



### INDIAN COUNCIL OF MEDICAL RESEARCH

Department of Health Research – Ministry of Health & Family Welfare Government of India

Media report (21 September to 27 September 2019)
(ICMR IN NEWS)



## **Preface**

The PR Unit/PRO office of ICMR since last one and half years have reached from (where is ICMR located) to (everyday mention of ICMR and DG ICMR in National Media). This change from where to why signifies the media visibility and importance of our organization within this stipulated time duration.

Every week Indian Council of Medical Research and Director General ICMR are mentioned by dozens of daily news papers, periodicals and magazines including online editions.

This week report (ICMR IN NEWS dated 21 September to 27 September 2019) includes the mention Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) in 30 news papers including top news papers such as Times of India, News18, The Hindu, Hindustan Times, The Indian Express among others.

As an organization we first need to fill internal information vacuum at the headquarters as well as the Institutes for better visibility of ICMR which will pave way for complete dilution of external information gap between ICMR and external public including media, government and other related organizations.

Syed Adil Shamim Andrabi Information Interface Officer/PRO ICMR Hqrs, New Delhi

#### **HEADLINES** (As it is)



### Every 3rd kid in Karnataka has stunted growth: Study

21 September 2019 / Times of India

## <u>Jag Chima, renowned fitness entrepreneur congratulates India on Fit India</u> Movement

21 September 2019 / The Asian Age

### Domestic dengue vaccine could be available in 2020

21 September 2019 / Hyderus

## Make in India? Indian companies sit on Japanese encephalitis vaccine capacities for years, as govt imports Chinese vaccine

21 September 2019 / Moneycontrol

### Coma dilemma: White paper soon on ventilator plug

22 September 2019 / Times of India

### 13% kids aged below 5 in Karnataka are obese: Study

22 September 2019 / Times of India

## 89 e-Cigarettes & 74 Cartridges Worth Rs 1 Lakh Seized From 2 Passengers At Chennai Airport Days After Ban

23 September 2019 / India Times

## The highs and lows of the e-cigarette ban

23 September 2019 / Express Healthcare

## Govt Imports Chinese Alternative as Indian Made Japanese Encephalitis Vaccines are Reportedly Expensive

24 September 2019 / News18

#### India International Science Festival to be held in Kolkata from Nov 5-8

24 September 2019 / Outlook India

## When mechanics comes to the rescue of biology

24 September 2019 / Research Matters

## India International Science Festival to be held in Kolkata from Nov 5-8

24 September 2019 / Devdiscourse



Cell Line Development Market growing at a CAGR of 7.2% through 2028

24 September 2019 / Market Research Chronicles

Ayurvedic medicine to treat dengue to be launched within next 2 years, says Ayush Ministry

24 September 2019 / Financial Express

Ayurvedic Medicine for Treating Dengue to be Launched Within Next 2 Years:

Ayush Ministry

25 September 2019 / News18

ICMR invites applications for International Fellowships 2020-21; APPLY NOW

25 September 2019 / Medical Dialogues

Maharashtra ranked in top 3 for health indicators by ICMR

25 September 2019 / DNA India

ICMR releases data on incidence rate of prostate cancer in India

25 September 2019 / Express Healthcare

Ayurvedic medicine to treat dengue to be launched within next 2 yrs: Ayush Ministry

25 September 2019 / ETHealthworld

India Announces Complete E-Cigarette Ban

25 September 2019 / Vaping Post

Kolkata to host India International Science Festival, 2019 from November 5 to 8

25 September 2019 / APN Live

Government revises packages under Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojna

