



BRAINSTORMING MEETING

ICMR-NIN's prestigious PAN-India project **Diet and Biomarkers Study (DABS)** is in progress. A meeting was held with experts Prof. Anura V. Kurpad, St John's National Academy of Health Sciences, Bangalore, Dr. Padam Singh, former Addl. DG, ICMR. The meeting was presided by Dr. Hemalatha R, Director, NIN. Dr. A. Laxmaiah, Scientist G (Retd.) spoke elaborately on the subject. Scientists from all the divisions had participated in the meeting (9th May).



Celebrations of 132nd Birth Anniversary of Bharat Ratna Dr. B. R. Ambedkar & 116th Birth Anniversary of Dr. Babu Jagjivan Ram organized on 3rd May. Chief Guest Dr. G. Sunil Kumar Babu, Director, National Commission for Scheduled Castes (NCSC) and the Guest of Honour Dr. Hemalatha R, Director, Dr. G. Bhanuprakash Reddy, Scientist G & Head, Division of Biochemistry spoke on the occasion. Dr. N. Arlappa, Scientist G & Head, Division of Public Health Nutrition & SC/ST Liaison Officer delivered the Report on the activities of SC/ST association, NIN. Shri. Satyapaul, President, SC/ST Association, NIN, Shri. K. Harinarayana, Convener, Celebrations Committee & Shri. S. Laxman, Co-Convener were also present.



SPECIAL EVENT

Dr. (Smt). Tamilsai Soundararajan, Hon'ble Governor of Telangana released a Telugu book titled 'Swatantra Samaram lo Vignana Sastram' which chronicles the contributions of scientists to India's freedom struggle. Dr. Hemalatha R, Director welcomed in an event jointly organised with Vijnana Bharati, Telangana. Dr. G. Bhanuprakash Reddy, Scientist G & Head, Biochemistry Division and President, Vignana Bharati, Dr. Kompella S. Sastry, National Governing Council Member, Vignana Bharati, Dr. Pradeep Agarwal, Scientist, DRDO & Secretary, Vignana Bharati, Telangana, Dignitaries and other guests graced the occasion (14th April).



CONGRATULATIONS

Dr. R. Naveen Kumar, Sr. Technical Officer received Best Popular Article award from Director General, ICMR during the valedictory ceremony of ICMR Health Communication Course at MICA, Ahmedabad (28th April).



Dr. SubbaRao GM, Scientist F and **Dr. Raja Sriswan Mamidi**, Scientist D, have been nominated as member of the Technical Expert Group, Jharkhand State Nutrition Mission, Government of Jharkhand for advice on formulating/ revising nutrition policy and implementation strategies for the state (14th April).



CONGRATULATIONS

Mr. M. Srinivas, Technical Officer, participated in a poster session at the National conference on "Innovative approaches in lab animal research" organised by ICMR-NARFBR, Genome Valley, Hyderabad held from 23rd to 24th April and received **Best Poster Award-III prize**.



Dr. Virendra V. Panpatil

Sr. Technical Officer (Mole. Bio. Div.) & Radiation Safety Officer (Isotope Div.) nominated as an Assessor by The National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories (NABL), a constituent board of the Quality Council of India for accreditation and recognition process audit for Regional Food Laboratory (FSSAI), Agartala, Govt of Tripura (1st May).



HEALTH CAMP

A free eye camp was organized for employees of NIN including casual staff, PhD scholars and MSc students on 19th April in collaboration with The Centre for Sight Eye Hospital (Group of Eye Hospitals of Mahindra Collaboration). Dr. MV. Surekha, Scientist E, Pathology & Microbiology Division and Convener, Medical Committee coordinated the camp.



WEBINARS/ MEETINGS ORGANIZED/ PARTICIPATED

Dr. HEMALATA R, Director

- Attended a meeting to discuss the methodological issues in calculation of Prevalence of Undernourishment (PoU) for India, organized by Ministry of Women & Child Development, GoI, New Delhi (25th April).
- Presented opinion on the ITB Mukta Bharat for Pradhan Manthri TB Mukta Bharat Abhiyaan, organized by parliamentary Committee, MoHFW, New Delhi (28th April).
- Attended a Seminar on "Program in International Nutrition", organized by Division of Nutritional Sciences, Cornell University (27th April).
- Virtual meeting with Director General to review budget for 2023-2024 in Chintan Baithak session organized by ICMR, New Delhi (4th April).
- Attended virtual meeting under the chairmanship of CEO, FSSAI to discuss the matters related to health claims on food products, organized by FSSAI, New Delhi (20th April).
- Addressed the Thematic Session on 'National Dietary Guidelines (NDGs): Alignment of Health and Environment' under the Global Dialogue on Food Systems Transformation, organized by Confederation of Indian Industry (20th April).
- Attended as a member of the 1st meeting of National Advisory Board for IMPACT4Nutrition Platform, organized by the UNICEF, New Delhi (25th April).
- Reviewed the proposals as an Expert in ICMR Capacity Building for disease burden and estimation project, organized by ICMR, New Delhi (28th April).
- Participated in a meeting to discuss the way forward on the concurrent evaluation of outcomes of distribution of fortified rice in the country, organized under the Chairmanship of DG, DMEO NITI Aayog, New Delhi (VC) (16th May).
- Chaired a meeting to deliberate on Nestlé's proposal on Nutritional support for TB patients, organized by Central TB Division, National TB Elimination Program, Ministry of HFW, New Delhi (16th May).
- Virtual meeting with Director General, ICMR regarding presentation of three proposals, organized by ICMR (27th May).

