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Chief Editor
Dr R. Somvanshi

*The body is the cell
state in which every
cell is a citizen.*

- Rudolf Virchow

Editorial ...

I am extremely happy to present The Lesion 2025 to fellow members of IAVP/ICVP. As usual it contains mixed scientific information including updates on forth coming VPC 2025 at BAU, Ranchi, research news, personal scientific achievements and about IAVP/ICVP activities. It is matter of great pleasure that one of our budding Veterinary Pathologist Dr Megha Sharma, who was recently selected in ARS and joined as Scientist at Division of Pathology, IVRI was awarded Deemed University, IVRI Gold Medal by President of India, Honourable Draupadi Murmu.



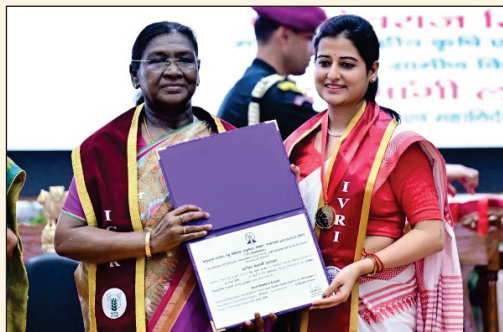
During the year, we have lost two great eminent pathologists and torch bearers of IAVP-Dr J.L. Vegad and M.C. Prasad. Both were stalwart of profession and builder of IAVP. Dr Vegad was great teacher, renowned author, wonderful orator and served as President of IAVP for two terms. He significantly contributed in poultry industry too. Similarly, Dr M.C. Prasad was well known researcher in metabolic diseases and toxicopathology. He very significantly contributed as Editor, IJVP for a number of years, research administrator at IVRI and ICAR, in toxicopathology industry and guided several doctoral candidates in Gujarat State. IAVP salutes both great souls and appreciate their contributions in advancement of Veterinary Pathology in India.

R. Somvanshi

News of the Year

Young Pathologist Dr Megha Sharma received Deemed University-IVRI Gold Medal from the Honourable President of India Mrs Draupadi Murmu

Dr Megha Sharma, BVSc&AH (SKUAST-Jammu), MVSc and PhD (Veterinary Pathology), worked on her PhD thesis entitled "Pathological and genotypic characterization of infectious bronchitis virus (IBV) affecting chickens" under the able guidance of Dr Asok Kumar M, Scientist (SS), ICAR-IVRI. During the XIth Convocation of ICAR-IVRI, Deemed University, Dr Megha was awarded Best Student Award (Gold Medal) in PhD programme. She received Gold Medal from Mrs Draupadi Murmu, the Honourable President of India. She is also recipient of DST-GATI Programme Outstanding Girl Student Award. Dr Megha is University topper in all three-degree programmes. She also received Merit Gold Medal in BVSc & AH awarded by SKUAST-Jammu from Shri Narendra Modi, the Prime Minister of India. Dr Megha was selected in ARS and joined as Scientist at Division of Pathology, ICAR-IVRI, Izatnagar on 7th July, 2025. Dr Megha's motto is ***Always in quest to understand the host-pathogen interactions through the perspective of a pathologist.*** She is a perfect role model of young Veterinary Pathologists.



Dr Megha Sharma receiving awards from President and Prime Minister of India

IAVP Activities

VETERINARY PATHOLOGY CONGRESS, 2025

Veterinary Pathology Congress, 2025 and 42nd Annual Conference and National Symposium on the theme: *"Bridging conventional and artificial intelligence-based digital pathology for maximum outreach – A futuristic approach to veterinary disease diagnosis"* is being organized by the Department of Veterinary Pathology, College of Veterinary Science and Animal Husbandry, Birsa Agricultural University, Ranchi, Jharkhand from 4th to 6th December, 2025. You are welcome with your students.