26 September 2019 / Hindustan Times

Storm over baby study with Calcutta link

26 September 2019 / Telegraph India

# Sexual and reproductive health data need to be accurate to form effective basis for policy



26 September 2019 / The Indian Express

### Nestle's studies related to new mothers, babies illegal: ICMR

26 September 2019 / The Hindu BusinessLine

## Alarming prostate cancer rise in India, ICMR recommends regular digital rectal examination after 50

26 September 2019 / Specialty Medical Dialogues

### ICMR orders closure of two Nestle-funded studies

26 September 2019 / Deccan Herald

### Are You Aware Of The Cancer Scenario In India?

26 September 2019 / Somaliupdate Online

## Panel evolves norms to control scrub typhus

27 September 2019 / The Hindu

#### ICMR IN NEWS (As it is)



### Every 3rd kid in Karnataka has stunted growth: Study

21 September 2019 / Times of India

One in three children below the age of five in Karnataka suffers from stunted growth, according to a recent study. The first comprehensive estimates of trends in key child and maternal malnutrition indicators in India, released by the **Indian Council of Medical Research** on September 18, put the prevalence of child stunting in Karnataka at 35% in 2017. Researchers analysed the disease burden attributable to child and maternal malnutrition, and the trends in the malnutrition indicators from 1990 to 2017 in every state using accessible data from multiple sources, as part of the Global Burden of Diseases, Injuries, and Risk Factors Study (GBD) 2017. The states were categorised into three groups using their Sociodemographic Index (SDI) calculated by GBD on the basis of per capita income, mean education and fertility rate in women younger than 25 years. Karnataka is one of the 11 states figuring under the middle SDI head.

## Jag Chima, renowned fitness entrepreneur congratulates India on Fit India Movement

21 September 2019 / The Asian Age

According to the fourth National Family Health Survey - the latest survey of pan-India health: "Non-communicable diseases (NCDs) account for 60 percent of all deaths in India. The major metabolic risk factors for NCDs are obesity, raised blood pressure, raised blood glucose, and raised total cholesterol levels in the blood."A study funded by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, the Indian Council of **Medical** Research, and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation found that 20.4 per cent of Indian adults were overweight in 2016. India has the second highest number of obese children in the world, with 14.4 million reported cases, according to a study published in The New England Journal of Medicine in 2015. Jag Chima further said: "Simple daily activities like walking, yoga, cycling, making better food choices, drinking enough water, avoiding smoking, alcohol, oily foods and involving in sports activities will make a huge difference in the long run and plays a vital role in preventing such diseases. "Jag Chima stated "Health and fitness is more important than ever in our current busy lifestyles. We shouldn't only talk about fitness, but should also back it up with actions. The technology that exists today allows us to plan and track our activities and be accountable, we should leverage that." According to the Indian Council of Medical Research, one in four Indians has hypertension. High blood pressure affects multiple organs, including the eyes, heart and kidneys. Earlier this year, the ICMR expanded its India Hypertension Control Initiative to 100 districts.

### Domestic dengue vaccine could be available in 2020

21 September 2019 / Hyderus



The dengue vaccination will be introduced in India early next year. This rollout of the vaccine will only be partial, however. A senior official of the **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)** has said that the vaccine will be made available on a demonstration basis in areas where the prevalence is high. "We are looking at the use of demonstration projects for the dengue vaccine for the future in areas of high prevalence," said ICMR director-general Balram Bhargava. In total, serotype analysis has been performed across fifteen states to analyse where the vaccine would have the most impact. The disease currently claims hundreds of lives a year, a fact brought up by Bhargava. He notes that Sri Lanka also has a high burden of dengue fever, yet has a significantly lower mortality rate. India is in the final phase of signing a collaboration with Sri Lanka as their dengue programme has been "exemplary" according to Bhargava "They [Sri Lanka] have done the best as far as dengue is concerned. They have a very high incidence of dengue yet zero mortality."

## <u>Make in India? Indian companies sit on Japanese encephalitis vaccine</u> capacities for years, as govt imports Chinese vaccine

21 September 2019 / Moneycontrol

In 2012, Indian vaccine maker Biological E launched the country's first Japanese encephalitis (JE) vaccine under the brand name Jeev. The vaccine is to be delivered in two doses with a four-week gap. JE is a viral disease that infects animals and humans. It is transmitted by mosquitoes and causes inflammation of the membranes around the brain. Approximately six crore people in North and East India live in JE-endemic regions. Around 1,500 to 4,000 cases are reported every year. Biological E tied-up with Austrian biotech company Intercell to develop, manufacture and market the vaccine in South Asia. It also built a 10 million dosage manufacturing facility to meet domestic and export demand. Jeev was prequalified by the World Health Organisation (WHO) eligibility criteria to supply in most markets. A year later, India's first indigenously developed vaccine for JE hit the market. This vaccine was a public-private collaborative effort, jointly developed by scientists at the **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)**, the National Institute of Virology (NIV) and Bharat Biotech International.

