



NAVS NEWS VIBES

NATIONAL ACADEMY OF VETERINARY SCIENCES (INDIA)

Volume 6 • Issue 1 • January 2026

GOVERNING COUNCIL

PRESIDENT

Dr D V R Prakash Rao

VICE-PRESIDENT

Prof A C Varshney

SECRETARY GENERAL

Maj Gen M L Sharma (Retd.)

TREASURER

Dr S K Gupta

EDITOR

Dr L D Singla

MEMBERS

Dr Ashok Kumar

Dr Gajraj Singh

Dr Subodh Kumar Saha

Dr Jagmohan Kataria

Dr Mandeep Sharma

Dr Manish Kumar Chatli

Dr Yashpal Singh Malik

Dr Ravindra Sharma

Dr Rajeswari Shome

Dr Neelam Bansal

Dr Varinder Pal Uppal

Dr Jyoti Palod

Col Dr Tej Ram

Dr Vivek Kumar Gupta

Dr Vipin K Gupta

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

Dr B Maheswarappa Naveena

Animal Husbandry Commissioner, Govt. of India

Dr Raghvendra Bhatta

DDG (Animal Science), ICAR

Maj Gen S S Balaje

Director General, RVS, Min. of Defence

Dr Umesh C Sharma

President, Veterinary Council of India

National Academy of Veterinary Science (India)

(Regd.) Admin Block,

Room No - 5, DMS Complex, Shadipur,

West Patel Nagar, New Delhi - 110008

E-mail: navsdelhi@gmail.com

Phone: +91-9316061974

Visit us: <http://www.navsindia.org/>

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

EDITORIAL: Editor's Desk	2
HORIZON: President's Views & Vision	3
THE ACADEMY: Events & Endeavors	4
FOOD FOR THOUGHT: Livestock Welfare and Health	11
SPLENDOUR: Shining Veterinarians	12
LEST WE FORGET: Obituary	13
GROUNDBREAKING DISCOVERIES: A Nobel Legacy	15
ACADEMIA: Scholastic Connections	16
REFLECTIONS: The Issues That Were	16
TIDBITS: Soupcon	17
SPOTLIGHT FROM ABROAD: Learning from Sweden	18
BEYOND THE BOUNDARIES: Sister Sciences	18
ADVERTISEMENT: Sponsored Content	19

ISSUE HIGHLIGHTS ...

- 3 Presidential Address at Academy's XXIII Annual Convocation cum Scientific Convention
- 4 XXIII NAVS Convocation & National Convention on Livestock Transformation for Viksit Bharat @2047
- 10 A Historic Milestone in Veterinary Parasitology: Asia Pacific's First Congress Makes its Mark
- 11 DAHD Releases Guidelines on Blood Banking
- 11 AWBI's SOP on Stray Dog Management in Institutions
- 15 Telesurgery: A New Frontier in Global Surgical Care

EDITORIAL

EDITOR'S DESK

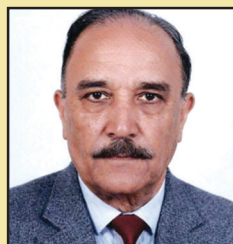
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



President
Dr. D.V.R. Prakash Rao



Vice President
Prof. A.C. Varshney



Secretary General
Maj. Gen. M.L. Sharma (Retd.)



Treasurer
Dr. S.K. Gupta



Editor
Dr. L.D. Singla

Dear Esteemed Fellows and Valued Readers,

We stand at a defining moment, not merely for a profession, but for a nation. As India marches purposefully toward *Viksit Bharat @2047*, the livestock and poultry sectors play a major role at the intersection of rural prosperity, nutritional security, and public health. This edition of *NAVS News VIBES* arrives at precisely such a juncture, carrying within its pages both the weight of recent achievements and the urgency of unfinished work.

The XXIII NAVS Convocation at Patna, jointly organized with Bihar Animal Sciences University, was more than a ceremonial milestone. Delegates representing academia, research, extension, policy, industry, and the field came together to deliberate on a strategic framework for transforming India's livestock and poultry sectors. India has achieved impressive scale in animal production, yet scale alone has not translated into resilience, or economic efficiency. Disease burden distribution, deficiency induced poor reproductive efficiency, inadequate nutrition, and fragile biosecurity remain persistent constraints. The Convention's recommendations strengthening translational research, reforming need based veterinary curricula, advancing precision nutrition, and building robust value chains are aspirational generalities and actionable imperatives. The question is no longer *what* must be done. It is *who will do it* and *when*.

The proposed establishment of an Indian Council for Veterinary and Fisheries Research (ICVFR) deserves immediate attention. Veterinary science is main part of agriculture, it is a distinct bioscience discipline operating at the interface of animal health, human safety, and environmental sustainability. That its institutional footprint remains disproportionately small is a structural injustice that the profession must collectively address. NAVS (India), now co-opted onto the committee for the formation of the National Veterinary Commission, is positioned as never before to lend its scientific voice to the policy architecture. This is a moment that demands clarity, not caution.

The Animal Welfare Board of India's landmark SOP on stray dog management, issued on 27 November 2025 in response to the Supreme Court's suo motu directive is a legally enforceable framework covering schools, hospitals, railway stations, airports, and religious sites. Nodal Officers must be appointed, barriers installed, and dogs relocated to designated shelters, not returned to original locations. Veterinary professionals are not merely service providers; they are stakeholders in public health governance whose expertise must shape implementation at every level. Equally, research on Indian flying foxes as AMR sentinels confirms that environmental contamination from agricultural runoff and livestock antibiotic residues drives cross-species microbial exchange, making ecologically informed biosurveillance, controlled antibiotic use, and integrated waste management urgent national priorities.

Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Govt. of India has released national SOPs for blood transfusion and blood banking in animals, with a proposed National Veterinary Blood Bank Network, bringing standardised critical care to the country's vast livestock population. The co-option of NAVS (India) onto the National Veterinary Commission committee places the Academy, for the first time, at the legislative heart of the profession's future, a responsibility demanding our full collective scientific voice.

This issue pays tribute to distinguished Fellows we have lost, whose legacies endure through their students, institutions, and shared knowledge, setting a benchmark for future generations. We also celebrate international recognition for our Fellows, new publications, young scientist awards, and a promising Swedish model of early animal care training worth considering in India. India's progress in paediatric telesurgery with the indigenous Mantra 3 system reflecting NAVS (India)'s strength in linking excellence with opportunity and science with practice.

To every reader of this newsletter i.e. fellow, member, student, scientist, or practitioner, the message of this issue is simple and unambiguous: Our moment has arrived. The national discourse is shaped by the contributions we make today. Engage, contribute, innovate, and mentor. The pages ahead reflect a community that is doing exactly that.

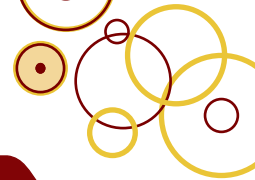
Together, we rise.

L.D. Singla

Editor, NAVS News VIBES

EDITORIAL BOARD

Dr Ashwani Kumar Professor, Veterinary Surgery & Radiology, GADVASU, Ludhiana	Dr Jyoti Palod Professor, CVASc, GBPUAT, Pantnagar	Dr D Thyagarajan Former Director and Dean, TANUVAS, Chennai	Dr Tapan Kumar Dutta Prof & Head Veterinary Microbiology CAU, Aizawl, Mizoram
--	--	--	--



HORIZON

PRESIDENT'S VIEWS & VISION

Presidential Address at Academy's XXIII Annual Convocation cum Scientific Convention

Honourable Sri Surendra Mehta Ji, Minister Dairy, Fisheries and Animal Resources Department, Chief Guest of the function today, Hon'ble Dr. Inderjeet Singh Vice Chancellor of BASU, Dr K M Bujarbaruah, Former Vice Chancellor, Patron of the academy, Distinguished Governing Council members, Revered fellows of NAVS (I), Eminent Scientists, Distinguished guests, Ladies, and Gentlemen... Good Afternoon & Namaskar!



The livestock sector stands as a cornerstone of rural prosperity, nutritional security, and sustainable economic growth as India advances toward Viksit Bharat @2047. The National Academy of Veterinary Sciences (India) continues to serve as an intellectual lighthouse for the veterinary and animal sciences community, promoting scientific excellence and providing evidence-based guidance to policymakers. Our continuous efforts are directed toward strengthening knowledge networks, enhancing the visibility of scientific contributions, and transforming the Academy into a more dynamic, accessible, and impactful institution, indeed, a movement for national development.



Today, India's livestock sector stands at a critical inflection point. While we have achieved significant numerical strength, this has not been adequately translated into productivity, resilience, and economic efficiency. Persistent challenges such as disease burden, poor reproductive efficiency, inadequate nutrition, and weak biosecurity continue to constrain progress. It is imperative that preventive healthcare, disease surveillance, and vaccination systems are institutionalized, and that our transition from reactive responses to predictive, data-driven animal health management aligned with One Health principles. Genetic improvement must prioritize fertility, adaptability, and resilience, while nutrition strategies must evolve toward precision, affordability, and optimal use of local resources. Reproductive efficiency, in particular, must be recognized and managed as a key economic parameter.

Equally important is the strengthening of last-mile veterinary services. Field veterinarians must be empowered with modern diagnostic tools, digital platforms, and enhanced decision-making authority. The para-veterinary workforce must be properly trained, regulated, and integrated within the formal system under professional supervision. Extension services must shift from mere dissemination of information to meaningful engagement, accountability, and feedback-driven learning. Technology should act as an enabler rather than an end in itself. Integrated digital livestock platforms combining animal health, breeding, production, and market intelligence can significantly transform governance and service delivery, while artificial intelligence and analytics can support disease forecasting, productivity enhancement, and climate resilience.

India's poultry sector exemplifies a remarkable transformation from a backyard activity into one of the most dynamic segments of the livestock economy. With over 5.18 million tonnes of meat production annually and a per capita availability of 106 eggs, the sector contributes more than 45 percent of the country's animal protein supply. These achievements carry significance not only in economic terms but also in nutritional and social

dimensions. However, the sector faces emerging challenges, including feed resource constraints, environmental sustainability, antimicrobial resistance, and animal welfare concerns. Addressing these challenges requires advancing five critical frontiers: precision nutrition, molecular nutrition, diversification of protein sources, gut health and antibiotic alternatives, and the integration of digital technologies and artificial intelligence in farm management. The evolving understanding of nutritional immunology further underscores that the gut functions not merely as a digestive organ but as a central immunological interface influencing overall health and productivity.

The meat sector in India, despite its immense potential, remains largely unorganized and constrained by low productivity, inadequate infrastructure, and lack of traceability. A strategic and structured approach is required to transform this sector into a resilient and globally competitive industry. Key priorities include genetic improvement, particularly in small ruminants; modernization of slaughter and processing infrastructure; strengthening of cold chain logistics; value chain integration; inclusion of smallholders; adherence to animal welfare and One Health principles; and enhanced focus on research, innovation, and skill development. A dedicated national policy framework with clear growth targets and regulatory clarity is essential to unlock the sector's full potential and position India as a global leader in safe, ethical, and climate-smart meat production.