Venue: Birsa Agricultural University, Ranchi

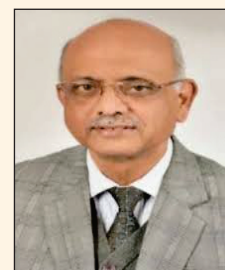
Birsa Agricultural University was formally established on June 26th, 1981 following its inauguration by the then Prime Minister of India, Smt. Indira Gandhi. The University's core mission is to develop region-specific technologies and skilled professionals in agriculture, animal husbandry and forestry to promote agricultural advancement in Jharkhand's plateau region and improve the socio-economic conditions of tribal and other marginalized communities. This year, the Faculty of Veterinary Science and Animal Husbandry at BAU, Ranchi has been selected to host this prestigious Veterinary Pathology Congress. The Faculty of Veterinary Sciences and Animal Husbandry was originally established on November 30th, 1961. Its founding Principal was Col. Dr S.M. Ishaque, an accomplished academician with degrees from Germany and Sweden. Under his leadership, the Faculty's main building, hostels and residential quarters were built. Initially affiliated with Ranchi University, it functioned under the State's Animal Husbandry Department until 1970. With the formation of Rajendra Agricultural University (RAU), the State's Animal Husbandry Department was expected to transfer all research units and farms to the University. However, only the Veterinary Colleges at Patna and Ranchi were transferred, limiting the University's scope primarily to teaching. Despite these limitations, the College of Veterinary Sciences & Animal Husbandry continued to thrive through the dedication of its faculty, ultimately becoming the main centre for postgraduate studies. After the establishment of Birsa Agricultural University in 1981, this College became part of the new institution. It now serves as the primary centre for veterinary education in the State of Jharkhand. The College offers undergraduate (BVSc & AH) and postgraduate (MVSc & PhD) degrees in Veterinary Sciences.

**Host City: Ranchi**

Ranchi, the capital city of Jharkhand, India is famously known as the "City of Waterfalls" due to its numerous beautiful waterfalls, including Hundru, Jonha, Dasham and many more. Located in the southern region of the Chota Nagpur plateau, Ranchi enjoys a fairly moderate climate throughout the year. The city has historical significance due to its active role in the Jharkhand movement, which eventually led to the creation of the state in 2000. Ranchi is also recognised as an educational center, hosting several renowned institutions. Alongside its natural attractions and urban growth, Ranchi is celebrated for its vibrant tribal heritage and landmark tourist places such as the Jagannath Temple and Tagore Hill. From late November to early December, Ranchi experiences pleasant weather. Daytime temperatures typically range between 23°C and 27°C, providing comfortable warmth, while mornings and evenings are cooler, with temperatures dropping to 10-16°C. The University is conveniently located about 16 km from Ranchi Railway Station, 19 km from Hatia Railway Station and 20 km from Birsa Munda Airport.

KNOW YOUR ORGANIZING SECRETARY

Dr Madhurendu Kumar Gupta, University Professor and Chairman, Department of Veterinary Pathology, Ranchi College of Veterinary Sciences and Animal Husbandry, Birsa Agricultural University, Ranchi, Jharkhand is an eminent teacher and clinical pathologists. He is a 1983 graduate of RCVSc & AH. He did his MVSc and PhD in Veterinary Pathology in 1986 and 1995 under the guidance of luminaries of Veterinary Pathology. Dr H.V.S. Chauhan and Dr G.J. Jha, respectively from RCVSc & AH, BAU, Ranchi. His area of postgraduate research was Marek's disease and cypremethrin toxicity. Dr Gupta is recipient of JRF, SRF and Institutional Merit Scholarship where he stood first in the entire programme. He was selected for ARS in 1988 but preferred to serve his state and joined as Assistant Professor of Veterinary Pathology in the year 1989. During his career of 35 years, he has guided 6 MVSc and 2 PhD students in the capacity of Major advisor. His main area of interest had been clinical pathology which he is practising for more than 35 years and has tested more than 50,000 clinical samples of blood, urine, faeces, milk and tissues. He had been pioneering in establishing and popularizing clinical investigation of sick animals in the State of Jharkhand, which has shown massive surge in the use of clinical samples for disease diagnosis. Additionally, he has also worked extensively in the field of poultry pathology, oncology and toxicopathology. He has collaborated in the development of first ever effective Lumpy Skin Disease Vaccine in India which has used Ranchi strain for vaccine production. Dr Gupta has published more than 75 research articles in national and international journals of repute. Dr Gupta had successfully organized joint IAVP Zonal Conference for Central Zone and East Zone in 2020 in which more than 250 delegates participated. He was awarded IAVP-Best Pathologist Award, 2021 and fellowship of IAVP in 2025. He has the distinction of being the first Diplomat, Indian College of Veterinary Pathologists from the state of Jharkhand. His main mission in life is to take the veterinary diagnostic facilities to grassroot level for the benefit of the masses.