## Coma dilemma: White paper soon on ventilator plug

22 September 2019 / Times of India

Should a terminally ill patient be put on ventilator? How long should doctors and caregivers continue to treat a patient in coma? These questions that haunt doctors and attendants may soon be addressed by the Union government's decision to bring out a white paper on Do Not Resuscitate (DNR) – a concept that gives patients and kin the right to withhold or withdraw treatment like use of ventilator. **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)** is scheduled to release the white paper by December, said director-General ICMR Dr Balram Bhargava, who was in Lucknow on Saturday to address the annual conference of Association of Physicians of India. "Doctors and family members are in perpetual dilemma when it comes to reviving an elderly or critically ill patient, who could be suffering from multiple chronic problems or syndrome with minimal chances to bounce back.

### 13% kids aged below 5 in Karnataka are obese: Study

22 September 2019 / Times of India



About 13% kids below the age of five in Karnataka are obese, throwing light on the wrong feeding practices prevalent in the state, according to a study. As per the first comprehensive estimates of trends in key child and maternal malnutrition indicators in India, released by the **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)** on September 18, obesity prevalence in the state is more than the national average of close to 12%. The study was a joint initiative of the ICMR, Public Health Foundation of Indian Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation in collaboration with the Union ministry of health and family welfare.

## 89 e-Cigarettes & 74 Cartridges Worth Rs 1 Lakh Seized From 2 Passengers At Chennai Airport Days After Ban

23 September 2019 / India Times

An executive order banning the production, import, sale, storage and advertising of vaping products in the country was passed on September 18, citing its rising popularity among youth. And, they are right, there are already cases of many desperate vapers stocking up and people getting caught at airports trying to smuggle vape devices and e-juices. More recently, two men were caught in the Chennai airport with 89 e-cigarettes and 74 e-cigarette cartridges valued at Rs 1.10 lakh. After nabbing the duo, the officials told TOI that they are on the lookout for people who are smuggling vapes from other countries to sell in the black market in India. The Prohibition of E-cigarettes Ordinance, 2019, was recently examined by a Group of Ministers (GoM) following directions from the Prime Minister's Office. The government also weighed in the recommendations of Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) for complete prohibition of ecigarettes. Banning alternative smoking devices like e-cigarettes, heat-not-burn smoking devices, vape and e-nicotine flavoured hookahs was among the key priorities of the first 100-day agenda of the Narendra Modi government in its second term.

#### The highs and lows of the e-cigarette ban

23 September 2019 / Express Healthcare

The commercial dealing in e-cigarettes was banned by the Union Government on September 18, 2019 through an ordinance. Before it was banned, quite a few Indians did not even know what an e-cigarette was. For those who still don't, it is basically an electronic device that gives the same 'kick' as a tobacco cigarette without producing any smoke that is normally associated with smoking. Instead, it produces something loosely similar to water vapour, because of which it is also referred to as a 'vape'. In May 2019, the **Indian Council for Medical Research (ICMR)** published a white paper that basically reviewed all available scientific evidence against e-cigarettes and recommended a ban on e-cigarettes. The white paper was timed to be published on World No Tobacco Day, which is a bit ironical since e-cigarettes do not contain tobacco at all and are widely marketed as a substitute for tobacco products. Even if the evidence cited in the ICMR paper is taken at its face value, the ICMR recommendation did not, by any stretch of imagination, imply that e-cigarettes were more harmful than tobacco cigarettes.

# Govt Imports Chinese Alternative as Indian Made Japanese Encephalitis Vaccines are Reportedly Expensive



24 September 2019 / News18

The first Japanese Encephalitis vaccine was launched in 2012 by Indian vaccine maker Biological E. The vaccine, branded by the name Jeev, is to be delivered in two doses with a four-week gap. Japanese Encephalitis is a viral disease that infects animals and humans. It is transmitted by mosquitoes and causes inflammation of the membranes around the brain. World Health Organisation describes that the infections are mild (fever and headache) or without apparent symptoms, but approximately 1 in 250 infections results in severe clinical illness. Biological E tied-up with Austrian biotech company Intercell to develop, manufacture and market the vaccine in South Asia. It also built a 10 million dosage manufacturing facility to meet domestic and export demand. WHO prequalified the eligibility criteria for Jeev, thereby allowing its supply in most markets, and in a year's time, it hit the markets. This vaccine was a public-private collaborative effort, jointly developed by scientists at the **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)**, the National Institute of Virology (NIV) and Bharat Biotech International.