As we deliberate on sectoral transformation, it is equally important to address a critical institutional gap. Despite the vital role of veterinary and fisheries sciences, their share in institutional and budgetary allocations remains disproportionately low. This structural imbalance limits growth, visibility, and sectoral autonomy. The establishment of an Indian Council for Veterinary and Fisheries Research (ICVFR) is therefore not a fragmentation of existing systems but a functional reform and a national imperative. Veterinary science is not merely a subset of agriculture; it is a distinct biomedical and public health discipline operating at the interface of animal health, human safety, and environmental sustainability. A dedicated institutional framework will ensure focused research, stronger alignment with national priorities, and enhanced contributions to rural livelihoods, food security, and export potential.

India today stands at a decisive juncture to transform its livestock, poultry, and meat sectors into global leaders in sustainable and inclusive food systems. This transformation must be science-driven, biosecure, climate-resilient, and globally competitive. The National Academy of Veterinary Sciences (India), with its rich intellectual capital and extensive network, is uniquely positioned to serve as a scientific conscience and a strategic partner in this national mission.

Let us move forward with clarity, conviction, and collective resolve to build a future where farmers prosper, nutritional security is ensured, sustainability is strengthened, and India emerges as a global leader in animal agriculture.

Jai Hind !

(Dr DVR Prakash Rao)

THE ACADEMY EVENTS & ENDEAVOURS

XXIII NAVS Convocation & National Convention on Livestock Transformation for Viksit Bharat @2047

The XXIII NAVS Convocation-cum-National Scientific Convention on “Strategic Framework for Transformation of India’s Livestock, Poultry and Meat Sector for Viksit Bharat @2047” was jointly organized by Bihar Animal Sciences University (BASU) and the National Academy of Veterinary Sciences (India) on 22–23 December, 2025.

The convention was inaugurated by Hon’ble Shri Surendra Mehta, Minister of Dairy, Fisheries and Animal Husbandry, Government of Bihar, who emphasized the strategic importance of the livestock sector in achieving the national vision of Viksit Bharat @2047. The function was presided over by Dr. D.V.R. Prakash Rao, President, NAVS (India).



roadmap for the transformation of the livestock, poultry, and meat sectors, integrating multidisciplinary perspectives to address emerging challenges and opportunities.



The event brought together over 200 delegates, including Vice-Chancellors, senior scientists, policymakers, academicians, industry professionals, field veterinarians and students, providing a dynamic platform for deliberations on sustainable growth, innovation, and transformation of the livestock, poultry, and meat sectors.

It reflects a forward-looking approach that combines traditional knowledge with modern scientific advancements to enhance productivity, resilience, and environmental sustainability. The Vision Document underscores the importance of policy convergence, institutional strengthening, and public-private partnerships for sectoral growth.

Developed through collective inputs from experts of the Academy, the vision document highlights key focus areas including feed resource development, precision and alternative protein technologies, disease forecasting and surveillance, genetic improvement, and effective knowledge dissemination to farmers. It is envisaged as a guiding framework for long-term planning, research prioritization, and capacity building.

The Academy acknowledged the valuable contributions of Prof. Dr. K.M. Bujarbaruah (Patron), Prof. Dr. K.M.L. Pathak, Prof. Dr. Suresh Honnappagol, and the Governing Council Members in shaping this important document.



Technical Sessions Overview

The convention featured four thematic technical sessions covering critical dimensions of veterinary and animal sciences.

Technical Session 1: Strategic Priorities for Livestock Productivity

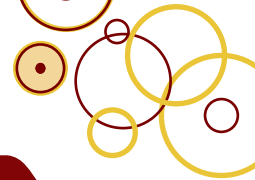
The session highlighted the need for restructuring veterinary education and strengthening skill development to build a future-ready workforce. Emphasis was placed on investment-driven growth, empowerment of youth and smallholders, and promoting livestock farming as a professional and market-oriented enterprise. The importance of capacity building and aligning education with emerging sectoral demands was strongly emphasized.



Vision Document of the Academy Released

During the inaugural function of the Convocation, the Vision Document of the Academy was formally released by the Hon’ble Minister of Animal Husbandry. The document presents a comprehensive strategic





Technical Session 2: Strategic Framework to Boost Poultry Production

This session underscored the poultry sector as a rapidly expanding entrepreneurial domain. Discussions focused on precision nutrition, smart feeding technologies, and digital tools to enhance feed efficiency, bird health, and productivity. The need for skill development, access to finance, and strong industry–research–policy linkages was highlighted to ensure sustainable and resilient poultry production systems.



Technical Session 3: Technological Transformation of the Meat Industry

Deliberations emphasized reducing feed costs through alternative resources, strengthening disease control measures, and addressing antimicrobial resistance. The session also highlighted opportunities in value addition and efficient utilization of animal by-products. Strengthening biosecurity, promoting innovation, and developing robust value chains have been identified as key drivers for economic and sustainable growth towards achieving the vision of Viksit Bharat @2047.



Technical Session 4: Academia–Industry Interaction and Entrepreneurship Development

The session focused on bridging the gap between research and field application through stronger industry–academia partnerships. Key areas included translational research, commercialization of technologies, start-up ecosystems, and digital transformation. Emphasis was placed on policy alignment, private investment, and the role of innovation platforms in fostering entrepreneurship and sectoral growth.



Poster & Panel Sessions

The poster session showcased diverse research contributions in livestock productivity and poultry health, covering molecular, clinical, nutritional, and management aspects. The presentations demonstrated strong scientific rigor and relevance to field conditions, reinforcing the importance of research-driven innovations.

Panel discussions emphasized the need for curriculum reforms to integrate emerging technologies, entrepreneurship, and skill development. The establishment of incubation centres and promotion of start-ups were highlighted as key strategies for enhancing employability and innovation. Discussions also focused on expanding field application of Assisted Reproductive Technologies and strengthening dairy management and marketing practices.



Plenary Session

Chaired by Dr. D.V.R. Prakash Rao, the plenary session marked the culmination of the convention. Rapporteurs presented concise summaries of the deliberations and key recommendations from all sessions. This was followed by an award ceremony recognizing outstanding contributions in veterinary sciences. In his valedictory address, the President appreciated the collaborative spirit of the convention and its role in addressing emerging challenges. The session concluded with a renewed commitment towards sustainable advancement in the sector.



Key Recommendations

The convention emphasized strengthening veterinary education through curriculum reform, practical skill development, and entrepreneurship to build a future-ready workforce. It highlighted the need to accelerate translational research and adoption of advanced technologies in genetics, animal health, precision nutrition, and digital systems through strong industry–academia–government collaboration. Ensuring sustainable and cost-effective poultry production through region-specific feed strategies and stronger stakeholder linkages were also stressed. Greater focus was placed on enhancing biosecurity, disease surveillance, vaccination, and responsible antimicrobial use to address productivity losses and antimicrobial resistance. The recommendations further called for promoting innovation ecosystems through start-ups, incubation centres, and public–private partnerships. Finally, the need to develop resilient value chains, including infrastructure, cold chains, value addition, and efficient market systems, was emphasized for sustainable and competitive livestock sector growth.

Together, these priorities call for unified action, innovation, and strong partnerships across stakeholders. With sustained commitment, the livestock and poultry sectors can emerge as key drivers of sustainable growth, nutritional security, and thereby contributing to the realization of the vision of Viksit Bharat @2047.

12th Governing Council Meeting of The Academy

The 12th Governing Council (GC) meeting of the National Academy of Veterinary Sciences (India) [NAVS (I)] was convened online on 14 October, 2025 at 2:30 PM.

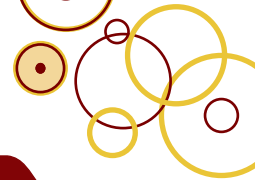
Dr DVR Prakash Rao, President NAVS (I), warmly welcomed all GC Members and special invitee Maj Gen Shri Kant SM, VSM (Retd), Past President NAVS (I).

1. Progress on pending points from previous meetings

- (i) **Indo – German Collaboration:** The President apprised the house that the next meeting on bi-lateral co-operation between Indian Veterinary Institutions/Universities and German Veterinary University will be held in February 2026.
- (ii) **Recognition of NAVS (I) Fellowship:** The Secretary General informed the house that the Academic Council of Bihar Animal Sciences University, Patna has approved grant of 4-marks weightage for NAVS (I) Fellowship for selection and promotion of the teaching staff. Further, Dr Mandeep Sharma, VC, NDVSU, Jabalpur informed the house that he will also take up the matter with his Academic Council.
- (iii) **Representation from Industries/Corporate Sectors/ Veterinary Field Services/Entrepreneurship etc.:** Guidelines for the Award of Honorary Fellowship to Veterinarians having outstanding contributions in Veterinary Profession across various streams, need to be formed. The Secretary General requested for suggestions from the house. The President expressed his views that the candidates for this Award should have minimum MVSc qualification. However, candidates having BVSc qualification be awarded Honorary Membership. Maximum two Honorary Fellowship and Membership Awards be given every year. Further, Dr AC Varshney, Vice President suggested that the scope of award for Honorary Fellowship be extended to other streams like Research, Academia, Army etc. The President directed that the Guidelines for the award be made accordingly.
- (iv) **Institutional Membership:** The President informed the house that he has approached Dr Manojranjan Nayak, President, Siksha “O” Anusandhan, Deemed University, Bhubaneswar (Odisha) for seeking their affiliation to the Academy. Dr Mandeep Sharma, Vice Chancellor, Nanaji Deshmukh Veterinary Science University (NDVSU), Jabalpur informed the house that he has got the approval from the Board of Management for becoming Institutional Member of the Academy.
- (v) **Continuing Veterinary Education (CVE):** The Academy in collaboration with Brooke India has conducted two training courses of four days’ duration for twenty-five Field Veterinarians through GADVASU, Ludhiana and TANUVAS, Chennai. Similar courses are being conducted at BASU, Patna. The Secretary General requested Dr Mandeep Sharma, Vice Chancellor, NDVSU, Jabalpur to take on the courses in his University during the next calendar year. Dr Mandeep Sharma, VC accepted the proposal. Further, the President requested the GC members to look for sponsors for above courses. He further mentioned that he will write to the Secretary Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying (DAHD), Government of India and the President Veterinary Council of India to provide budget for such training courses.
- (vi) **NAVS (I) Zonal Chapter:** The President informed the house that Odisha State Veterinary Association had approached him to permit them to form NAVS (I) Zonal Chapter. The issue was discussed in the GC and it was resolved that Secretary General to interact with Odisha State Veterinary Association and to formulate Draft Memorandum of Understanding for its

discussion in the forthcoming Executive Committee Meeting of the academy.