New Recruitments

Dr Karikalan M., joined as Senior Scientist at Centre for Wildlife Conservation Management & Disease Surveillance, ICAR-Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Izatnagar on 15th April 2025. He was selected by ASRB under direct recruitment. Before joining this position, Dr Karikalan served as a Scientist (Veterinary Pathology) at the same Centre at ICAR-IVRI since 2015, where he specializes in post-mortem examinations, histopathological analyses and molecular diagnosis of diseases of wild animals. He has led and contributed to several national-level research projects funded by premier agencies such as ICAR, ICMR, Central Zoo Authority (CZA), DST-SERB and the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF & CC), Government of India. Currently, he is the Principal Investigator of a MoEF & CC-funded project entitled "*Assessing the safety to vultures (Gyps species) of non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs in veterinary use in India*". He also provides technical expertise to various State Wildlife Departments, the Central Zoo Authority, Project Tiger and Elephant Division under MoEF & CC, Government of India. He has authored more than 120 research articles in national and international journals, several book chapters and two books on wildlife diseases. He is an active member of the Association of Indian Zoo and Wildlife Veterinarians and the Indian Association of Veterinary Pathologists. Recently, Dr Karikalan has been awarded Dr Apurba Chakraborty Award for "Excellence in Wildlife Pathology" by Association of Indian Zoo and Wildlife Veterinarian during International Zoo and Wildlife Health Conference held on 24th-26th April 2025 at Nana Ji Deshmukh Veterinary Science University, Jabalpur, MP, India.



Dr M. Saminathan, joined as Senior Scientist at ICAR-Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Mukteswar on 3rd July, 2025. He was selected by ASRB, New Delhi. Before joining he availed "ICMR-DHR Long Term International Fellowship for Young Indian Biomedical Scientists" for the year 2023-24 under the mentorship of Dr Jorge E. Osorio, Director, Global Health Institute and Department of Pathobiological Sciences, School of Veterinary Medicine, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, Wisconsin, USA. He successfully completed the training in the research field of "*Development and evaluation of recombinant viral vectored oral bait vaccine against rabies virus*". During the year, he successfully cleared prestigious ICVP Diplomat Examination.

Research Abstract

Detection and genetic characterization of human associated tubercle bacilli in rescued sloth bears (*Melursus ursinus*) in Uttar Pradesh, India

Karikalan Mathesh, Premanshu Dandapat, Ilayaraja Selvaraj, Sukhen Samanta, Prasad Thomas, Arun A. Sha, A.M. Pawde and Anil Kumar Sharma
Centre for Wildlife Conservation, Management and Disease Surveillance,
ICAR-Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Izatnagar, Uttar Pradesh, India

Tuberculosis (TB) is an important threat to global trade, conservation and the human-livestock-wildlife interface. The patho-epidemiology of tuberculosis affecting sloth bears (*Melursus ursinus*) at the Bear Rescue Centre, Agra, India was investigated during 2015-2021. Among 124 cases, 60 bears were confirmed with TB (38 pulmonary and 22 generalized presentations) based on pathomorphology, acid-fast staining and PCR testing. Among these, 45 *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* positive DNA samples subjected to spoligotyping revealed the presence of two lineages [East African-Indian in 41 bears (91%) and ancestral MANU in 4 bears (9%)]. Further, *M. tuberculosis* were isolated from lung samples of 24 sloth bears in Lowenstein Jensen media with glycerol and confirmed as *M. tuberculosis* by qPCR. Whole genome sequence analysis of two representative isolates (IR/17/72 and IR/17/79) were carried out. Genome-based regions of difference (RD) scan analysis confirmed *M. tuberculosis*-specific RDs in both the strains whereas the absence of certain RDs viz., RD147c and RD239 confirming lineage. Interestingly, the pathomorphological lesions exhibited more similarities to pulmonary cavitory tuberculosis in humans than to bovine tuberculosis in other domestic and wild animals. Multifocal necrotic foci or tiny granulomas with few tubercle bacilli were noticed in some visceral organs like lymph nodes, liver, kidney, spleen and adrenal glands. Immunohistochemical staining with anti-MPT64 antibodies showed intense immune reaction in the liquefied caseum (cavitations) in lungs having an abundant number of tubercle bacilli. The present study evidenced tuberculosis among rescued sloth bears in northern India infected majorly with *M. tuberculosis* L1 lineage. **Published in Proceedings of Joint AAZV/EAZWV Conference held at Toronto, Ontario, Canada.**



Dr Karikalan presenting his paper



Dr Karikalan with awardee's at Toronto, Canada

Honour

Dr Karikalan M. attended Joint AAZV/EAZWV Conference at Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Dr Karikalan M., Scientist (Veterinary Pathology), Centre for Wildlife Conservation Management & Disease Surveillance at ICAR-IVRI attended 56th Joint AAZV/EAZWV Conference held at Toronto, Ontario, Canada during 21st-27th September, 2024. He presented paper entitled "*Detection and genetic characterization of human associated tubercle bacilli in rescued sloth bears (*Melursus ursinus*) in Uttar Pradesh, India*". He was also awarded Murray Fowler International Conference Scholarship Award. Narrating his experience Dr Karikalan stated that-"The AAZV/EAZWV Annual Conference, 2024 was a big platform to interact with many renowned Zoo and Wildlife specialists, especially Zoo Pathologists, which has enhanced my confidence level further in wildlife disease diagnosis and health management. I discussed with the renowned experts about various diagnostic techniques which updated my knowledge. The research work presented by me was appreciated and the necropsy and histopathology images was of high quality."