## India International Science Festival to be held in Kolkata from Nov 5-8 24 September 2019 / Outlook India

The fifth edition of India International Science Festival (IISF) will be held in Kolkata from November 5-8, Science and Technology Minister Harsh Vardhan announced on Tuesday. More than 12,000 participants, including 8,000 students, are expected to attend the event, Department of Science and Technology (DST) Secretary Ashutosh Sharma said. He said 350 students will replicate the experiment of wireless communication conducted by Jagdish Chandra Bose. The DST, Department of Biotechnology, Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), **Indian Council of Medical Research** and the Ministry of Earth Sciences are major government sponsoring bodies for the event. It is being organised in collaboration with Vigynana Bharati, an RSS-linked scientific body. The IISF will also hosts 28 different events such as Agriculture Scientists' Meet, Vigyan Samagam, Young Scientists Conference, Vigyanika-International Science Literature Festival, International Science Film Festival of India. "IISF 2019 will play a crucial role in promoting love and passion for science among students by bringing science outside the lab.

## When mechanics comes to the rescue of biology

24 September 2019 / Research Matters

The nucleus of the cell holds our genetic material and is a vital part of our cell. Apart from what they carry, how they look also plays a crucial role in diagnosing many diseases. In a recent study, researchers at the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru, have developed a mechanical model to quantify the shape of the nucleus and predict the biochemistry within a cell. They have used this model to show how Hepatitis C virus changes the nuclear mechanics of cells affected by it. He is the lead author of the study published in the *Biophysical Journal*. It was funded by the Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Department of Science and Technology (DST), Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), and **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR).** The proposed model has two

opposing forces, acting from the inside and outside of the nuclear membrane. Within the nucleus, the loosely packed chromatin that contains the DNA, and the ambient osmotic pressure create an outward expansive force. Microtubules and actin, which act as the skeleton of the cell, giving it shape, exert compressive force on the nucleus. The balance between these two forces at the border of the nucleus, called the nuclear envelope, gives the nucleus its shape.

## <u>India International Science Festival to be held in Kolkata from Nov 5-8</u> 24 September 2019 / Devdiscourse

The fifth edition of India International Science Festival (IISF) will be held Science Technology November 5-8, and Minister Harsh Vardhan announced on Tuesday. More than 12,000 participants, including 8,000 students, are expected to attend the event, Department of Science and Technology (DST) Secretary Ashutosh Sharma said. He said 350 students will replicate the experiment of wireless communication conducted by Jagdish Chandra Bose. The DST, Department of Biotechnology, Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), Indian Council of Medical Research and the Ministry of Earth Sciences are major government sponsoring bodies for the event. It is being organised in collaboration with Vigynana Bharati, an RSS-linked scientific body. The IISF will also hosts 28 different events such as Agriculture Scientists' Meet, Vigyan Samagam, Young Scientists Conference, Vigyanika-International Science Literature Festival, International Science Film Festival of India. "IISF 2019 will play a crucial role in promoting love and passion for science among students by bringing science outside the lab. It is time to make science a 'Jan Andolan' (mass movement)," Vardhan said. The theme for this year's festival is 'RISEN India -Research, Innovation, and Science Empowering the Nation', Vardhan said.

## Cell Line Development Market growing at a CAGR of 7.2% through 2028 24 September 2019 / Market Research Chronicles

According to International Agency for Research on Cancer, the number of new cancer cases per year is expected to rise to 23.6 million by 2030 globally. In recent times, cell line development and its applications are considered as potential tools in oncology research. Cell lines are projected to be used for development of new treatment pathway for various disease including cancer and neurological diseases. According to a latest research by Future Market Insights (FMI), the global cell line development market size is anticipated to account for over US\$ 7,200 Mn, in terms of value, by 2028 end. The report on cell line development market further projects significant growth potential with CAGR at 7.2% through 2028. In recent time the contract research organizations are focusing on cell line development and cell line research activities. According to National Institutes of Health (NIH) the estimated total federal spending on all type of stem cell line research for 2017 is US\$ 1.58 Bn. In developing countries like India, government is supporting cell line development through national funding agencies like Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), and Department of Science and Technology (DST). Regenerative medicines are the next generation treatment solution and Cell Line Development or Cell Culture is a vital part for regenerative medicine.