- (vii) **Academy’s Vision Document:** The Secretary General informed the house that Draft Vision Document prepared by the committee was circulated to all the GC members for seeking their comments. We have received comments from Dr Gaj Raj Singh, Dr Manish Kumar Chatli, Dr LD Singla and Maj Gen Shri Kant SM, VSM (Retd), which have been put up to the President. The President has directed that the document be finalized by incorporating the suggestions and requested the Editor to get the same printed. The Vision Document will be released during the forthcoming NAVS(I) Convocation.
 - (viii) **Publication of Periodicals/Journals/Technical Books:** The issue was discussed and it was resolved that a technical bulletin with two to three Articles be added in the existing Newsletter. The Editor will get the articles vetted from referees (subject matter specialists).
 - (ix) **Corporate- Academia Interaction:** It was suggested that representatives from various Corporate Sectors be invited for the forthcoming Convocation being held at BASU. The Academy will organize an interactive session between Veterinary Universities and Corporates to discuss and finalize areas of mutual interests.
 - (x) **Review of Government Policies pertaining to Animal Health, Welfare and Production:** The President expressed his views that we need to interact with Government authorities from DAHD/ Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) for organizing a workshop on the subject.
 - (xi) **Collaboration of various Veterinary Associations with the Academy:** The President informed the house that the Animal Nutrition Society of India has already become a member of the Academy by paying Rs. One lac as membership fee. The Indian Poultry and Buffalo Associations are likely to seek membership in near future. Dr VK Gupta suggested that the membership fee be reduced to Rs. Ten to Twenty thousand. The President did not agree with the proposal.
- ### 2. Finalization/Approval of Various Fellowships & Awards
- Based on the recommendations of the Evaluation Committees and approval of the President, the Secretary General read out the names of the candidates selected for the following Fellowships/Awards:
- (i) **FELLOWSHIP:** The Secretary General informed the house that out of 38 applications received for Fellowship Award, 26 applicants have qualified for the award.
 - (ii) **ASSOCIATE FELLOWSHIP:** Out of 23 applications received for Associate Fellowship Award, 20 applicants have qualified for the award.
 - (iii) **MEMBERSHIP:** Out of 25 applications received for the Membership Award, 22 applicants have qualified for the award.
 - (iv) **HONORARY FELLOWSHIP:** Dr Jeetendra Verma, Director (Tech) Raviotza Biotech has been awarded an Honorary Fellowship for his outstanding contributions towards the advancement of the Veterinary Profession in the Corporate Sector.
 - (v) **Dr CM SINGH AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN VETERINARY SCIENCES:** The committee after due deliberations recommended the name of Dr Inderjeet Singh, Vice Chancellor, Bihar Animal Sciences University, Patna (Bihar) as the most suitable candidate for the above award.



- (vi) **DR DVR PRAKASH RAO LIFE TIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD-CUM-LATE SMT SUNDARI PRAKASH RAO ENDOWMENT LECTURE:** The committee after due deliberations recommended Dr Raghvendra Bhatta, Deputy Director General (Animal Sciences), ICAR, as the most suitable candidate for the above award.
- (vii) **DR VALLABH MANDOKHOT MEMORIAL AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING YOUNG WOMAN VETERINARIAN SCIENTIST:** Out of ten applicants, Dr Shalini Vaswani, Assistant Professor, Department of Animal Nutrition, College of Veterinary Science and Animal Husbandry, U.P. Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Pashu Chikitsa Vigyan Vishwavidyalaya Evam Go-Anusandhan Sansthan, Mathura has been selected for the award.
- (viii) **DR VALLABH MANDOKHOT MEMORIAL AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING YOUNG WOMAN (FIELD) VETERINARIAN:** Out of four applicants, Dr Manju Pal, Government Veterinary Hospital, Jaiharikhal, Pauri Garhwal, Uttarakhand has been selected for the award.
- (ix) **DR RK SHARMA MEMORIAL AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN VETERINARY EXTENSION EDUCATION:** Out of three applicants, Prof B Subrahmanyeswari, Department of Veterinary & Animal Husbandry Extension Education, NTR College of Veterinary Science, Gannavaram (Andhra Pradesh) has been selected for the award.
- (x) **DR KK BAXI OUTSTANDING SCIENTIST AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN VETERINARY SCIENCES:** Out of three applicants, Dr Vinayagamurthy Balamurugan, Veterinary Microbiology, ICAR-National Institute of Veterinary Epidemiology and Disease Informatics, Ramagondanahalli, Yelahanka, Bengaluru (Karnataka) has been selected for the award.
- (xi) **YOUNG SCIENTIST AWARD IN VETERINARY SCIENCES:** Out of seventeen applicants, Dr Jaydip Jaywant Rokade, Senior Scientist, ICAR-Central Avian Research Institute, Izatnagar, Bareilly has been selected for the award.

3. Revision of Score Cards/Guidelines recommended by the various evaluation committees

The committee recommended the following amendment in the Score Card:-

- (i) **Dr RK Sharma Award**
 - **Para A:** Workshop/Conferences attended to be amended to read International/ National Workshop/Conferences attended with 1.0 and 0.5 mark respectively.
 - **Para B:** Maximum Score awarded to be increased from 3 to 5 and under Para C maximum marks awarded to be reduced from 22 to 20.
 - **Para C:** Foot Note remarks to be deleted.
 - **Para D:** Piggery, Yak, Mithun to be added.
- (ii) **Dr DVR Prakash Rao Life Time Achievement Award-Cum-Late Smt Sundari Prakash Rao Endowment Lecture:** One of the committee members has suggested that since the minimum age limit for the above award is fixed as 55 years, the words "Life Time Achievement" be removed from the title of the Award. The proposal was discussed and rejected.

4. GC Members will not be allowed to apply for NAVS (I) Awards

The Secretary General informed the house that one of the GC members had applied for an Award and has scored the highest marks. The President ruled that it will be inappropriate to give award to a GC Member. However, he will write a letter of appreciation to him for his outstanding performance.

Further, Dr DVR Prakash Rao was nominated for Dr CM Singh Award and Maj Gen Shri Kant SM, VSM (Retd) was nominated for Dr DVR Prakash Rao Life Time Achievement Award-Cum-Late Smt Sundari Prakash Rao Endowment Lecture. The President declined to accept his nomination for the award and also did not permit the nomination of Maj Gen Shri Kant SM, VSM (Retd), Past President being member of the Governing Council.

In view of the above, the Secretary General suggested that the following remarks are required to be inserted in the Guidelines of all the Academy Awards.

"GC Members will not be allowed to apply for any NAVS (I) Awards". The President approved the suggestion.

5. Any other point with the permission of the Chair

- (i) The President apprised the house about the likely dates of forthcoming Convocation of the Academy.
- (ii) Maj Gen Shri Kant SM, VSM (Retd) suggested that Quarterly Income-Expenditure Statement be circulated during quarterly GC meetings. Further, he requested the President to invite Dr Azad Kaushik for forthcoming Convocation. The President accepted the proposals.
- (iii) Dr Rajeswari Shome informed the house that a new Veterinary University has been Established at Guwahati. She suggested that the President may like to invite the Vice Chancellor for next Convocation and also to consider organizing a Seminar/Workshop at Guwahati. The President accepted the proposal. Dr AC Varshney, Vice President also suggested that there is a scope of organizing Seminar/Workshop at Nagaland (ICAR-NRC Mithun).
- (iv) Dr AC Varshney, Vice President suggested that maximum age limit for RK Sharma Award be raised from 55 yrs to 60 yrs. The President requested Maj Gen Shri Kant SM, VSM (Retd) (Designated rep of the donor of Dr RK Sharma Award) to discuss with the concerned donor to seek his views on the above issue. Maj Gen Shri Kant SM, VSM (Retd) has intimated that the suggested change of age has not been accepted by the donor.
- (v) Dr Manish Kumar Chatli, Director, ICAR-Central Institute for Research on Goats, Makhdoom, informed that he would like to organize a Workshop at CIRG, Makhdoom, Farah, Mathura in collaboration with the Academy. The President accepted the proposal.
- (vi) The Secretary General proposed that we may seek concurrence of Vice Chancellor, Lala Lajpat Rai University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences (LUVAS), Hisar for conduct of Annual Convocation cum Scientific Convention at Hisar during 2026. The President requested Maj Gen Shri Kant SM, VSM (Retd) to discuss the issue with the VC, LUVAS to seek his concurrence. Maj Gen Shri Kant SM, VSM (Retd) has confirmed that the VC, LUVAS is very keen to hold the Convocation-cum-Scientific Convention at Hisar during 2026. The President accepted the Venue for next Convocation.

13th Governing Council Meeting of The Academy

The 13th Governing Council (GC) meeting of the NAVS (I) was convened online on 25 November, 2025 at 11.30 AM.

Dr DVR Prakash Rao, President NAVS (I), warmly welcomed all GC Members. He apprised the house that he will be requesting the Chairman of the committee constituted by the Government of India for formation of the National Veterinary Commission to co-opt NAVS (I) with a defined role and budget. Further, the President informed the house that attendance of Hon'ble Cabinet Minister Shri Lallan Singh as Chief Guest is expected at the forthcoming Convocation-cum-Scientific Convention at BASU, Patna.

Agenda Points

1. **Discussion regarding Conduct of forthcoming Convocation-cum-Scientific Convention:** The Secretary General Maj Gen ML Sharma apprised the house that we intend to invite Shri Tarun Shridhar, IAS as keynote speaker for the Convocation and will try to accommodate our GC Members as speakers/panelists in various technical sessions. We are inviting Dr KM Bujarbaruah, Dr KML Pathak and Dr Suresh S Honnappagol as senior Fellows of our Academy to participate in various deliberations.
2. **Points for ratification by the General Body:** The Secretary General, read out the following points to be placed before the forthcoming General Body Meeting:
 - (i) **Institutional Membership:** Nanaji Deshmukh Veterinary Science University, Jabalpur has applied for Institutional Membership of the Academy. Similarly, Siksha "O" Anusandhan, Deemed University (affiliated with a Veterinary College), Bhubaneswar has also applied for Institutional Membership of the Academy.
 - (ii) **Representation of Outstanding Veterinarians from Various Streams:** The Veterinarians having outstanding contributions in various streams like Industries, Corporates, Defense Forces, Entrepreneurship, Field and other Govt/Non Govt Organizations will be awarded Honorary Fellowship. The Awardees must possess a minimum MVSc qualification. However, Graduates with BVSc qualification shall be awarded the Academy's Membership. A maximum of two Honorary Fellowship and Membership awards shall be given every year.
 - (iii) **Fellowship and Academic Awards for the year 2024:** Based on the recommendations of the Evaluation Committees and approval of the President, the Secretary General read out the names of the candidates selected for various Fellowships/Awards:
 - (iv) **Revision of Score Cards/Guidelines recommended by the various evaluation committees:** The committee recommended the proposed amendment in the Score Card of Dr RK Sharma Memorial Award for Excellence in Veterinary Extension Education, as per the details in the 12th GC meeting.
 - (v) **GC Members not to be eligible to apply for NAVS (I) Awards:** The Governing Council deliberated on the issue and decided that the GC Members will not be eligible to apply for any of the NAVS (I) Awards. The same will be incorporated in the Guidelines for various awards.
 - (vi) **Utilization Certificate from Institutions Organizing Events in Collaboration with NAVS (I):** The Academy will seek a Utilization Certificate from various Institutions for the income generated and expenditure incurred for Events organized in collaboration with or on behalf of the NAVS (I).
 - (vii) **Income/Expenditure Statement:**
 - (a) **Balance Sheet:** Balance Sheet for the Financial Year 2024-25, duly audited by the CA was discussed.
 - (b) **Income:** Brooke India, an Associate of our Academy has granted the following amount for the conduct of Short Courses: -
 - (i) For TANUVAS, Chennai: Rs. 2.94 Lakhs in March 2025
 - (ii) For BASU, Patna: Rs. 2.94 Lakhs in May 2025
 - (c) **Financial Status:** As on 31 October 2025, the Academy has Rs. 1,73,00,828/- (Rupees One Crore Seventy-Three Lakhs Eight Hundred and Twenty-Eight only) in Fixed Deposit (FD) and Rs. 12,48,325/- (Rupees Twelve Lakhs Forty-Eight Thousand Three Hundred and Twenty-Five only) Cash in Bank.