Research Abstract

Foot-and-mouth disease virus alters MUC genes expression and function of goblet cells in the intestines of naturally infected cattle calves

Monalisa Sahoo, Rajendra Singh, Sagar Patel, S.K. Panda, A.P. Acharya, Ritun Patra, M. Saminathan, Vinay Kumar SD, R.K. Vandre, Jigyasa Rana, Mamata Pasayat, J.P. Tripathy, N.R. Sahoo, J.K. Biswal and R.P. Singh

Corresponding Author: Dr M. Sahoo, Senior Scientist, ICAR-National Institute on Foot and Mouth Disease (NIFMD), Arugul, Jatni, Odisha, India; E-mail: vety.lisa@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

Foot-and-mouth disease (FMD), the “Risk Group 4” animal pathogen, causes devastating economic losses world over. The mechanism of the disease process is still not fully explored despite extensive research work going on. The present work highlights the intestinal pathology with mucin gene expression in 41 calves died from FMD virus infection in two separate outbreaks. A total of 41 intestinal (both small and large intestines) and mesenteric lymph node tissue were collected from these cases and tested for the presence of the FMD virus/antigen and various host cell responses using pathomolecular techniques. For the comparison, intestine and mesenteric lymph nodes from 2 apparently healthy calves were collected. Grossly, the small and large intestines showed marked congestion, thickening of the mucosa and the presence of catarrhal exudates within the lumen. The mesenteric lymph nodes (MLNs) were swollen and congested (21 cases). Microscopically, the intestine showed villous atrophy, crypt elongation, crypt cell proliferation, reduced number of goblet cells, necrosed villi and lymphocytic infiltration in the lamina propria and sub-mucosa. The MLNs showed depleted cortical follicles and apoptotic bodies (19 cases). The lesions were predominant in the small intestine as compared to the large intestine. The affected intestine showed higher apoptosis cell counts, increased levels of proinflammatory cytokine genes (TNF- α , IL-1 β) and reduced number of goblet cells containing sulphated mucins. In multiplex-PCR, the viral genome was detected in the intestine and lymph nodes of 32 and 21 cases, respectively. Immunohistochemically, abundant cytoplasmic immunoreactivity was noticed mostly in the crypt epithelium of the affected intestine suggesting the association of the virus with intestinal pathology. The MLNs showed moderate immunoreactivity for viral antigen with higher apoptosis counts in 9 cases, suggesting the association of the virus with lymphocytolysis. The reduced expression of MUC1, MUC2, MUC4 mRNAs, while increased. Expression of MUC5AC and MUC20 mRNAs was observed in the affected intestine. However, no significant difference in the expression level of MUC15 mRNA was observed. A similar distribution of MUC1, MUC2 and MUC5AC antigens was observed in the paraffin embedded tissue sections of the intestine of FMDV infected calves. The histopathological lesions, immunodetection of viral antigens, increased levels of proinflammatory cytokines, reduced goblet cell numbers with altered mucin gene expression likely led to a defective absorptive function of the intestinal epithelium, which contributes to FMDV pathogenesis.

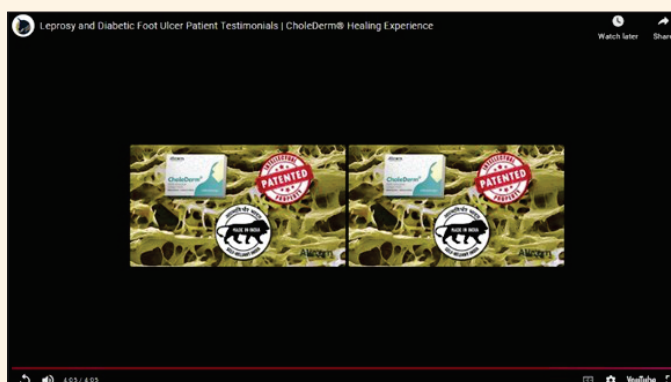
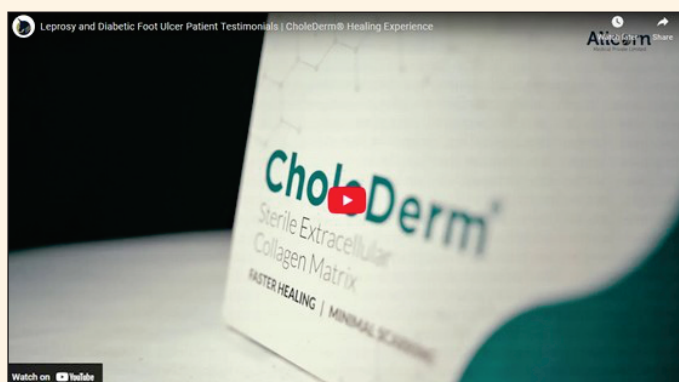
Reference: Microbial Pathogenesis 207 (2025) 107952 (<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.micpath.2025.107952>)