## Ayurvedic medicine to treat dengue to be launched within next 2 years, says Ayush Ministry



24 September 2019 / Financial Express

Ayush Secretary Vaidya Rajesh Kotecha said the research on this was being carried out by Ayush (Ayurveda, Yoga & Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha, Sowa Rigpa and Homoeopathy) Ministry and the **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)**. Ayurvedic medicine to treat dengue is undergoing the third and final phase of clinical trials and will be launched within the next two years, a senior official of the Ayush Ministry said on Tuesday. Ayush Secretary Vaidya Rajesh Kotecha said the research on this was being carried out by Ayush (Ayurveda, Yoga & Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha, Sowa Rigpa and Homoeopathy) Ministry and the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR). It is made of a variety of ayurvedic herbs grown in India and is likely to hit the market within the next two years in the form of a pill.

## Ayurvedic Medicine for Treating Dengue to be Launched Within Next 2 Years: Ayush Ministry

25 September 2019 / News18

An ayurvedic medicine to treat dengue is undergoing the third and final phase of clinical trials and will be launched within the next two years, a senior official of the Ayush Ministry said on Tuesday. Ayush Secretary Vaidya Rajesh Kotecha said the research on this was being carried out by Ayush (Ayurveda, Yoga & Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha, Sowa Rigpa and Homoeopathy) Ministry and the Indian **Council of Medical Research (ICMR).** It is made of a variety of ayurvedic herbs grown in India and is likely to hit the market within the next two years in the form of a pill. "The research is in the third phase (final phase) of clinical trial. It will be done in the next two years. Once finished, this will be the world's first medicine against dengue," he said on the sidelines of a press conference on the achievements of the ministry in the last 100 days. Details, such as the name of the medicine, how it will be sold - over the counter or through prescription - are yet to be decided. The ICMR and the ministry team will also have to work to standardise the dosage and fix the proportion of each herb used.

## ICMR invites applications for International Fellowships 2020-21; APPLY NOW 25 September 2019 / Medical Dialogues

The **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)** has invited applications for Indian Biomedical Scientists for the ICMR International Fellowships for the academic year 2020-21. One of the major mandates of ICMR and DHR is to augment the capacity strengthening of Indian scientists. This ICMR-DHR international fellowship programme is intended to create a pool of talented health research personnel by facilitating advanced training and exposure to the latest advancements in knowledge through interaction with the international scientists in emerging areas of clinical/medicine/health sciences.

## Maharashtra ranked in top 3 for health indicators by ICMR

25 September 2019 / DNA India



Maharashtra has improved its ranking when it comes to dealing with malnutrition. According to a research report released by the **Indian Council of Medical Research** (ICMR), the state has emerged as the top three states in the health indicator along with Kerala and Tamil Nadu due to its efforts to curb malnutrition in the state. In addition to this, it also improved under its ranking under the nutrition campaign scheme. Maharashtra had been facing the increasing problem of malnutrition. Not only in rural areas, but the problem has been prevalent in urban areas as well. In fact, the areas of Mankhurd and Govandi in the state capital Mumbai have also been greatly affected by the problem. However, the state government worked on a war footing for the last few years to rid the citizens of the problem. The state has implemented the Centre's awareness program successfully. Moreover, the central health agencies have also been helped by the local health agencies.

### ICMR releases data on incidence rate of prostate cancer in India

25 September 2019 / Express Healthcare

In observance of Prostate Cancer Awareness month i.e September, Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has released data on the incidence rate of prostate cancer in India. It states that the incidence rate of prostate cancer is 9-10/100000 population, higher compared to countries like Asia and Africa, but lower compared to the US and Europe. Hence, experts suggest going for complete physical examination including DRE in order to detect prostate cancer at an early stage. Prostate cancer affects the prostate gland which is situated distal to the bladder neck. It is commonly seen in men above the age of 60. Typically, the symptoms are a frequent urge to urinate, painful urination, repeated urinary tract infections (UTI) and occasionally blood in the urine. Surgical treatment includes open surgery (open radical prostatectomy) that is the surgical removal of the prostate gland or minimal invasive surgery (MIS)- robot-assisted radical prostatectomy (RALP). The additional benefits of the later are precision surgery, less blood loss and reduced pain with a short hospital stay and early return to work.