- (viii) **Fixation of Corpus Amount of the Academy:** The President expressed his views that the Academy has been struggling to build up funds for the past few years; and as on date has FD and cash in bank as stated above. Efforts are under way to raise the FD amount to Rs. 2 Crore in due course. The Academy needs approx. Rs. 12 Lakhs per year as running expenditure, which will be taken care of by the interest earned on Rs. Two Crore as Fixed Deposit.
 - (ix) The President proposed that Rs Two Crore FD be kept as Corpus Amount of the Academy. Further, since the Academy does not have regular source of Funding from the Govt, it is prudent for the subsequent GCs to ensure that the Corpus amount of Rs. Two Crores is maintained. However, if any unforeseen situation arises, the Governing Body will only be authorized to approve withdrawal from Corpus Fund with a clear re-payment plan to replace the withdrawn amount from the Corpus Amount. It was approved by all the GC members.
3. **Registration of Academy with Niti Aayog:** The President requested all the GC Members to find the procedure of registration of our Academy with Niti Aayog, Govt. of India.
 4. **Any other point with the permission of the Chair:** Dr Rajeswari Shome enquired about the Panel Discussion during the Technical Session. The Secretary General informed that the program for Technical Sessions is under preparation. However, he will try to involve GC Members as Speakers/Panelists in various Technical Sessions in consultation with the Organizers.

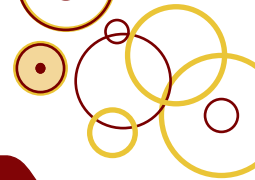
14th Governing Council Meeting of The Academy

The 14th Governing Council (GC) meeting of the NAVS (I) was convened online on 16 December, 2025 at 11.30 AM.

Dr DVR Prakash Rao, President NAVS (I), warmly welcomed all GC Members. The President informed the house that he has been invited by the Chairman of the committee constituted for drafting National Veterinary Commission Bill. It is a matter of great achievement for the Academy. He further apprised the house that the Vision Document of the Academy will be released during the forthcoming Convocation.

Agenda Points

1. **Review of Award of Medals:** The Secretary General Maj Gen ML Sharma informed the house that because of sudden hike in the cost of Silver, the cost of the medal has shot up to Rs. 14000/- (Rupees Fourteen thousand) (approx.) and therefore it has become difficult to manage the cash award as well as the cost of the medal within the interest accrued out of the donated amount of various medals. The issue was discussed and it was resolved that we will continue to award the medals; however, the amount of the cash award shall be revised as under:
 - (i) Dr CM Singh Award for Excellence in Veterinary Sciences : Rs. 31000
 - (ii) Dr DVR Prakash Rao Lifetime Achievement Award-cum-Late Smt Sundari Prakash Rao Memorial Endowment Lecture: Rs. 31000
 - (iii) Dr Vallabh Mandokhot Memorial Award for Outstanding Young Woman Veterinarian (Scientist/Field Work): Rs. 21000
 - (iv) Dr RK Sharma Memorial Award for Excellence in Veterinary Extension Education: Rs. 21000
 - (v) Dr KK Baxi Outstanding Scientist Award for Excellence in Veterinary Science: Rs. 21000
 - (vi) Young Scientist Award: Rs. 21000/-
2. **Applicability of NAVS (I) Fellowship, Associate Fellowship and Membership Awards:** Secretary General apprised the house that some of the candidates had applied for both Fellowship/Associate



Fellowship and Membership Awards and were selected for both the awards. In such a situation, there is a need to amend the Guidelines for applicability of the award. The GC discussed the issue and resolved that in such a situation, only the candidature for the higher award shall be considered.

3. **Information Points:** The Secretary General informed the house that Nanaji Deshmukh Veterinary Science University, Jabalpur has remitted Rupees Five Lakhs to the Academy account on account of Lifetime Institutional Membership. Further, Dr Inderjeet Singh, Hon'ble VC, BASU, Patna and President Indian Buffalo Association has informed the President NAVS (I) that his Association will soon be seeking Institutional Membership of the Academy.
4. **Any Other Points:** The President requested all the GC members to forward their viewpoints regarding the formation of National Veterinary Commission.

General Body Meeting of the Academy

The General Body (GB) Meeting of the NAVS (I) was convened on 22 December, 2025 at 1:00 PM at the Bihar Animal Sciences University (BASU), Patna (Bihar). The detailed minutes have been uploaded on the NAVS (I) website: <http://www.navsindia.org>. A summary of the salient points discussed during the meeting were as follows:

Dr DVR Prakash Rao, President, welcomed the Fellows, Members, Dignitaries and Students and expressed his gratitude for their presence. He apprised the house of the significant achievements of the Academy during the past one year. He highlighted the recognition of the Academy by the Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying, Government of India by co-opting the President of NAVS (I) as a member of high-level committee constituted for the formation of National Veterinary Commission. The minutes of the last year General Body meeting held on 08 March, 2025 at Karnataka Veterinary, Animal and Fisheries Sciences University, Hebbal, Bengaluru (Karnataka) were read out and confirmed. Further, the Secretary General presented the Annual Report along with the up-to-date Financial Statement, including the Audited Report of the Academy.



1. Progress on pending points from previous GB Meeting

- (i) **Continuing Veterinary Education:** The Academy in collaboration with Brooke India has conducted two Short Courses of 4 days duration for 20 Field Veterinarians at Guru Angad Dev Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, Ludhiana, Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal Sciences University, Chennai and one Course at BASU, Patna. One more similar Course will be conducted at BASU, Patna in due course.
- (ii) **Recognition of NAVS (I) Fellowship:** The Academic Council of BASU, Patna has approved grant of four marks weightage for NAVS (I) Fellowship for selection and promotion of teaching

staff. The Academic Council of NDVVSU, Jabalpur has approved the recognition of NAVS (I) Fellowship at par with other Academy Fellowship for assessment in selection and promotion of teaching staff.

- (iii) **Corporate-Academia Interaction:** The Academy has organized an interactive session between Veterinary Universities and Corporates during the current Scientific Convention to discuss and finalize the areas of mutual interest.
- (iv) **Academy's Vision Document:** The Vision Document of the Academy has been published and is being released during Inaugural Session of this Convocation.
- (v) **Coding/Numbering of Academy's Certificates:** The Coding/ Numbering of Academy's Certificates are being carried out from the year 2025.

2. The agenda points for ratification by the GB:

- (i) **Institutional Membership:** Nanaji Deshmukh Veterinary Sciences University, Jabalpur has applied for Institutional Membership of the Academy. Similarly, Siksha "O" Anusandhan, Deemed University, Bhubaneswar has also applied for Institutional Membership of the Academy.
- (ii) **Representation of Outstanding Veterinarians from Various Streams:** The Veterinarians having outstanding contributions in various streams like Industries, Corporates, Defence Forces, Entrepreneurship, Field Vets and other Govt/ Non Govt. Organizations will be awarded Honorary Fellowship. The Awardees must possess a minimum MVSc qualification. However, graduates with BVSc qualification shall be awarded Academy's Membership. A maximum of two Honorary Fellowship and Membership award shall be given every year.
- (iii) **Fellowship and Awards for the year 2024:** Based on the recommendations of the Evaluation Committees and approval of the President, the Secretary General presented the names of the candidates selected for various Fellowships/Awards:
 - (a) Fellowship/Associate Fellowship/Membership Awards:
 - *Fellowship:* 20 selected out of 26 qualified from 38 applicants
 - *Associate Fellowship:* 20 out of 23 applicants qualified
 - *Membership:* 22 out of 25 applicants qualified
 - *Honorary Fellowship:* Dr Jeetendra Verma
 - (b) Academy Awards (as approved by GC in its 12th meeting held on October 14, 2025 point 2 v-xi):
- (iv) **Revision of Score Cards/Guidelines recommended by the various evaluation committees**

The committee recommended the amendment in the Score Card for Dr RK Sharma Award for Excellence in Veterinary Extension Education as approved by GC in its 12th meeting held on October 14, 2025 point 3 Para A to Para D

The above point was dropped on the request of some of the Fellows, who wanted to revisit the Guidelines/Score Card.

- (v) **GC Members not to be eligible to apply for NAVS (I) Awards:** The Governing Council deliberated the issue and decided that GC Members will not be eligible to apply for NAVS (I) Awards. The same will be incorporated in the Guidelines for various awards.
- (vi) **Utilization Certificate from Institutions Organizing Events in Collaboration with NAVS (I):** The Academy will seek a Utilization Certificate from various Institutions for the income generated and expenditure incurred for Events organized in collaboration with or on behalf of NAVS (I).

(vii) **Review of Award of Medals:** Due to sudden hike in the cost of Silver, the cost of the medal has shot up; hence it was resolved that academy will continue to award the medals; however, the amount of the cash award shall be revised as Rs. 31000 for Dr CM Singh Award for Excellence in Veterinary Sciences and Dr DVR Prakash Rao Lifetime Achievement Award-cum-Late Smt Sundari Prakash Rao Memorial Endowment Lecture. However, the amount will be Rs. 21000 each for the Dr Vallabh Mandokhot Memorial Award for Outstanding Young Woman Veterinarian (Scientist/Field Work), Dr RK Sharma Memorial Award for Excellence in Veterinary Extension Education, Dr KK Baxi Outstanding Scientist Award for Excellence in Veterinary Science and Young Scientist Award

(viii) **Applicability of NAVS (I) Fellowship, Associate Fellowship and Membership Awards:** Where a candidate had applied for both Fellowship/Associate Fellowship and Membership Awards and is selected for both the awards. In such a situation, only the candidature for the higher award shall be considered.

(ix) **Income/Expenditure Statement:**

- **Balance Sheet:** The audited Balance Sheet for FY 2024–25 was presented and discussed.
- **Income:** Brooke India provided grants of Rs. 2.94 lakh each for short courses at TANUVAS, Chennai (March 2025) and BASU, Patna (May 2025).
- **Financial Status:** As of 31 October 2025, the Academy holds Rs. 1.73 crore in Fixed Deposits and Rs. 12.48 lakh as bank balance.

(x) **Fixation of Corpus Amount:** The President noted that the Academy currently has Rs. 1.73 crore in FD and Rs. 12.48 lakh in bank, with efforts underway to raise the FD to Rs. 2 crore. Annual expenditure (~Rs. 12 lakh) is expected to be met from interest on this corpus. It was proposed that Rs. 2 crore be maintained as the permanent Corpus Fund, given the lack of regular government funding. Withdrawal from the corpus, if required in exceptional cases, would need Governing Body approval with a clear repayment plan. The proposal was approved by the Governing Council and ratified by the Governing Body.

3. **Information Points:** The Convocation-cum-Scientific Convention 2026 will be held in October 2026 at Lala Lajpat Rai University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences.

4. **Any Other Point:**

- It was suggested to allocate more time for GB meetings and improve attendance by subsidizing travel expenses of retired Fellows.
- A proposal to charge Rs. 1000 per Fellow annually for this purpose was accepted.
- The President noted that guidelines for utilization of these funds will be formulated.

A Historic Milestone in Veterinary Parasitology: Asia Pacific's First Congress Makes Its Mark

In a landmark moment for veterinary science across the Asia-Pacific region, the Asian Pacific Association of Veterinary Parasitology (APAVP) successfully convened its 1st Asia Pacific Veterinary Parasitology Congress (APAVPC 2025) on 6–7 November 2025 at the prestigious Le Méridien, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. This historic congress heralded a new era of regional collaboration, scientific excellence, and unified commitment to advancing veterinary parasitology at the highest level.