Advanced Technology

Cholederm heals chronic wounds

Extracellular matrix of animal tissues is an excellent xenograft scaffold for wound healing applications both for human and veterinary patients. Prof. T.V. Anilkumar and his research team at Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala developed an innovative technology for recovering medical-grade extracellular matrix of from gall bladder (cholecyst) of farm animals. They fabricated *Cholederm* from porcine **cholecyst** for **dermal** (*cholederm*) applications, which is the first animal-derived medical device that satisfied all statutory regulations of the Central Drug Standards Control Organization for commercial production and sales in India. It is an advanced wound healing matrix that promotes faster healing of skin wounds with minimum scarring including diabetic ulcers. It is a Class-D Medical Device, as per the Medical Device Rules-2017, (Government of India). The *Cholederm* is making headlines in social-media, press and Government websites as it is satisfying the Government policies like *Aatma-Nirbhar Bharat*. Moreover, otherwise a slaughterhouse waste, gall bladder has become a highly valued biopharmaceutical raw material generating additional income for livestock farmers.



Please see the video on the website of Alicorn Medical (<https://alicornmed.com/for-patients>)

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4. Alicorn Medical Pvt. Ltd. : <https://alicornmed.com>

Contact: Prof. T.V. Anilkumar, Scientist-G (Experimental Pathology) and Head, Department of Applied Biology, Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology, Satelmond Palace Campus, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, 695 012, India; E-mail: tvanilkumar@sctimst.ac.in, tvanilkumar2020@yahoo.com

New Recruitments

Dr Rahul Singh Arya was selected as Senior Scientist (Veterinary Pathology) by ASRB, New Delhi. He joined Senior Scientist at ICAR-National Institute on Foot and Mouth Disease (NIFMD), Arugul, Jatni, Bhubaneswar, Odisha, India on 9th July, 2025. Earlier, he served as Associate Professor at Department of Pathology at DUVASU, Mathura, UP for a short spell.



Dr Megha Sharma was selected Scientist (Veterinary Pathology) by Agricultural Scientist Recruitment Board, New Delhi. She joined as Scientist at Division of Pathology, ICAR-Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Izatnagar, Bareilly, UP on 7th July, 2025.

IAVP Activities

Pictorial Glimpses of South Zone IAVP Conference and National Symposium held at Department of Pathology, Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Veterinary Education & Research, Puducherry on 12th-13th September, 2025



Chief Guest and Guests of Honour, Shri Yasin M. Choudhary, IAS, Secretary to Government (Animal Husbandry), Dr C. Balachandran, Former Vice Chancellor, TANUVAS, Dr K. Murugavel, Dean, Dr Manjunatha S.S., Dr R. Kumar, Organizing Secretary, Dr Avinash W. Lakkawar, Convenor releasing the Compendium



The Chief Guest Shri Yasin M. Choudhary, IAS, Secretary to Government (Animal Husbandry) addressing the delegates during the Inaugural Session



Dr M.G. Nair, Professor & Head (Rtd) being honoured by the Chief Guest



Dr C. Balachandran, Former Vice Chancellor, TANUVAS, Chennai delivering the Key Note address



Delegates of South Zonal IAVP Conference 2025 witnessing the Symposium



Dr Jacob Alexander, Joint Director, Directorate of Animal Husbandry, Kerala, delivering a lead paper



Oral presentation by a delegate



Poster presentation by a delegate



Dr G.A. Balasubramaniam, Secretary General, IAVP addressing the delegates during the Valedictory Function



Dr Manjunatha S.S., Zonal Secretary, IAVP (SZ) giving his feedback during the Valedictory Function



Faculties receiving the prize during the conference



PG scholar receiving the prize during the conference

Source: Dr R. Kumar, Professor & Head, Department of Pathology, Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Veterinary Education & Research, Puducherry - 605 009

New IAVP Award

IAVP-Dr H.V.S. Chauhan-Best Poultry Pathologist Award

IAVP started a new award in honour of eminent Poultry Pathologist, author and teacher Dr H.V.S. Chauhan, Former Dean, Veterinary College, Durg, Chhattisgarh. Dr Chauhan also served as Professor and Head, Department of Pathology at BAU, Ranchi. The name of award will be IAVP-Dr H.V.S. Chauhan-Best Poultry Pathologist Award. The award was sponsored by Prof. M.K. Gupta, University Professor and Chairman, Department of Veterinary Pathology, College of Veterinary Sciences and Animal Husbandry, Birsa Agricultural University, Ranchi, Jharkhand. Dr Gupta donated Rs. 1,00,000/- to IAVP as per existing IAVP Constitution to start a new award. First award will be given in VPC-2025 at Ranchi.

