



## **INDIAN COUNCIL OF MEDICAL RESEARCH**

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

**Media report (22 June to 05 July 2019)**  
**(ICMR IN NEWS)**

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## **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's reports (ICMR IN NEWS dated 22 June to 05 July 2019) includes the mention Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) in 62 news papers including top news papers such as Times of India, The New Indian Express, The Hindu, India Today, Economic Times, Business Standard, News18 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  
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**[AES outbreak: Abandoned till the predictable crisis hits](#)**

June 22, 2019/ Times of India

**[Nipah: 12 bat samples test positive for deadly virus](#)**

June 22, 2019/ The New Indian Express

**[Centre starts contact-tracing every AES case in Bihar](#)**

June 22, 2019/ sbDirtySouthSoccer

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June 23, 2019/ Times of India

**[Encephalitis Outbreak Kills Hundreds, Fatality Rate Soars: How Years of Govt Apathy Failed Bihar's Infants](#)**

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**[5 science-backed reasons to ditch that e-cigarette](#)**

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**Govt Investigations Into Muzaffarpur AES Deaths Show a Health System in Shambles**

June 24, 2019/ The Wire



**India CRO Market Analysis Revealing Key Drivers, Growth Trends and Competitive Assessment through 2023**

June 24, 2019/ Market Research Gazette

**HC to govt.: Spell out steps to treat children with LSD**

June 25, 2019/ The Hindu

**Bihar: FIR against 39 people for protesting against water crisis, encephalitis deaths**

June 25, 2019/ India Today

**3-day research methodology workshop begins at GMC Srinagar**

June 25, 2019/ Kashmir Reader

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June 25, 2019/ Greater Kashmir

**Indian govt must end violation of bodily integrity and health of women**

June 25, 2019/ Milli Gazette

**Global Angiotensin Converting Enzymes (ACE) Inhibitors Market to Surpass US\$ 12.4 Billion by 2026**

June 25, 2019/ PRNewswire

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June 25, 2019/ Yahoo Finance

**Scientists find new biomarker for malaria**

June 26, 2019/ Telangana Today

**Bridging the cleft: How advances in facial surgery have made cleft lips easily treatable**

June 27, 2019/ The News Minute

**Gastric Cancer Therapy Market 2019 is Projected to Exhibit a CAGR of 13% during the Forecast period 2023 Includes business research, Key players, Revenue Size and Share, Complete Industry Analysis**

June 27, 2019/ Best Direct



**Pilot scheme on fortification of rice and distribution through PDS approved by govt: WCD Ministry**

June 27, 2019/ Business Standard

**Pilot scheme on fortification of rice and distribution through PDS approved by Govt**

June 27, 2019/ Daily Excelsior

**The global advanced medical stopcock market is expected to reach US\$ 1,167.6 Mn in 2027 from US\$ 841.3 Mn in 2018**

June 27, 2019/ PRNewswire

**State government urged to ban e-cigarettes**

June 28, 2019/ Times of India

**If You Block An Ambulance, You'll Now Have To Pay A Fine Of Rs 10,000**

June 28, 2019/ inUth.com

**University of Hyderabad faculty awarded**

June 28, 2019/ The Hans India

**H1N1 Influenza-438 Positive, 27 Deaths In J&K This Year**

June 28, 2019/ Kashmir Observer

**H1N1 Influenza-438 Tested Positive,27 Deaths Reported In J&K This Year So Far:GoI**

June 28, 2019/ MENAFN.COM

**Can India remove the infamous tag of World Diabetics Capital?**

June 29, 2019/ ETHealthworld.com

**ICMR-DHR International Fellowship awarded to UoH Faculty**

June 30, 2019/ Telangana Today

**Bihar encephalitis outbreak: Litchi alone not responsible for spread of AES among children**

June 30, 2019/ India Today

**ICMR fellowship for UoH faculty**

June 30, 2019/ Telangana Today



**In a severely congested 'smart' city, what are PSUs, Western Railways, BSF doing in Delhi?**

July 01, 2019/ COUNTERVIEW

**Punjab MPs worried over cancer cases**

July 02, 2019/ The Hindu

**Uterus, breast cancer rising among younger women in Bengaluru**

July 02, 2019/ The New Indian Express

**Association promoting ENDS urges govt to consult industry before banning e-cigarettes**

July 02, 2019/ Business Standard

**Children of incarcerated parents vulnerable to insensitivity, says a study conducted by JMI's Department of Social Work**

July 02, 2019/ India Today

**Deaths due to Non-Communicable Diseases in India in 2016 was 61.8 pc: Govt**

July 02, 2019/ United News of India

**ICMR Report On Non Communicable Diseases; India: Health of the Nation's States**

July 02, 2019/ The India Saga

**Fertilizer consumption has no link with cancer in Punjab: Government**

July 02, 2019/ SocialNews.XYZ

**The Cancer Foundation Challenges The White Paper on ENDS by ICMR**

July 02, 2019/ Devdiscourse

**Younger women getting Uterus, breast cancers**

July 02, 2019/ NYOOOZ

**Fertilizer consumption has no link with cancer in Punjab: Government**

July 02, 2019/ Daijiworld.com

**Gastric Cancer Therapy Market Exhibit a Steady 13% CAGR by 2023: Including Market Trends, Business Outlook, Future Opportunities | 360 Research Reports**