Dr. L.D. Singla, Editor of NAVS (I), played a pivotal role in this landmark event, serving both as a Steering Committee Member and as a member of the Organizing Committee, his contributions were instrumental in shaping the congress into the resounding success it became.



Adding further distinction to his participation, Dr. Singla delivered a highly acclaimed research presentation entitled “Trypanosomosis due to *Trypanosoma evansi* in South Asia: Journey from Endemic Disease to Evidence-Based Solutions”, a compelling scientific narrative spanning over three decades of ground-breaking research. The presentation offered a sweeping and authoritative account of trypanosomosis in South Asia, covering its epidemiology, pathogenesis, diagnostic advances, and strategic control measures. Crucially, it cast a spotlight on the devastating impact of *T. evansi* on livestock health and the livelihoods of countless rural communities, while charting a bold, evidence-based roadmap for regional solutions.

The congress proved to be an extraordinary platform, bringing together the brightest minds in veterinary parasitology, igniting scientific debate, and forging collaborative partnerships essential for combating parasitic diseases across borders. Dr. Singla’s active involvement reflected his continued commitment to advancing veterinary parasitology and supporting One Health initiatives in the Asia-Pacific region.

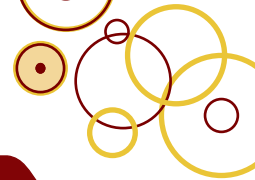
GC Members Take the Global Stage: A Landmark Representation at GARCX 2025 in Dubai!

Two distinguished Governing Council (GC) members of our esteemed organization made their presence felt on the world stage by participating in the prestigious Global AgroVet Research Conference (GARCX 2025), a landmark international gathering convened under the powerful theme: “One Health – Integrating Agriculture, Animal and Food Science for a Sustainable Future.” The conference was held at the iconic Hotel Dusit Thani, Dubai, from 10–11 November 2025, powered by ARCC Journals, and brought together the brightest scientific minds from across the globe.

Dr L D Singla (Editor) and Dr Yashpal Singh Malik (GC Member) were not mere attendees, they stood at the very heart of the event as members of the Steering Committee, playing an instrumental role in shaping and steering the successful organization of this globally acclaimed conference. Their involvement underscored the organization’s growing stature in the international scientific community.



But their contributions did not stop there. Both GC members delivered high-impact academic presentations that captivated the global audience and ignited meaningful scientific discourse. Dr Malik took the podium with a compelling plenary lecture on “Smart Tracking of Antimicrobial Resistance in Livestock Landscapes”, addressing one of the most pressing public health threats of our time. Dr Singla delivered a thought-provoking presentation on “One Health Approach to Parasitic Diseases at the Human–Animal–Environment Interface” a subject of profound global relevance.



FOOD FOR THOUGHT

LIVESTOCK WELFARE AND HEALTH

DAHD Releases National SOP on Animal Blood Transfusion and Blood Banking

The Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying (DAHD), Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying, Government of India, has brought out comprehensive *Guidelines/SOP for Blood Transfusion and Blood Bank for Animals in India* (August 2025), marking a significant milestone in strengthening veterinary critical care services in the country.

India's vast livestock and companion animal population plays a crucial role in agricultural economy and rural livelihoods. However, veterinary blood transfusion practices have remained largely unstructured, often carried out under emergency conditions without standardized protocols.

The SOP lays down national guidelines covering donor selection, blood collection, processing, storage, compatibility testing, transfusion protocols, and post-transfusion monitoring. It strongly emphasizes donor animal welfare, voluntary non-remunerated donation, and adherence to ethical standards. The document also integrates One Health principles to minimize zoonotic risks and ensure biosafety.



A key feature of the guidelines is the recommendation for establishing state-regulated veterinary blood banks with standardized infrastructure, trained manpower, and quality assurance systems. It further proposes the creation of a National Veterinary Blood Bank Network (N-VBBN) to facilitate real-time access to blood and blood components across the country.

The SOP also highlights the need for capacity building through veterinary education, continuing professional training, and research in advanced transfusion technologies. While the document serves as an advisory framework without statutory force, it provides a strong foundation for future regulatory development and uniform practices nationwide.

AWBI's Landmark SOP on Stray Dog Management in Institutional Premises

In a significant step towards safeguarding public health and institutional safety, the Animal Welfare Board of India (AWBI) issued a comprehensive Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) on 27 November, 2025, giving effect to the Supreme Court's landmark order of November 7 in the suo motu case titled "*City Housed by Strays, Kids Pay Price.*" The

apex court, deeply concerned by the alarming rise in dog bite incidents within institutional premises housing children, patients, travellers, and the elderly, directed authorities to remove all stray dogs from schools, colleges, hospitals, sports complexes, railway stations, and bus stands, characterising the prevailing situation as a failure of governance demanding urgent and decisive action.

The AWBI's SOP casts a wide and unambiguous net, defining institutional premises to encompass government and private educational institutions, hospitals, medical colleges, railway stations, airports, bus depots, religious sites, tourist complexes, and children's parks. Each institution is required to appoint a dedicated Nodal Officer responsible for ensuring that no stray dogs are present on the premises. Boundary walls, functional gates, and physical barriers must be installed to prevent entry, while local and municipal authorities are mandated to identify all institutions within their jurisdiction and ensure strict compliance.



(<https://share.google/Swwn1nhByBi8DVUqZ>)

Flying Foxes as Sentinels: How Environmental Contamination Drives Antimicrobial Resistance in Wildlife

Recent investigation on Indian flying foxes (*Pteropus medius*) highlights how environmental pressures, such as agricultural expansion, urban waste exposure, contaminated water sources, and antibiotic residues from livestock systems, can shape antimicrobial resistant (AMR) microbial communities in these bats. As highly mobile mammals that interact with both natural and human modified environments, flying foxes may serve as important sentinels for ecosystem level AMR trends.

From a One Health perspective, these findings underscore: cross sector linkages between environmental pollution, wildlife health, and human/livestock antimicrobial exposure; surveillance value of bat populations for early detection of environmental AMR hotspots; and policy relevance, reinforcing the need for integrated waste management, controlled antibiotic use in agriculture, and habitat sensitive public health planning. (<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41598-025-19738-5>)

SPLENDOUR SHINING VETERINARIANS

Dr Raghavendra Bhatta Honoured with Prestigious National Awards

At the 21st Biennial International Conference of the Animal Nutrition Society of India held at Acharya Narendra Deva University of Agriculture and Technology, Ayodhya (19–21 November 2025), Dr. Raghavendra Bhatta was conferred the prestigious ANSI Dr DVR Prakash Rao Best Animal Nutritionist Award (2025) in recognition of his outstanding contributions to animal nutrition.



Dr Bhatta, currently Deputy Director General (Animal Science) at the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, has made seminal contributions in the areas of enteric methane mitigation and improvement of livestock nutrition in India. His pioneering work on methane emission reduction in ruminants, including a patented innovation, has significant implications for sustainable livestock production and climate resilience.

Further adding to his distinction, Dr Bhatta was also honoured with the Dr DV R. Prakash Rao Lifetime Achievement Award-cum-Late Smt. Sundari Prakash Rao Endowment Lecture by the NAVS(I) during the XXIII Convocation-cum-National Scientific Convention held at Bihar Animal Sciences University, Patna (22–23 December 2025).

A Global Honour for One Health Excellence: Prof. Hari Mohan Saxena Conferred Prestigious Global Leadership Award 2025

Prof. Hari Mohan Saxena, eminent veterinary immunologist and Fellow of NAVS(I), has been conferred the distinguished Global Leadership Award 2025 for Excellence in Global One Health by the NGO–UNESCO Liaison Committee, an organization holding Consultative and Observer status with the United Nations. The award was presented by the Economic Counsellor of the Embassy of El Salvador, alongside senior diplomats, at the International Conference on Small and Medium Enterprises organized in New Delhi by the World Association of Small & Medium Enterprises, an occasion graced by Ambassadors and diplomats from several nations, alongside eminent Indian bureaucrats and corporate leaders.

Currently serving as a National Level Monitor with the Union Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying, Prof Saxena brings a career of rare distinction to this honour.

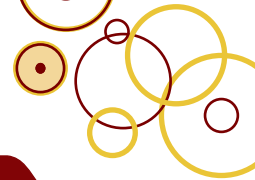


Dr Ramesh Chandra Patra Elected Fellow of Western Ghat Researcher Association

Dr Ramesh Chandra Patra, former Professor & Head of Veterinary Medicine, former Dean of the College of Veterinary Science & Animal Husbandry, and former Dean of Research at Odisha University of Agriculture and Technology (OUAT), Bhubaneswar, and Ex-Senior Scientist at the Indian Veterinary Research Institute (IVRI), Izatnagar, has been elected as a Fellow of the Western Ghat Researcher Association of Agricultural Sciences and Technology. The Fellowship was conferred during the International Conference *AGRI TECHNOVA 2025* on “Recent Trends in Transforming Global Production Systems: Cutting-Edge Technologies in Penta ‘F’— Food, Fibre, Feed, Fuel and Fertilizers,” held at Thiagarajar College, Madurai, Tamil Nadu on 18–19 December 2025.



A Fellow of NAVS(I) since 2016, Dr Patra’s distinguished career began as an Agricultural Research Scientist at IVRI. This latest honour adds to an already illustrious array of fellowships, ISVM (2007), NAVS(I) (2016), IAAVR (2016), ISSGPU (2024), and SVSBT (2024), reflecting a lifetime of exceptional contributions to Veterinary Medicine and veterinary sciences. NAVS(I) warmly congratulates Dr. Patra on this well-deserved recognition.



LEST WE FORGET OBITUARY

Dr Oruganti Ramakrishna (Fellow, NAVS(I) — Elected 1996: 29 November 1936 — 8 May 2025)

The Indian veterinary community mourns the passing of Dr Oruganti Ramakrishna, an eminent veterinary surgeon, dedicated academician, and pioneering researcher, who breathed his last on 8 May 2025. A Fellow of the National Academy of Veterinary Sciences (India) since 1996, his distinguished career spanning over four decades left an indelible mark on veterinary surgery and education in the country.



Born on 29 November 1936, Dr Ramakrishna pursued his education with unwavering dedication. He obtained his BSc from Andhra University (1954–1956), followed by his BVS. from the College of Veterinary Science, Tirupati (1956–1960), and his MVSc in Surgery from Madras (1962–1964).

He went on to earn his PhD in Surgery from Hissar (1973–1976), and received the coveted Fellowship in Special Surgery (FRVAC) from the Royal Veterinary and Agricultural College, Copenhagen, Denmark (1968–1969), where he was trained under the distinguished Prof Gert Espersen in the Department of Special Surgery.

Dr Ramakrishna enjoyed the singular distinction of being the first alumnus of the College of Veterinary Science, Tirupati to be appointed as Assistant Professor (1967), and subsequently as Professor (1982). He rose to serve as University Head, Department of Surgery and Radiology, and later as Principal of the College (1992–1995), a remarkable arc of achievement within the very institution that had first shaped him. He also served as Visiting Professor to the United States under the Indo-US Embryo Technology Programme (USAID, 1989), and received advanced training in non-surgical embryo transfer at Embryo Tech, Hughson, California under Dr Autar Karihaloo, as well as at the University of Queensland, Australia under the Commonwealth Veterinary Interchange Fund (1983).