Superannuation

Dr G. Saikumar Superannuated in December, 2024

Dr G. Saikumar, a distinguished Scientist in Veterinary Pathology, made pioneering contributions to the understanding and control of swine viral diseases of economic and public health importance in India. Born on 2nd December 1962, he attended Cambridge School in Cuttack, Odisha obtained BVSc & AH from OUAT, Bhubaneswar (1985) and acquired Master's (1988) and Doctoral (1995) degrees in Veterinary Pathology from Deemed University, IVRI. He joined ARS in 1992 and served at ICAR-IVRI, Izatnagar, UP until his superannuation. He had post-doctoral research training at Institute of Animal Health, Pirbright, UK, where he had the opportunity to learn molecular biology and developed an RPV-PPRV chimeric virus.



Over the course of his career at ICAR-IVRI, he established himself as a leading expert and orator in swine virology, molecular epidemiology and disease diagnostics. His research focused primarily on Classical Swine Fever (CSF), where he developed next-generation molecular diagnostics, including RT-PCR, real-time RT-PCR and DNA/RNA probe-based *in situ* hybridization assays. His groundbreaking studies on the molecular epidemiology of CSFV provided the first comprehensive insights into emerging genotypes in Indian pig populations, forming the basis for surveillance and control strategies in the country. Dr Saikumar's contributions extended to a wide spectrum of swine diseases. He reported and characterized the occurrence of Porcine Circovirus associated disease, Porcine Parvovirus-linked reproductive failures, Swine Influenza (H1N1), Porcine Teschovirus, Porcine Sapelovirus, Swinepox, and Porcine Enterovirus G infections in Indian pigs. His work on zoonotic infections was especially impactful during the 2009 H1N1 influenza pandemic, he provided critical insights into the virus in swine hosts and his studies on Japanese Encephalitis (JE) in pigs revealed their role as amplifying hosts in recurrent outbreaks affecting children in endemic regions. This research culminated in the development of an inactivated JE vaccine for pigs, for which he filed a patent, marking a landmark achievement in Veterinary Public Health. Collectively, these contributions elevated the Swine Disease Laboratory, Division of Pathology, ICAR-IVRI, into a recognized National Referral Laboratory for Swine Diseases.

Dr Saikumar authored over 150 peer-reviewed research papers in reputed national and international journals and supervised 30 Master's and Doctoral scholars, significantly contributing to capacity building in Veterinary Pathology. He provided academic and administrative leadership as Acting Head, Division of Pathology, and later as Acting Joint Director (Research) at ICAR-IVRI (April 2021-November 2022). Beyond research, he played a major role in research management and institutional leadership. As Incharge, PME Cell (9 years), he streamlined research planning and monitoring, which enhanced both the quality of publications and the intellectual property portfolio of ICAR-IVRI. He also served as Chairman, Institute Animal Ethics Committee; Member, Institute Biosafety Committee and was part of the Institute Management Committees of several ICAR institutes, including ICAR-CIRG, ICAR-CIRB, ICAR-NIHSAD, ICAR-NRC Camel and ICAR-NIVEDI. He was a Board Member of ICAR-IVRI and Sri Venkateswara Veterinary University, Tirupati. Dr Saikumar superannuated from ICAR service on 31st December 2024, leaving behind a legacy of scientific excellence, institutional development and mentorship in Veterinary Pathology and swine disease research. **The Indian Association of Veterinary Pathologists wishes him a healthy, happy, peaceful and purposeful life.**

Obituary

Dr Jawahar Lal Vegad (1936-2025) Passes Away

Dr J.L. Vegad (89) was born on 30th August 1936 in Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh. He obtained his BVSc & AH degree from Veterinary College, Jabalpur and was recipient of University Gold Medal. Thereafter, he did Associateship of IVRI (PG Diploma) in Veterinary Pathology from Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Mukteswar. After securing the Commonwealth Scholarship in the year 1968, Dr Vegad obtained his PhD degree from Massey University, New Zealand. Dr Vegad was Professor and Head at Department of Veterinary Pathology, College of Veterinary Science & Animal Husbandry, Jabalpur, MP for over 25 years and was subsequently selected as Dean, Veterinary College, Jabalpur. Dr Vegad superannuated from the University services in the year 1996. He was a visiting Professor at University of California, Davis, USA during 1988-1989 and ICAR-Emeritus Professor from 1996-1998. Recognizing his intellect and contributions Dr Vegad was offered consultancy at an evolving Poultry Breeding and Diagnostic Centre, Phoenix, Jabalpur, MP where he worked for more than two decades.