Dr. SUBBARAO M GAVARAVARAPU

- Conducted 7th E-dialogue of Lets Fix Our Food (LFOF) series on 'Role of nudges and choice architecture in guiding adolescents towards healthier food choices and gave opening remarks, overview of LFOF and moderated the session (25th May).
- Attended Second Meeting of the Expert Committee to review Comments Received and Other matters related to Front-of-pack-nutrition Labeling (FOPNL) at Food Safety Standards Authority of India, New Delhi (12th April).
- Invited as a panelist to participate virtually in the Session on Adolescent Nutrition - Need for an integrated and sustainable approach under the CII Global Dialogue on Food Systems Transformation conducted as part of B20 group of G20 (20th April).
- Delivered a talk in a webinar on “Health and Fitness”, organised by the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) Group Centre, Ranga Reddy Dist in association with the CRPF Welfare Association. Over 240 centers from across the country joined virtually (25th April).
- Invited as the faculty and jury member for the Valedictory function of the Health Communication Course jointly organised by ICMR, Mudra Institute of Communication and Advertising (MICA) and Global Health Strategies in Ahmedabad (27-28th April).

Dr. K. RAJENDER RAO

- Delivered an invited talk on "Animal Models use in Biomedical Research" at Anurag University, on the occasion of World Laboratory Animal Day organised a seminar by Anurag University, Hyderabad (24th April).
- Delivered an invited talk on "Epigenetic Regulation of Obesity" in a National seminar on Epigenetics Meets Metabolomics” organised by the Institute of Communicative and Cognitive Neurosciences (ICCONS), Shoranur, Kerala (9th & 10th June).

Dr. RAJA SRISWAN MAMIDI

- Nominated by the Director to attend the inception event of third phase of POSHAN i.e. “Partnerships and Opportunities to Strengthen and Harmonize Actions for Nutrition in India” (POSHAN), organized by IFPRI and funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation at New Delhi on 14th April. Participated in the discussions on way forward with ICMR-NIN and IFPRI.
- Invited to be the chairperson for the webinar on "Millets and Beyond" by the 'Non Communicable Diseases Prevention Academy (NCDPA)'-a Sub-specialty Chapter of Indian Academy of Pediatrics (IAP) (12th April).
- Delivered a keynote address on “Health and Fitness” through online Seminar for the benefit of Force officers, personnel and their family members conducted by GC CRPF, Rangareddy on 25th April. About 400 stations of CRPF staff and family attended the Seminar across the country.

Dr. VAKDEVIVALIDANDI

- Attended brainstorming session hosted by Centre for Economic & Social Studies (CESS) Planning Dept, Govt. of Telangana & ICSSR - Ministry of Education, Govt. of India on 1st April at CESS, Begumpet for identifying areas for Science, Technology & Innovation (STI) interventions for enhancing the livelihoods of the SC & ST communities in Telangana State.
- Attended virtually the 16th Session of Codex Committee on Contaminants in Foods (CCCF16) - Working group meeting on 11th - 12th April and the Report Adoption meeting on 26th April.
- Presented a talk on "Food in Plastics and Plastics in Food" in the International Seminar on “Solutions to Plastic Pollution” organized on 5th June by the National Service Scheme Cell of Osmania University and the Council for Green Revolution (CGR), Hyderabad.

Dr. SATHISH KUMAR MUNGAMURI

- Participated in the National Seminar on “Immunology talks to Public Health” on the occasion of International Day of Immunology held at Department of Genetics and Biotechnology, Osmania University in collaboration with Indian Immunology Society and Telangana State council of Higher Education (29th April).

Dr. NANDEEP, Scientist B, Clinical Epidemiology, **Dr. NAVEEN KUMAR R**, Senior Technical Officer, Pathology & Microbiology and **Mr. HRUSHIKESH PANDA**, Technical Officer- A, NICHE Division attended the capstone project and valedictory ceremony of ICMR Health Communication Course held at ICMR-NIOH & MICA, Ahmedabad (27-28th April).

TRAINING PROGRAMMES

An Ad-hoc Hands-on Training Program on “Lab Animal Sciences, Care, Breeding & Management, Experimentation and Animal Welfare” conducted at ICMR-NIN Animal Facility from 25th to 28th April. Twelve students from different states completed the training program successfully.



