veterinary Education (CVE) in Sydney, Australia, for 2016**. DE programs are mentored by leading veterinary experts who provide individual feedback and advice on completion of each module.

The Centre for Veterinary Education is committed to providing quality practical and applied professional development to Veterinarians for over 50 years and we have used our knowledge and expertise to offer superior distance education programs, allowing you to become the best vet you can be. <http://www.ivis.org/newsletter/archives/jun15/jun1215cve.htm>



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