His dynamic and imaginative leadership brought national and international recognition to the Department of Veterinary Pathology, Jabalpur, a small city with limited resources and facilities, Dr Vegad, carried out groundbreaking basic research on inflammation that was recognized globally. In 1987, Dr Vegad received the esteemed ICAR-Rafi Ahmed Kidwai Award in recognition of his outstanding research work. His three students were also awarded prestigious ICAR-Jawaharlal Nehru Award for Best PhD Thesis, Dr Vegad was a distinguished educator, excellent mentor and outstanding orator. He published 180 research papers in reputable journals with a high impact factor; highlight his significant contributions to the field. He has published six books in Veterinary Pathology and an Atlas of Poultry Diseases. Dr Vegad was honoured by numerous accolades from different societies, including the Best Teacher Award from the JNKV, Jabalpur, the Dr C.M. Singh Samman and the IAVP-Dr Nemi Chand Jain Lifetime Achievement Award. He was a fellow of the National Academy of Veterinary Sciences, the Society for Immunology and Immunopathology and the IAVP. In addition to being elected to the NAVS Governing Council and he served to ICAR research advisory committees for the Central Avian Research Institute and ICAR Project Directorate for Poultry, Hyderabad. Dr Vegad served as President of the Indian Association of Veterinary Pathologists from 1997 to 2003.

He was on the Editorial Board of the International Journal of Comparative Haematology International and Indian Journal of Animal Sciences. Looking into the exemplary contributions made by Dr Vegad to Veterinary Pathology, the Indian Association of Veterinary Pathologists founded "Dr J.L. Vegad Foundation" in his honour. As a consultant to the Phoenix Group of Poultry, Dr Vegad made a significant contribution to the poultry disease diagnosis and organization's expansion. He travelled to several Asian nations, giving presentations at various Conferences on a range of topics related to poultry diseases and management. He stayed engrossed in research until the very end, turning into an encyclopaedia on the theoretical facets of Veterinary Pathology, especially on the process of inflammation. On August 29th 2025, Dr Vegad departed for his celestial home, leaving behind his extensive studies, deep values and most importantly, his simplicity and pray and hope that many people would recognize and adhere to his values.

The IAVP expresses deepest condolences and prays the Almighty God to give strength to the family and near and dear ones to bear the unrepairable loss caused by his demise. Even though the Veterinary Pathology fraternity has lost one of its eminent torch bearers, the legacy that Dr J.L. Vegad left behind will always live in hearts of Indian Veterinary Pathologists.