The Division of Public Health Nutrition conducted a 5-day training programme for the Monitoring and Evaluation team of an NGO - SNEHA (Society for Nutrition, Education and Health Action), Mumbai. A total of 20 executives of the NGO were trained in “Nutrition surveillance, monitoring and evaluation.” They were also trained and standardised in “Nutrition Survey Methods” in-house and community (17th to 21st April).



Professor Claire Hefferenan, Principal Investigator (PI) from Central Team, UK (project- GCRF- Action Against Stunting Hub) visited India (18th- 20th April) to understand the workflow of the cohort. She interacted with the team leads of various work streams to understand their work, publication priorities and opportunities to engage various stakeholders for utilizing the hub outcomes. Dr. Bharati Kulkarni, Country Lead PI, joined a few sessions online.



JOURNAL CLUB



Dr. Soujanya Mantravadi, Research Associate, Institute for Manufacturing, Dept. of Engineering, Univ. of Cambridge, UK delivered a guest lecture on “Digital Interventions for food security and supply chains: Research opportunities for public health” (11th May).

Mr. Bhasker Reddy P, Scientist B, NICHE Division delivered a lecture on “Understanding Discrepancies in nutritional outcomes among under-five in Laos: A mixed methods study using the positive deviance approach” (12th May).



Ms. Pallabika Gogoi (CSIR-UGC-SRF) delivered her PhD plan & progress presentation on “Nutritional characterization and bioaccessibility studies of polyphenols and nutrients from pigmented rice & maize” (28th April).

Ms. Chandrama Baruah (CSIR-UGC-SRF) delivered her PhD plan & progress presentation on “Nutritional and anti-nutritional insight in millets: Effect of pre-treatments to reduce phytic acid (inositol hexaphosphate) for improved micronutrient absorption” (28th April).



Mr. Dileshwar Kumar, (CSIR-SRF) delivered his PhD plan & progress presentation on “Food Safety Division Assessing the effect of pesticide residue on biogenic amines neurotransmitters in the agricultural population exposed to pesticides in Telangana, India” (26th May).

LIVE INTERACTIVE PROGRAMME

Dr. Bhanuprakash Reddy, Scientist G & Head, Division of Biochemistry, spoke on 'Role of Millets in Combating NCDs' and answered the queries on Doordarshan Yadagiri - Telangana (6th April).



Dr. Sai Ram Challa, Scientist E & HoD, Division of Maternal and Child Health, Nutrition, spoke on 'Role of Millets in promoting nutrition of Women, Children and Adolescent Girls' and answered the queries on Doordarshan Yadagiri - Telangana (14th April).



PAPERS PUBLISHED/ ACCEPTED FOR PUBLICATION

- Odii BC, Harder MK, Huang Y, Chapman Aa, Sougou NM, Kolopaking R, Gavaravarapu SM, Diallo AR, Anggorowati R, Rao SF, Heffernan C. A situated values-based approach to better identify and understand sociocultural environmental factors affecting childhood stunting: a protocol for the Shared Values theme of the UKRI-GCRF Action Against Stunting Hub. *BMJ Pediatrics Open*.
- Sathish Kumar Mungamuri*, Yogendra Kumar Gupta, Padaki Nagaraja Rao and Bagepally Ravishankar. Evolution of Non-alcoholic Fatty Liver Disease to Liver Cancer: Insights from Genome-wide Association Studies. *Gene Expression* 2023;22(1):47-61 doi: 10.14218/GE.2022.00014
- Srinivas M, Pradeep B Patil, R. Anuradha, P. Anitha Chauhan, M. Satya Vani, SSYH Qadri and K. Rajender Rao (2023). Characterization of gut microbiota in mutant sub-strains of Wistar NIN rats. Participated and presented in a National conference on "Innovative approaches in lab animal research" organised by ICMR- NARFBR, Genome Valley, Hyderabad was held from 23-04-2023 to 24-04-2023.
- Sudharma AA, Siginam S, Husain GM, Mullapudi SV, Ismail A. Atrophic remodeling of the heart during vitamin D deficiency and insufficiency in a rat model. *J Nutr Biochem*. 2023 May 18:109382. doi: 10.1016/j.jnutbio. 2023. 109382.

STAFF NEWS



Dr. S. Devindra, Scientist D addressing the 57th NIN Employees Co-operative Credit Society General Body Meeting held on 12th May. Mr. Srinivas, Technical Officer, Mrs. Anitha, Technical Officer, and Mr. Laxman, Technical Officer are also seen.

Retirement: We bid farewell to the following staff on the eve of their retirement on attaining superannuation.



Dr. J. Padmaja Rambabu
Scientist F

Mr. Balaram Suttar
Accounts Officer



Mr. Shaik Mukthar
Lab Assistant 1

Mr. A. Shanker
Lab Assistant 1



Mr. BK. Mahadevaiah
Lab Assistant 1

Mr. Ningala Yadagiri
Lab Assistant 1