## Ayurvedic medicine to treat dengue to be launched within next 2 yrs: Ayush Ministry

25 September 2019 / ETHealthworld

An ayurvedic medicine to treat dengue is undergoing the third and final phase of clinical trials and will be launched within the next two years, a senior official of the Ayush Ministry said on Tuesday. Ayush Secretary Vaidya Rajesh Kotecha said the research on this was being carried out by Ayush (Ayurveda, Yoga & Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha, Sowa Rigpa and Homoeopathy) Ministry and the **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)**. It is made of a variety of ayurvedic herbs grown in India and is likely to hit the market within the next two years in the form of a pill. "The research is in the third phase (final phase) of clinical trial. It will be done in the next two years. Once finished, this will be the world's first medicine against dengue," he said on the sidelines of a press conference on the achievements of the ministry in the last 100 days.

#### India Announces Complete E-Cigarette Ban

25 September 2019 / Vaping Post



"Unfortunately, e-cigarettes got promoted initially as a way in which people can get out of the habit of smoking cigarettes. It was to be a weaning process from using cigarettes," said Indian Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, after a Cabinet meeting. A recent proposal by the Drugs Technical Advisory Board of India, had suggested the ban under Sections 26A and 10A of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940. "After revisiting its earlier deliberations, the Drugs Consultative Committee has concluded that these devices fall under the definition of 'drug'." ""The Cabinet rightly thought it is time and we immediately took a decision so that the health of our citizens, of our young, is not thrown to a risk," added Sitharaman. She referred to the cases of vape-related lung disease which popped up across the US, saying that they added to the local concern about the devices. This move comes highly recommended by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) who had suggested a "complete ban" on ENDS, saying that the devices are a gateway to smoking and can get a non-smoker addicted to nicotine. "ICMR has recommended a complete ban on e-cigarettes. A petition that had asked for prohibition of an ordinance banning e-cigarettes has been rejected by the court. The ordinance will give legal backing to the ban," said a senior official about an attempt to overturn the ban.

## Kolkata to host India International Science Festival, 2019 from November 5 to 8

25 September 2019 / APN Live

Union Minister for Earth Sciences, Harsh Vardhan, on Tuesday, September 24, said the fifth edition of the India International Science Festival (IISF) 2019 will be held in Kolkata from November 5 to November 8. "IISF 2019 will play a crucial role in promoting love and passion for science among students by bringing science outside the lab. It is time to make science a 'Jan Andolan' (mass movement)," Vardhan said. The theme for this year's event is RISEN — research, innovation and science empowering the nation and is specifically aimed at children, the Minister said. "We have also incorporated a health research component to the festival this time. Just as we need a jan andolan for health, we need a similar jan andolan for science and technology to realise the Prime Minister's vision. In all recent programmes that have been envisioned in science and technology, we try to keep a component focused on youth to increase the scientific temper in the country," Harsh Vardhan added. "IISF is the largest science festival in the world. The focus will be on youth to inspire and motivate them to learn real science in motion. Real science cannot be learned in classroom atmosphere. IISF provides an opportunity to learn science in action and motion," Sharma further said. The Department of Science and technology (DST), Department of Biotechnology, Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), Indian Council of Medical Research and the Ministry of Earth Sciences are major government sponsoring bodies for the event.

## Government revises packages under Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojna



26 September 2019 / Hindustan Times

The government on Thursday announced it has revised treatment packages under its flagship health insurance scheme, Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PM-JAY), under which Rs 5 lakh annual health insurance cover per family is provided to 100.7 million poor and vulnerable families for hospitalization. Of the 1393 treatment packages that were initially included in the scheme, there has been an increase in the rate of 270 packages, addition of 237 new packages and adoption of 43 stratified packages. "We are confident that with the revision in the Health Benefit Packages of Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana., many new private hospitals will get empanelled with the scheme. This will help improve the access to good quality healthcare, and lakhs of vulnerable families will receive free treatment," said Union health minister Harsh Vardhan. The NHA, along with experts from the Department of Health Research (DHR), Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and Tata Memorial Hospital, was involved in the process to remove the inconsistencies in the nomenclature and pricing for their respective specialties.