Obituary

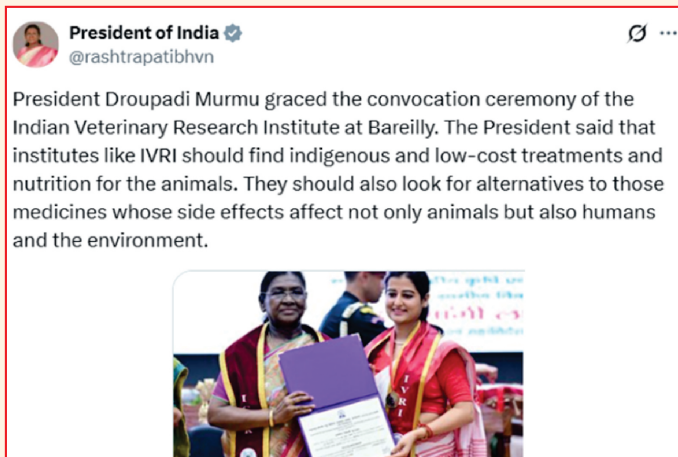
Dr M.C. Prasad (1938-2024) Passes Away

Dr Mahesh Chandra Prasad (86) was an eminent Veterinary Pathologist, teacher, research administrator and editor. He was born at Kolly, Sitamarhi, Bihar on 17th December, 1938. He completed his BVSc & AH degree from Veterinary College, Bihar University, Patna in 1960 and MVSc in Veterinary Pathology in 1965 from Madras Veterinary College under guidance of Prof. K.P.C. Nair. Initially, he served as Veterinary Assistant Surgeon and later joined as Assistant Lecturer at his *alma mater*. He did his doctorate from Agra University in 1973 under able guidance of Dr B.S. Rajya at IVRI, Izatnagar and subsequently joined the same Institute as Junior Pathologist and served until 1974. Later, he worked as Animal Scientist (Disease Control) at ICAR Research Complex for NER Region, Arunachal Pradesh from 1975-1977 and established Disease Investigation Laboratory at Bosor, besides surveying animal disease status in the region. In 1977, he joined back in IVRI as Nutritional Pathologist (ARS Scientist, S-2), later being elevated to position of ARS Scientist, S-3 which he continued till 1990. Dr Prasad then took over as Assistant Director General (Animal Health) at ICAR, New Delhi and completed tenure with distinction. He again joined back at IVRI, Izatnagar in 1995 first as Principal Scientist, then as Head, Division of Pathology, Prasad (1996-97) and finally as Joint Director (Research) in 1996 until his superannuation in December, 1998.



His major contributions in the area of Nutritional Pathology included pioneering work on atherosclerosis, iodine and other deficiencies, toxicities and poisonings especially MIC (Bhopal episode) have been reflected in over 150 research papers in national and international journals and about half dozen bulletins/book chapters. He guided 3 MVSc and 5 PhD students at IVRI. During illustrious ICAR service of 38 years, he acted as Chairman/Members of various selection and other committees of ICAR/SAU's/Govt. of India. During his Editorship spanning over a decade, two issues of journal and overall improvement was brought about in the quality and standard of the Indian Journal of Veterinary Pathology is praiseworthy. He had lot of interest in IAVP activities and sponsored IAVP-Savitri Jibacch Poster Presentation Award. His wife Mrs. Shanta Sinha served as Patron IAVP. After superannuation, Dr Prasad has joined Jai Research Foundation, Valvada, Gujarat and worked as regulatory toxicopathologist. Here, he also took over as Chief Editor of Indian Journal of Environment and Toxicology and also published a number of research papers on pathology of spontaneous lesions of laboratory animals especially mice and rats. In later years (2014-2018), he was associated in guiding 5 in service PhD students at Navsari Agricultural University, Navsari and 1 at Junagadh Agricultural University, Junagadh in the discipline of Veterinary Pathology. He passed away at the age of 86 years on 5th December, 2024 at Thane, Maharashtra. Dr Prasad is survived by his wife Mrs. Shanta Sinha, two sons and three daughters.

The IAVP expresses deepest condolences and prays the Almighty God to give strength to the family, friends and students to bear the great loss caused by his demise. Even though the veterinary fraternity has lost one of its eminent personalities, the legacy that Dr M.C. Prasad left behind will always live in hearts of Indian Veterinary Pathologists.

President of India Visits IVRI

President of India, VVIPs with IVRI faculty

ICVP News

New ICVP Diplomats, 2025

Source: Dr Amarjeet Singh, Vice-President, ICVP, GADVASU, Ludhiana, Punjab

**Dr Janga Venkatesh Yadav**

Assistant Professor
Department of Veterinary Pathology, College of Veterinary Science,
Korutla, PVNR Telangana Veterinary University, Hyderabad, Telangana

**Dr Monika Thakur**

Veterinary Officer (Pathology)
Veterinary Polyclinic Lalhri, District Una, Himachal Pradesh

**Dr Ravindran R.**

Professor & Incharge
Department of Veterinary Pathology, College of Veterinary Science,
GADVASU, Rampura Phul, Bhatinda, Punjab

**Dr Krithiga K.**

Associate Professor
Department of Veterinary Pathology, College of Veterinary
and Animal Sciences, Pookode, Wayanad, Kerala

**Dr Hardik Kumar Panchal**

Manager, Pathology (Toxicology)
Sun Pharma Advanced Research Company Ltd., Vadodara, Gujarat

**Dr Rahul Singh**

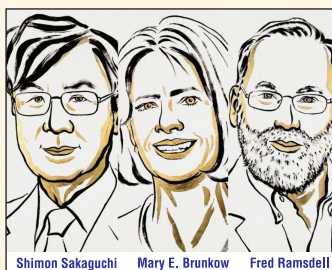
PhD Scholar
Division of Pathology
ICAR-Indian Veterinary Research Institute, Izatnagar, Bareilly, UP

**Dr Saminathan M.**

Senior Scientist (Veterinary Pathology)
Division of Virology, ICAR-Indian Veterinary Research Institute,
Mukteswar Campus, Nainital, UK

Nobel Prize in Medicine (2025)

The Nobel Prize for 2025 in Physiology or Medicine goes to Mary E. Brunkow, Fred Ramsdell and Shimon Sakaguchi "for their discoveries concerning peripheral immune tolerance," the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences announced on Monday (October 6, 2025). The laureates identified the immune system's security guards, regulatory T cells, which prevent immune cells from attacking our own body.



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