As a researcher, Dr Ramakrishna was both prolific and ahead of his time. He led multiple ICAR Ad-Hoc research schemes and Indo-US funded projects, investigating frontiers such as embryo transfer technology and bioengineering in Ongole cows (USAID, 1987–1992), electro-anaesthesia in swine, ovine and caprine species (1987–1991), acupuncture in buffaloes for analgesia and therapy (1982–1987), and extracellular and intracellular fluid dynamics in incised wounds in buffalo calves (1982–1985). His research in electro-anaesthesia and embryo transfer in bovines (1981–1985) was among the earliest of its kind in the country. He guided 8 PhD and 51 MVSc scholars, published 110 clinical and research articles in national and international journals, and authored a chapter on the Cardiovascular System in the seminal reference work Ruminant Surgery, edited by RPS. Tyagi and Jit Singh.

His contributions to the profession have been recognized with numerous distinctions. He was conferred the Lifetime Achievement Award by the

Indian Society for Veterinary Surgery (ISVS) in 2011, the Dr Ratan Singh Memorial Award by ISVS in 2009, and the Dr Angelo Memorial Gold Medal for Best Clinical Articles in Surgery by the Indian Veterinary Journal in both 1986 and 1990. He was awarded an Honorary DSc (*Honoris Causa*) by the Medicina Alternativa Institute, Open International University for Complementary Medicines, Colombo (1995), and was elected a Fellow of the ISVS (1995) and a Member of the New York Academy of Sciences, USA (1995).

Beyond the laboratory and lecture hall, Dr Ramakrishna was a tireless servant of his professional community. He served as President (2011) and Secretary (1980–1981) of the Indian Society for Veterinary Surgery, and as Member of the Scientific Panel for Clinical Subjects, ICAR (1985–1991). He organised two national ISVS conferences at Tirupati in 1987 and 1995, and was the Founder Secretary of the Alumni Association of the College of Veterinary Science, Tirupati, a role that reflected his deep sense of gratitude and belonging to the institution he loved.

Dr O Ramakrishna's legacy endures in the hundreds of veterinary surgeons he mentored, the research frontiers he opened, and the institutional excellence he championed with quiet resolve. NAVS(I) conveys its heartfelt condolences to his family, colleagues, and the many students whose lives he shaped. May his soul rest in eternal peace.

Dr Allauddin Ahmad (Fellow, NAVS(I); Elected 1996: 15 January 1936 – 28 October 2025)

The veterinary and agricultural education community deeply mourns the passing of Prof Allauddin Ahmad, an eminent veterinary pharmacologist, distinguished academician, visionary institution builder, and Fellow of the National Academy of Veterinary Sciences (India) since 1996. Prof Ahmad passed away on 28 October 2025, leaving behind an extraordinary legacy of scholarship, leadership, and service to the nation.



Born on 15 January 1936 in village Rampur Bakhri, Muzaffarpur, Bihar, Prof Ahmad received his foundational education at Bihar Veterinary College, Patna, graduating with BVSc & AH in 1955.

He pursued higher studies in Veterinary Pharmacology at the University of Missouri, USA, earning his MS, followed by a PhD from Patna University in 1966. His academic brilliance was further recognised with the conferment of DSc (*Honoris Causa*) and his election as Fellow of NAVS(I).

With an illustrious career spanning over four and a half decades, Prof Ahmad made remarkable contributions to teaching, research, and academic administration. He served with distinction in several prestigious positions, notably as Vice-Chancellor of Jamia Hamdard, New Delhi (1995–2000), and Founder Vice-Chancellor of Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology, J&K (1982–1991), where he laid a strong

foundation for agricultural education and research in the region. His tenure as Deputy Director General (Education), ICAR (1991–1995), was marked by visionary initiatives in agricultural human resource development and strengthening of higher agricultural education systems in India.

Earlier in his career, he held key academic positions including Director-cum-Dean, Post Graduate Studies at Rajendra Agricultural University, Bihar, and Professor & Head of Pharmacology and Toxicology at leading institutions such as Jawaharlal Nehru Krishi Vishwavidyalaya, Jabalpur and Chaudhary Charan Singh Haryana Agricultural University, Hisar. He also contributed as a scientist at CSIR-CDRI, Lucknow, and began his academic journey as a teacher at Bihar Veterinary College, Patna.

An accomplished scientist in Veterinary Pharmacology and Toxicology, Prof Ahmad guided numerous postgraduate and doctoral students and published over 70 research papers, besides delivering several invited lectures, memorial lectures, and convocation addresses. His work significantly contributed to strengthening pharmacological research and education in veterinary sciences.

Prof Ahmad's stature extended well beyond academia. He served as President of the Association of Indian Universities and held important positions in international bodies, including the Association of Commonwealth Universities. He was actively associated with ICAR, INSA, NCERT, and several national and international scientific and educational organizations, contributing to policy formulation, academic governance, and institutional development. His leadership in various committees, expert panels, and selection boards was widely acknowledged and respected.

A recipient of numerous honours, including the "Pride of India" award (AFMI, USA) and Distinguished Veterinarian Award, Prof Ahmad was widely recognised for his contributions to veterinary science and higher education. His efforts in developing new academic programmes, particularly in interdisciplinary and professional education, have left a lasting imprint.

Beyond his professional achievements, Prof Ahmad was known for his intellectual depth, administrative acumen, and commitment to nation-building through education. As a long-serving Member of the Governing Council of NAVS(I) (1993–2013), he played an important role in strengthening the Academy and promoting veterinary sciences in India.

As we pay tribute to Prof Allauddin Ahmad, we remember a life dedicated to academic excellence, visionary leadership, and selfless service. His contributions will continue to inspire generations of veterinarians, scientists, and educators. He will be fondly remembered for his wisdom, humility, and enduring impact on the institutions he served and the people whose lives he enriched.

Dr. Mohinder Singh Oberoi (Fellow, NAVS(I) : Elected 2000–01: 06 July 1947- 14 January 2026

The veterinary community mourns the passing of Dr Mohinder Singh Oberoi, a distinguished veterinary virologist, accomplished scientist, visionary administrator, and a Fellow of the National Academy of Veterinary Sciences (India) since 2000–01. Elected to the Academy in recognition of his outstanding contributions to Veterinary Microbiology, Dr Oberoi passed away on 14 January 2026, leaving behind an illustrious legacy that will continue to inspire generations of veterinarians and scientists across the globe.



A qualified veterinarian with a Ph.D. in Veterinary Science, Dr Oberoi dedicated over four decades of his professional life to advancing the field of veterinary virology. His research excellence found expression in approximately 150 scientific publications in national and international journals of repute, with particular focus on veterinary virology and avian influenza. These scholarly contributions have significantly enriched global scientific literature and remain valuable resources for researchers and practitioners alike.

Dr Oberoi earned recognition as one of Asia's foremost experts in avian influenza and transboundary animal diseases, and his expertise was sought by the world's most prestigious organisations. From 2005 to 2014, he served with distinction as Manager of the FAO Sub-Regional ECTAD (Emergency Centre for Transboundary Animal Diseases) Unit for SAARC countries, operating from the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations offices in New Delhi and Kathmandu, Nepal. In this critical role, he provided invaluable technical assistance to SAARC member countries, strengthening their capacities for disease surveillance, diagnostic development, and response to highly pathogenic and emerging diseases — work that made a lasting contribution to regional biosecurity and preparedness. His international consulting engagements extended across the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the World Bank Group, and USAID between 2002 and 2014, where his technical acumen and strategic insight were consistently held in the highest regard.

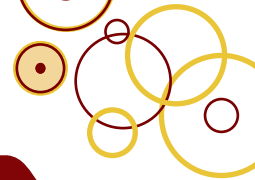
From 2003 to 2005, Dr Oberoi served as Dean of the College of Veterinary Science, Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana, the institution now known as Guru Angad Dev Veterinary and Animal Sciences University. His deanship was defined by progressive academic reforms, institutional development, and a quiet but commanding leadership style that set enduring benchmarks in veterinary education. A man of few words and immense impact, he led with disciplined integrity and communicated always with grace and dignity. Colleagues who worked alongside him remember him as a gentleman who never raised his voice, yet commanded the deepest respect through the consistency of his character and the exemplary standard of his conduct.

Beyond his professional accomplishments, Dr Oberoi was a founding pillar of the NAVS Fellows community, instrumental in nurturing collegial bonds and building strong professional networks that strengthened the Academy over the years. Those who knew him personally speak of a man of rare humility, honesty, and deeply rooted human values. He was a motivational force, a source of quiet courage and conviction, and a noble soul whose influence touched countless lives across continents.

As we mourn this profound loss, NAVS(I) also celebrates the remarkable life Dr Oberoi lived — a life of service, scientific rigour, international collaboration, and unwavering commitment to the betterment of veterinary science. His legacy will endure in the institutions he strengthened, the students he inspired, the nations he served, and the hearts of all who had the privilege of knowing him.

DISCLAIMER

The views expressed by various authors in this publication are their own and not necessarily that of the NAVS (I). Further, news items related to selected scientific and academic advances published in this newsletter are extracted from varied sources, including scientific journals, newspapers, websites etc. They are solely meant for developing educational awareness among the members of the Academy.



GROUNDBREAKING DISCOVERIES

A NOBEL LEGACY

Pediatric Telesurgery: A New Frontier in Global Surgical Care

The successful performance of the world's first paediatric telesurgery in India marks a historic advancement in surgical science. Using the indigenous *Mantra 3* robotic system, Dr. Chandra Mohan Vaddi and his team completed a pyeloplasty on a 16-month-old child across a distance of nearly 1,550 kilometers between Gurugram and Hyderabad in September 2025. Beyond its technical triumph, this achievement underscores the maturation of robotic and telecommunication technologies in addressing disparities in access to specialized surgical care. (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2l4xTvo8eGI>)

Paediatric telesurgery is particularly significant. Operating on infants poses challenges of limited anatomical space, heightened physiological vulnerability, and the demand for absolute precision. Demonstrating that such a procedure can be executed remotely, with safety and efficacy, expands the boundaries of what modern surgery can achieve.

Telesurgery history in India is relatively recent, focusing on the development and demonstration of indigenous SSI Mantra robotic systems, with significant advancements occurring in 2024 and 2025. In 2024, telesurgery in India was standardized on male pig successfully by conducting four procedures—cholecystectomy, radical nephrectomy, cystectomy, and prostatectomy.



World's First Pediatric Pyeloplasty Telesurgery

Other key latest historical milestones include the first human cancer telesurgery in June 2024, the first intercontinental telesurgery (cardiac surgery) in July 2025, and the world's first robotic bariatric telesurgery (anastomosis gastric bypass) in the same month, all utilizing the Indian-developed SSI Mantra robot. These achievements mark a crucial step in making advanced surgical care more accessible and affordable across India and globally.

Equally notable is the reliance on an indigenous robotic platform, which reflects India's growing capability in high-end biomedical innovation. Such autonomy reduces dependence on costly imported systems and has the potential to make advanced surgical care more affordable and accessible in

This Newsletter 'NAVS News Vibes' is published by the National Academy of Veterinary Sciences (India), Admin Block, Room No-5, DMS Complex, Shadipur, West Patel Nagar, New Delhi- 110008, India

low- and middle-income countries. Moreover, these low-cost technological advances could prove to be a boon for veterinary surgery as well, opening new possibilities for telesurgery in animals and expanding the reach of specialized care across species.