#### Storm over baby study with Calcutta link

26 September 2019 / Telegraph India

India's apex health research agency has endorsed complaints by a paediatric watchdog that a study on pre-term babies in five Indian hospitals sponsored by the food-maker Nestle had violated Indian laws relating to infant milk substitutes. The **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)** has accepted a panel's recommendations that the study aimed at observing growth patterns in pre-term infants should be "terminated" and that regulators of clinical trials should probe whether and how institutional ethics committees had approved the study. Paediatricians in two hospitals in Calcutta, two in Bangalore, and one in Delhi had since January this year started documenting the growth patterns of select otherwise healthy pre-term infants born between 28 weeks and 34 weeks gestation and admitted in neonatal intensive care units. The non-government Breastfeeding Promotion Network of India (BPNI) had in August complained to the Union health ministry arguing that the study violates India's Infant Milk Substitues (IMS) Act that prohibits baby food companies from sponsoring clinical research in the country.

## Sexual and reproductive health data need to be accurate to form effective basis for policy

26 September 2019 / The Indian Express (Opinion: Prof. Balram Bhargava, DG ICMR)

On World Contraception Day, there is a need to talk about the reproductive health practices and rights of people in India. It is commendable that the government under Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been vocal about the need for a small and healthy family to contribute to India's socioeconomic growth in the long term. To achieve this vision, there is a need to highlight the importance of Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR), which are fundamental for family planning and the overall well-being of individuals. Research shows that state-level

decline in the utilisation of mCPR and decline in sterilisation acceptance could lead to a reduction in the use of mCPR. There is a need to address data quality issues and introduce technological interventions in data collection, training, and capacity-building of survey officials. The role of the National Data Quality Forum (NDQF), a multi-institutional initiative hosted by **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)** becomes crucial when it comes to addressing the gaps between data collection and analysis and using that data for advocacy and policymaking.

### Nestle's studies related to new mothers, babies illegal: ICMR

26 September 2019 / The Hindu BusinessLine

Two studies related to new mothers and babies, sponsored by Switzerland-based multi-national Nestle, have been found illegal by the **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)**. The research body noted this after forming a committee to discuss the issue. The two studies were titled - 'Study of milk composition from adequately nourished and undernourished mothers,' and 'Infant feeding practice and gut comfort: A multi-country-sectional observation.' In the first study, it was proposed to collect breast milk samples of 260 new mothers between 18 to 40 years over six months to analyse it's components like fat, lactose, energy, solid and crude proteins. This was to be conducted in Adhithya Adhikari Hospital in Mysore, Bharati Hospital in Pune, Mazumdar Shaw Medical Centre in Bangalore and Gangaram Hospital in New Delhi.

## Alarming prostate cancer rise in India, ICMR recommends regular digital rectal examination after 50

26 September 2019 / Specialty Medical Dialogues

Witnessing the alarming increase in the prostate cancer cases in the country, experts from **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)** have advised regular Digital Rectal Examination (DRE) to people who are 50 years or above. Dr Jagdeesh Kulkarni, Prof. of Uro oncology, Asian Cancer Institute, said, "People above the age of 60 are at an increased risk of suffering from prostate cancer. One of the best ways for early detection of prostate cancer is DRE and the prostate-specific antigen (PSA) blood test. Those people who have a family history of prostate cancer, irrespective of the symptoms should undergo regular check-ups including DRE and PSA, after the age of 45." Cancer of the prostate (PCa) is now recognized as one of the most important medical problems facing the male population. Prostate cancer is the 2nd most common cause of cancer death in men. Affects 4% of men in undeveloped countries & 15% of men in developed countries.

#### ICMR orders closure of two Nestle-funded studies

26 September 2019 / Deccan Herald

The **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)** has ordered the termination of two studies funded by baby food manufacturer Nestle for violating Indian law. The apex medical research body asked the Clinical Trial Registry of India (CTRI) to stop the two ongoing multi-centric trials, sponsored by Nestec— a subsidiary of Nestle— as they go against the Indian Milk Substitute (IMS) Act. This is the third

Nestle-backed research study stopped by ICMR after violations were brought to the Union Health Ministry's notice by an NGO, Breastfeeding Promotion Network of India, which monitors compliance to the IMS act. The



ICMS

Infant Milk Substitutes, Feeding Bottles and Infant Foods (Regulation of Production, Supply, and Distribution) Act, 1992, as amended in 2003 has a section preventing baby food manufacturers to undertake any step that can influence the doctors including research. "No producer, supplier or distributor (of baby foods) shall offer or give any contribution or pecuniary benefit to a health worker or any association of health workers, including funding of seminar, meeting, conferences, educational course, contest, fellowship, research work or sponsorship," says Section 9.2 of the IMS Act.