Scientists Discover Strong Genetic Links Between Cat and Human Cancers



A groundbreaking study has mapped the genetic mutations involved in cancers in domestic cats, revealing that many of these mutations are remarkably similar to those found in human cancers. Researchers discovered that several cancer-related genes, including those linked to breast cancer and lymphoma, are shared between cats and humans. Because pets live in the same environment as humans, scientists believe studying cancer in cats may help identify environmental risk factors that affect both species.

This discovery may allow researchers to test human cancer drugs for use in veterinary medicine and develop treatments that benefit both animals and people. The research highlights the growing importance of the "One Health" approach, where advances in veterinary medicine contribute directly to human medical breakthroughs. (<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2026/03/260318033143.htm>)

INSTITUTIONAL LIFE MEMBER (NGO)



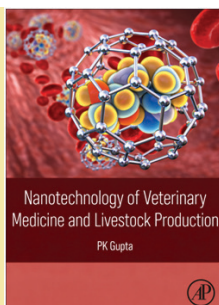
CORPORATE LIFE MEMBER



ACADEMIA SCHOLASTIC CONNECTIONS

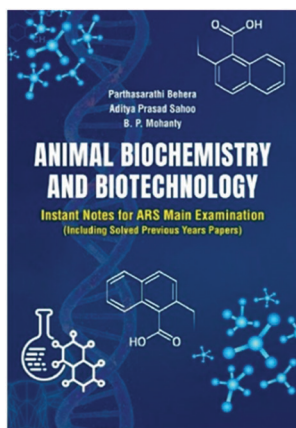
Book Review: Nanotechnology of Veterinary Medicine and Livestock Production

Dr. P.K. Gupta, a distinguished fellow (2004-05) of the National Academy of Veterinary Sciences (NAVS) and former Head of the Division of Pharmacology and Toxicology at the Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Izatnagar published a book Titled “*Nanotechnology of Veterinary Medicine and Livestock Production*”, by Elsevier USA in April 2025, provides a comprehensive overview of the latest advancements in nanotechnology applied to animal science.



The book explores various interdisciplinary applications of nanotechnology, including its use in animal disease treatment, the development of nanovaccines, animal nutrition, and production, as well as potential antibiotic therapies. It also addresses the risks, challenges, and opportunities associated with these emerging technologies.

Dr Parthasarathi Behera: Book Release & Young Scientist Award at SVBBI 2025



Dr Parthasarathi Behera, Associate Professor, Department of Veterinary Physiology & Biochemistry, College of Veterinary Science & Animal Husbandry, Central Agricultural University (Imphal), Selesih, Aizawl, Mizoram, achieved a landmark moment at the 9th Annual Convention of the Society of Veterinary Biochemists and Biotechnologists of India (SVBBI), held at West Bengal University of Animal and Fishery Sciences (WBUAFS), Kolkata, on 28–29 November 2025, when his book “*Animal Biochemistry and Biotechnology: Instant Notes for ARS Main Examination*”, was formally released by the Hon’ble Vice-

Chancellor, WBUAFS, in the gracious presence of distinguished dignitaries assembled on the dais.

Adding further lustre to the occasion, Dr Behera was also conferred the prestigious Young Scientist Award at the same convention, in recognition of his outstanding research contributions to the field of Veterinary Biochemistry and Biotechnology, a fitting tribute to a scientist whose work continues to make a meaningful impact.

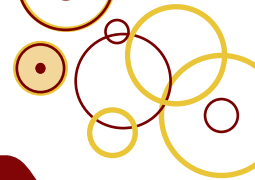


NAVS(I) warmly felicitates Dr Behera on this distinguished double achievement and takes immense pride in the accomplishments of its member (NAVS/2022/M/03; Award Year: 2023, Ludhiana). We extend our heartiest congratulations and wish him an ever-brightening trajectory of academic and scientific excellence.

REFLECTIONS THE ISSUES THAT WERE

Esteemed Fellows, veterinary professionals, distinguished scientists, respected stalwarts, and renowned personalities in Veterinary Science have provided feedback and shared their thoughts on the various issues of the NAVS(I) News Vibes. Their reflections paint a picture of appreciation and encouragement:

- **Dr. Kamal Malla Bujarbaruah:** Owe really excellent. Number of activities, events, information, recognitions upto obituary have been well covered. The presentation style and formatting is competition matching. Congratulations.
- **Dr. Satpal Ahuja:** Dr. Singla, thank you for sharing the latest Issue of NAVS(I) Vibes. It is a unique and informative publication edited by you. Congratulations!
- **Dr. Jit Singh:** Dr. Sahib, I do read all issues. You are doing a wonderful job. Very comprehensive and informative is every issue. Great job for the profession. Warm regards.
- **Dr. Inderjeet Singh:** Perfect. I am astonished at the quantum of exertion you are making to dig out interesting information to roll out a very informative bulletin of NAVS! Congratulations.
- **Dr. Raghavendra Bhatta:** I have gone through the latest issue of NAVS News and Vibes, and it has come out extremely well. Congratulations on your meticulous and dedicated efforts.
- **Prof. Akhilesh Chandra Varshney:** Excellently written covering very valuable information. Great job done Dr. Singla. Excellently drafted with focused approach. My appreciation to Dr. Singla.
- **Dr. Vinod K. Verma:** You have covered pan-India regarding recent developments in Veterinary and Animal Sciences including significant global initiatives. Your articles are quite enriching and thought-provoking. Composition is always of next level. Thanks for your heart-touching services to NAVS.
- **Dr. Amarjit Singh Nanda:** Thank you Dr. Singla. You are doing a great job.
- **Dr. Veer Singh:** Thanks for the soft copy of NAVS News Vibes. We are stoked to hear that you enjoyed the compilation and coverage of veterinary activities.
- **Dr. Jagmohan Kataria:** Congratulations for timely publication with good substance in Vibes.
- **Dr. Manish K. Singh:** Best wishes to Dr. L.D. Singla and the editorial team for their continued success in creating an unparalleled chronicle of excellence!
- **Dr. H.M. Saxena:** Thank you for sending me the latest issue of NAVS Vibes. It is very informative and elegantly prepared. Thank you for including my news in this issue. Best wishes.
- **Dr. Neelam Bansal:** Congratulations Dr. Singla. You are doing the best for our profession and the Academy. Proud of you.
- **Dr. R.C. Patra:** Thank you very much for the regular publishing of NAVS Vibe with lots of dedication and sincerity. I express my sincere gratitude for your dedicated efforts.
- **Dr. Pramod Kumar Chug:** Sincere appreciation to you Dr. Singla and the editorial team fo this commendable effort. The publication consistency, academic depth, and professional excellence continue to enhance its global standing. Congratulations on maintaining such high standards.



TIDBITS SOUPCON

From Farmyard to Future: Celebrating the Incredible Egg on World Egg Day 2025

World Egg Day 2025, observed globally on 10th October under the inspiring theme “Eggs for Good Health,” was celebrated with enthusiasm and purpose across the veterinary, nutrition, and poultry communities worldwide. Initiated by the International Egg Commission in 1996, this annual global movement continues to spotlight one of nature’s most complete foods and its indispensable role in feeding humanity sustainably and affordably.

Recent research further affirms that moderate egg consumption poses no risk to heart health, and with one of the lowest environmental footprints among animal proteins, the egg stands as a superfood for both people and the planet.

In India, the significance of the egg extends well beyond nutrition. Poultry farming sustains millions of small and marginal farmers, generating livelihoods, empowering rural women, and bolstering nutritional security in underserved communities. As we reflect on the celebrations of World Egg Day 2025, let the message endure well into the new year, include eggs in every diet, support our poultry farmers, and champion a food that is at once humble and extraordinary. Because truly — “An egg a day keeps malnutrition away!”

Honouring the Guardians of One Health: Indian Veterinary Doctors Day 2025

Indian Veterinary Doctors Day 2025 was observed on 30th November with deserved pride and gratitude, celebrating the tireless, compassionate, and scientifically skilled veterinarians who stand at the frontline of animal health, public health, and environmental well-being across the country. The occasion reaffirmed a truth that cannot be overstated, that the One Health vision finds its most dedicated champions in the veterinary profession.

The day shone a spotlight on the vast and vital canvas of veterinary practice, from clinical diagnosis, disease surveillance, vaccination, and reproductive health management, to laboratory diagnostics, wildlife conservation, food safety, and farmer education. Veterinarians were honoured as the nation’s first line of defense against formidable zoonotic diseases including rabies, brucellosis, foot-and-mouth disease, and avian influenza, ensuring that the milk, meat, and eggs reaching millions of households across India meet the highest standards of safety and quality.

This year’s celebrations carried forward the resounding theme, “One Health Starts with Veterinarians” a powerful reminder that protecting animals, people, and the planet is not a divided responsibility but a single, unified mission, and that veterinary professionals remain its most steadfast custodians. NAVS (I) salutes every veterinarian across the country for their unwavering dedication, scientific excellence, and profound service to society. Your contribution is immeasurable, and deeply valued.

Canine’s Unique Olfaction - The Future of Parkinson’s Diagnosis

A dog’s nose is exquisitely sensitive, boasting up to 300 million olfactory receptors compared to a human’s mere 5 million. With their exceptional olfactory abilities, dogs can detect scents at concentrations as low as parts per trillion.

The recent study by Rooney et al. provides compelling evidence that trained dogs can detect Parkinson’s disease (PD) through volatile biomarkers in human sebum. By systematically training two dogs to distinguish between skin swabs from patients and healthy controls, the team demonstrated

diagnostic performance of up to 80% sensitivity and 98% specificity under double-blind conditions. This rigor adds weight to earlier anecdotal and observational reports that PD carries a unique olfactory signature.

The implications are profound. Current diagnosis often relies on motor symptoms that emerge only after substantial neurodegeneration, delaying therapeutic intervention. A non-invasive, inexpensive, and reliable biomarker—whether detected by dogs or replicated in sensor technologies—could transform the clinical pathway, enabling earlier detection, improved patient stratification, and timely treatment.

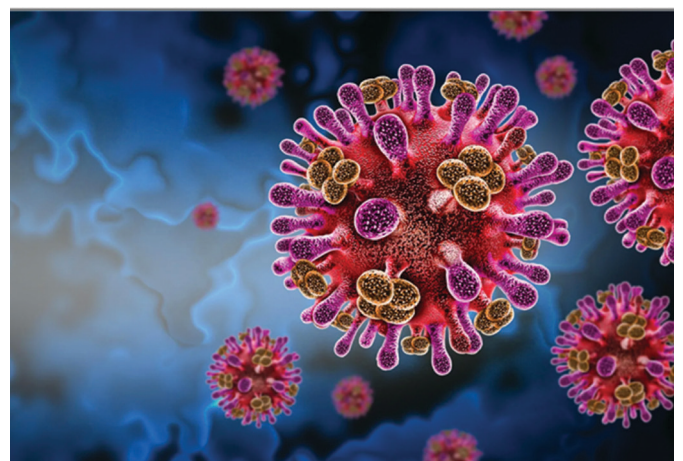
Beyond immediate diagnostic potential, canine studies may help pinpoint the precise volatile organic compounds that characterize PD. Such insights could accelerate the development of “electronic noses” or integrated diagnostic platforms suitable for widespread clinical use. While dogs themselves may not become routine diagnostic tools, their success highlights the biological reality of disease-specific odors and underscores the untapped potential of olfaction in neurology.

This research bridges veterinary science and human medicine, exemplifying how cross-disciplinary collaboration can advance precision diagnostics.

(Source: <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/1877718X251342485>)

Hidden Bat Virus Discovered Infecting Humans

Scientists have identified a bat-borne virus called Pteropine orthoreovirus (PRV) in patients in Bangladesh who were initially suspected to be infected with Nipah virus. Researchers analyzed stored throat-swab samples from five patients who showed symptoms similar to Nipah infection but tested negative for it. Further genetic analysis revealed that these individuals were actually infected with PRV, a virus naturally carried by bats. All of the infected patients had recently consumed raw date-palm sap, which is commonly collected in winter and is known to be contaminated by bats that feed on the sap. Bats are recognized reservoirs of several zoonotic viruses including Nipah, rabies, Hendra, and Marburg. The discovery suggests that additional bat-borne viruses may be circulating undetected in human populations. Scientists emphasize the need for improved surveillance systems to monitor emerging zoonotic diseases and prevent potential outbreaks. The findings highlight the importance of the One Health approach, which links animal health, human health, and environmental monitoring to detect new infectious diseases early. (<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2026/01/260131084131.htm>)



SPOTLIGHT FROM ABROAD

Learning from Sweden: A Case for Early Animal Care Vocational Training in India

During a recent visit to Helsingborg, Sweden, Dr Satpal Ahuja, Fellow NAVS(I) from Sweden encountered an educational model that deserves serious attention from India's veterinary community. The Riding and Animal Health Care School, established in 2000, offers structured vocational training to students at the 10+2 level, covering animal care, health management, training techniques, and equestrian skills. The result: young professionals entering the workforce with genuine competency and clarity of purpose, years ahead of conventional pathways.



The contrast with India is stark. Despite a strong veterinary education system at undergraduate and postgraduate levels, structured animal care vocational training at the secondary level is virtually absent. Yet the demand has never been greater, skilled para-veterinary workers, professional animal trainers, groomers, equestrian specialists, and dairy technicians are needed across every segment of our growing animal care sector.

An institutionalized 10+2 vocational model could be transformative: building practical skills at a formative age, enabling informed career decisions, and creating meaningful livelihoods for animal-loving youth across India. We call upon members to reflect: Could we champion similar institutions in India? How might we collaborate with state governments, educational boards, and skill development authorities to pilot such programs?

Dr. Ahuja's observation is a timely reminder that our global NAVS(I) network is a powerful resource. We encourage all members, especially those abroad, to share international innovations that can be adapted for Indian conditions. (Source: Dr. Satpal Ahuja, Fellow NAVS(I), Sweden)

BEYOND THE BOUNDARIES SISTER SCIENCES

Mosquitoes Reach Iceland for the First Time as Climate Crisis Hits the Arctic

For the first time in history, mosquitoes have been discovered in Iceland, leaving Antarctica as the only continent without the insects. Three specimens of the cold-resistant *Culiseta annulata* were found in Kiðafell, Kjós, marking a significant shift in the country's ecology as global warming transforms previously inhospitable habitats.



A *Culiseta annulata* mosquito, which is the type found in Kiðafell, Kjós. Photograph: Alamy

The discovery was confirmed by entomologist Matthías Alfreðsson at the Natural Science Institute of Iceland. The insects — two females and one male — were collected by citizen scientist Björn Hjaltason using wine traps aimed at attracting moths. These mosquitoes can survive harsh Icelandic winters by sheltering in basements and barns, raising concerns about their potential establishment across the country.

Scientists have long predicted that mosquitoes could appear in Iceland, given the abundance of marshes, ponds, and other breeding habitats. The Arctic region is warming four times faster than the global average, and Iceland has experienced record heat this year, accelerated glacier melt, and the arrival of warm-water fish species like mackerel.

Globally, rising temperatures are facilitating the spread of mosquitoes into new regions. In the UK, invasive species such as the Egyptian mosquito (*Aedes aegypti*) and the Asian tiger mosquito (*Aedes albopictus*) have been detected, both capable of transmitting tropical diseases like dengue, chikungunya, and Zika virus.

This unprecedented finding in Iceland highlights the far-reaching ecological consequences of climate change and signals that even the planet's most remote regions are increasingly vulnerable to warming. (<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2025/oct/21/mosquitoes-found-iceland-first-time-climate-crisis-warms-country>)

INSTITUTIONAL LIFE MEMBERS



Bihar Animal Sciences University
Patna



Dau Shri Vasudev Chandrakar Kamdhenu Vishwavidyalaya, Durg



Guru Angad Dev Vatterinay and Animal Sciences University, Ludhiana



Kamdhenu University
Gandhinagar



Karnataka Animal, Fishery & Veterinary Sciences University, Bidar



Kerala Veterinary and Animal Sciences University
Pookode



Khalsa College of Veterinary & Animal Sciences, Amritsar



Lala Lajpat Rai University of Veterinary & Animal Sciences
Hisar



Maharashtra Animal & Fisheries Sciences University
Nagpur



Nanaji Deshmukh Veterinary Sciences University, Jabalpur



Rajasthan University of Veterinary & Animal Sciences
Bikaner



Siksha 'O' Anusandhan (Deemed to be University)
Bhubaneswar



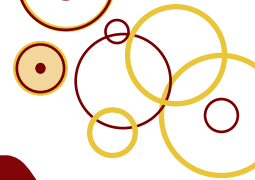
Sri Venkateshwara Veterinary University
Tirupati



Tamil Nadu Veterinary & Animal Sciences University, Chennai



Uttar Pradesh Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Pashu Chikitsa Vigyan Vishwavidyalaya Evam Go-Anusandhan Sansthan, Mathura



ADVERTISEMENT

SPONSORED CONTENT

BROOKE HOSPITAL FOR ANIMALS (INDIA)

An Organisation Committed to Equine Health & Welfare and the Development of the Marginalised Equine Owning Community

Brooke Hospital for Animals (India) or Brooke India (BI) is an affiliate of the Brooke, which is a United Kingdom-based international equine charity, focusing on the welfare and care of equines (horses, donkeys and mules). Brooke's vision is of a world in which working horses, donkeys and mules are free from suffering and have a life worth living.



Renu Devi, equine owner from Sonipat, with her mule

BI's journey in India towards equine welfare started two decades back when it was registered as a Section 8, Not for Profit Company under the Companies Act. Equids in India mostly work in harsh environments like Brick Kilns and face never-ending health troubles. This situation was mainly due to a lack of financial resources and knowledge on good management practices amongst the equine owners and insufficient understanding of equine health care by Local Health Providers (LHP).

BI's initial step as an intervention involved providing free veterinary services at different congregation points and organising Intensive Equine Care Camps (IECC) to spread awareness on welfare oriented husbandry practices and preventable injuries & diseases. From 2006 onwards, BI started focusing on establishing permanent intervention units and started expanding its operations to other states such as Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan,

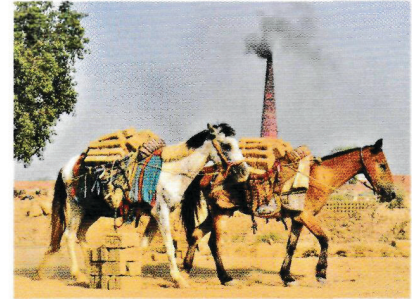


IECC Camps Luniyavas donkey fair

Hyderabad and other parts of Uttar Pradesh. The BI team also introduced Community Engagement for exploring sustainable solutions for equine welfare and community development. This period saw the formation of male and female Self Help Groups called Equine Welfare Groups, the use of Participatory Rural Appraisal tools and increasing community participation. BI team saw the congregation of equines, equine owners, traders and local service providers at Equine Fairs as an excellent opportunity for a large-scale intervention. BI teams intervened to spread awareness on equine welfare issues, provide quality training on equine care and ensure equine welfare-friendly facilities and resources at these fairs.

BI teams also focused on strengthening the local service delivery system for working equines, including quality farriery services for hoof care, accurate and appropriate veterinary first aid during health emergencies, hair clipping, and welfare-friendly saddlery material. They also ensured compassionate handling while

delivering any of the services. These interventions were incorporated in Brooke's Theory of Change, in 2016. This theory promotes strengthened animal health policy environment and thriving equine owning communities.



Equines working at Brick Kilns

Currently, BI operates directly through 32 Equine Welfare Projects (EWPs) across 10 States and Union Territories in India, thereby reaching out to approximately 3.16 lakhs working equids and the equine owning community that owns/rears them. BI has multi-disciplinary teams with core strengths in Animal Health & Welfare, and Community Development, including Human behaviour Change, Gender Empowerment, Livelihoods and Resilience. Some of the notable achievements made by the team over the years include:

- Advocating the revision of Glander's Compensation- From INR 50 to 25,000 for horses and INR 16000 for mules/donkeys
- Inclusion of Equids in Livestock under the National Livestock Mission Schemes and thereby making them eligible for equine insurance.
- Advocating the issue of Animal Welfare Board of India (AWBI) advisories for Equine Fairs, Shrines & Pilgrim sites
- Introducing BI's innovative projects for ensuring sustainable availability of green fodder, through Azolla cultivation and Hydroponics techniques successfully across its intervention areas.
- BI teams worked throughout the COVID 19 pandemic. They supported the community by providing emergency treatments, alternative livelihood options, first aid kits and feed & fodder for the equines.

In the upcoming years, BI will focus on strengthening the Community Based Organisations, linkages with government welfare schemes, have robust disaster response capacity, advocate policy revisions on equine welfare issues, and enhancing the knowledge and skills of veterinary students on animal welfare, compassionate handling and upskilling the local farriers and animal health providers.



Quality Farriery Services

BI's team is proud of its journey and aspire to keep bringing a positive change for vulnerable and marginalised working equines and the rural communities, whose lives we have not touched yet.

Introducing

Zydus AHL

For the First Time in India

VetPlasma™

**PLASMA
VOLUME
EXPANDER**

INDICATIONS AND USAGE

VetPlasma is used primarily to treat acute hypovolemia & shock in conditions like Blood loss, diarrhoea, etc

DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

Daily dose and rate of infusion depend on the animal's blood loss, hemodynamics and on the hemodilution effects

Recommended Dose:

Large Animals (Cattle & Horse) :

8-10 ml/kg body weight/day, up to maximum 20 ml/kg

Small Animals (Dog, Cat, Pig, Sheep & Goat) :

10-20 ml/kg body weight/day

Administer by intravenous infusion only.

The initial 10 to 20 ml should be infused slowly, keeping the animal under close observation due to possible anaphylactoid reactions

PRESENTATION

250 ml & 500 ml plastic bottle.



Restores Blood Volume Saves Life

Animal Pharm
Agribusiness intelligence | informa
Award Winner 2015, 2016, 2018
Best Company- India, Africa, Middle East

Zydus
dedicated to life

Zydus Animal Health and Investments Ltd.
(A wholly owned subsidiary of Cadila Healthcare Ltd.)

Zydus Corporate Park, Scheme No. 63, Survey No. 536,
Khoraj (Gandhinagar), Nr. Vaishnodevi Circle, SG Highway,
Ahmedabad – 382 481, India.
Phone : 079-71800000 / 48040000, Fax : +91-79-2686 8687
e-mail : enquiry@zydusahl.com, www.zydusahl.com