#### Are You Aware Of The Cancer Scenario In India?

26 September 2019 / Somaliupdate Online

Cancer has been growing like a crazy disease among 85% of the human population. According to the World Health Organization, 1 in 6 deaths around the world are caused due to Cancer. As per the Indian population censes, India has high rates in Cancer deaths which is quite alarming as compared to the data of the previous year. It stated that the Indian population saw about 0.3 million Cancer deaths in the year 2010 and over 8 lakh patient cases were unresolved. Currently the most popular types of Cancer faced by today's population are breast and prostate cancer. This is a global issue! India also faces other Cancer types like skin, lungs, mouth, rectum, stomach, liver, cervix, blood, bladder and esophagus. Almost everyone will remember the tobacco advertisements shown on the TV and in movie theaters just before a film starts. It shows a serious case of mouth Cancer caused due to the consumption of tobacco products. However, tobacco is not the only cause of cancer. If we take various types of cancer into consideration, we can analyze the data and see for ourselves what the actual situation is and how every one of us is affected. These data were collected by National Cancer Registry Program of the Indian Council of Medical Research.

## Panel evolves norms to control scrub typhus

27 September 2019 / The Hindu

A meeting of experts has come out with guidelines for the diagnosis of scrub typhus, an increasingly common parasitic infection. The meet hosted recently by Sri Balaji Vidyapeeth formulated broad guidelines for the "laboratory diagnosis of scrub typhus in India" and brought out the "Pondicherry Declaration on Scrub Typhus Diagnosis – 2019". The recommendations were submitted to the Department of Health Research of the **ICMR** for the larger benefit of the community, Dr. Parija said. "If the recommendations are implemented, correct diagnosis at the right time can save loss of human life to a larger extent." Prof. Parija added that Rickettsial disease was a re-emerging infectious disease across the country. Specialised centres should be set up to study Rickettsial diseases as well as develop diagnostic tests and vaccines.





# मातुभाषा का विकास राष्ट्र के लिए जरूर्र

**आरएमआरसी** गोरखपर में मनाया गया हिंदी परववाडा

विज्ञान व आयुर्विज्ञान के विकास में हिंदी करेगी मदद



GORAKHPUR (23 Sept): राजभाषा विकास के लिए रीजनल मेडिकल रिसर्च सेंटर में 9-23 सितंबर तक हिंदी पखवाडा मनाया गया. इस दौरान कई कॉम्प्टीशन ऑर्गनाइज किए गए, चीफ गेस्ट के तौर पर मौजूद डॉ. चित्तरंजन मिश्र ने बताया कि हिंदी और हिंदस्तानी के बीच कैसे हिंदी राजभाषा बनी. उन्होंने बताया कि कोई भी राष्ट्र तभी विकसित हए हैं, जब उन्होंने अपनी मातभाषा को विकास का माध्यम बनाया है. राजभाषा अधिकारी डॉ गौरव राज

दिवेदी ने प्रोग्राम की शरुआत करते हए विभाग की ओर से उठाए गए कदमों और कॉम्प्टीशन के बारे में जानकारी दी. डायरेक्टर डॉ. रजनी कांत ने चीफ गेस्ट का शॉल और मोमेंटो देकर सम्मान किया. डॉ. रजनीकांत ने कहा कि विज्ञान व आयर्विज्ञान के विकास में हिंदी बहत योगदान कर सकती है.

## सम्मानित हुए होनहार

डिफरेंट कॉम्प्टीशन में फर्स्ट, सेकेंड और थर्ड आने वाले होनहारों को सम्मानित

किया गया, रविशंकर, विनय, अ जीशान, संजय, ममता, संजीव, कृत व नीरज को कैश प्राइज सर्टिपि और मोमेंटो देकर सम्मानित किया राजभाषा कार्यान्वयन समिति व निण मंडल के मेंबर्स डॉ. हीरावती. गौरव, डॉ. अशोक पांडेय, डॉ. रा डॉ. नीरज, राम यतन और अमोल भी मोमेंटो देकर सम्मानित किया प्रोग्राम में वक्तओं ने अपनी बातें डॉ. राजीव ने सभी का धन्यवाद : किया



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With regards, Syed Adil Shamim Andrabi Information Interface Officer/PRO Indian Council of Medical Research-Department of Health Research Ministry of Health and Family Welfare proicmr@gmail.com, syed.adil@icmr.gov.in Ext. 286, Phone. 26589130