July 02, 2019/ Healthcare Herald



**153 children died of Acute Encephalitis Syndrome in Bihar: Govt to Rajya Sabha**

July 03, 2019/ Times of India

**Cancer cases on rise in Kerala, says KK Shailaja**

July 03, 2019/ The New Indian Express

**Human cell atlas: An initiative for holistic understanding of human body**

July 03, 2019/ The Hindu BusinessLine

**This Bengaluru startup's low-cost device is using AI to detect cervical cancer in rural Karnataka**

July 03, 2019/ YourStory.com

**Angiotensin Converting Enzymes (ACE) Inhibitors Market – Report Analysis till 2026**

July 03, 2019/ Coherent Magazine

**Road accidents see profound increase in J&K, 5529 accidents in 2018**

July 03, 2019/ Kashmir Patriot

**Bhopal: NCHSE writes to government over banning e-cigarettes**

July 04, 2019/ Free Press Journal

**Congress expresses concern over road accidents**

July 04, 2019/ State Times

**Human atlas: An initiative for holistic understanding of human biology**

July 04, 2019/ Down To Earth Magazine

**Union Health Ministry's proposal to classify ENDS devices as 'drugs' sent to Attorney General**

July 04, 2019/ Economic Times

**Union Health Ministry's proposal to classify ENDS devices as 'drugs' sent to Attorney General**

July 04, 2019/ Business Standard



**Malaria should be made notifiable disease, Dr Harsh Vardhan advises**

July 04, 2019/ Devdiscourse

**Make dengue, malaria notifiable diseases: Vardhan tells Delhi govt**

July 04, 2019/ Business Standard

**Dr. Harsh Vardhan chairs high level review meeting on prevention and control of vector borne diseases in Delhi**

July 04, 2019/ 5 Dariya News



### **AES outbreak: Abandoned till the predictable crisis hits**

June 22, 2019/ Times of India

VAISHALI/MUZAFFARPUR: As the Bihar administration heaved a sigh of relief with the day's AES death toll falling to five in the state on Friday and over a 100 admitted children being discharged, the village of Harivanshpur, which has seen the largest number of deaths for a single village — 11 till date — is still holding its breath. Ever since one family lost three siblings within a couple of days, there is intense fear in Harivanshpur. People have packed their children off to their in-laws' villages out of fear that something in the air or water was causing it. Parents are watching their children like hawks and yet kids continue to fall ill. Not all may be due to AES, but every child with even the slightest fever is being rushed to the nearby spanking new Bhagwanpur Community Health Centre as parents are scared to take a chance. With intense focus from Delhi and Patna, most state health facilities in and around Muzaffarpur, the epicentre of the AES outbreak, have received additional staff and ambulances, deputed from neighbouring areas. The entire area is now swarming with 'teams' from Delhi and Patna, including doctors, epidemiologists, microbiologists and health researchers from premier research institutes such as the National Institute of Virology, **Indian Council for Medical Research**, National Centre for Disease Control and so on. The deployment of greater resources and following of a strict protocol in treatment may have helped reduce the mortality significantly

### **Nipah: 12 bat samples test positive for deadly virus**

June 22, 2019/ The New Indian Express

KOCHI: In a major breakthrough to unearth the source of the Nipah virus in the current spell of the disease in central Kerala, the National Institute of Virology (NIV), Pune, has identified the presence of the deadly virus in 12 fruit bats out of the 36 samples tested at the premier institute. However, over 100 blood and sputum samples of fruit bats were collected from areas of Thrissur, Paravoor, and Thodupuzha. The NIV is yet to confirm the exact area of the bat population from which the virus was identified. Union Health Minister Harsh Vardhan, in a written reply in the Lok Sabha, said, "NIV, Pune, deputed special teams to collect samples from Pteropus or fruit bats, which are the main reservoir of Nipah virus. Out of the 36 species tested for Nipah, 12 (33 per cent) were found positive for 'anti-Nipah bat IgG antibodies'." According to Deputy Director of NIV Dr A B Sudheep, the tests have taken place in batches and 10-12 samples can be tested in a batch. "We are yet to conduct more specimen checks on the samples collected from the bats. As of now, we have found the same old infection that we have found in the samples collected from bats in Kozhikode. No new virus has been identified and more samples are to be tested," said Dr Sudheep, who led the expert team in investigating the source of the disease. "We have to intensify our investigation in finding the source of the virus. We are planning to conduct a survey across Kerala. We will have to hold discussions with the **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)** regarding the study," said Sudheep.

## Centre starts contact-tracing every AES case in Bihar

June 22, 2019/ sbDirtySouthSoccer



These teams will be assisted by a district level Medical Officer and Medical Officer in charge (MOIC) to do the overall work at block level. In 2015, U.S. researchers said the brain disease could be tied to a toxic substance found in the exotic fruit - but said more study was needed to discover the cause of the illness, which causes seizures, altered mental states and death in more than a third of cases. He added that the government officials have also started house-to-house active case finding campaign in order to check the outbreak of deadly viral disease. Surprise checks are also being conducted at the PHCs by SDCs. "They are also giving ORS to each house in the affected villages", the statement said. The ANMs and ASHAs have been directed to visit every house for raising awareness about AES/JE by distributing pamphlets and brochures. While speaking to ANI, Superintendent of Sri Krishna Medical College (SKMCH) Dr Sunil Shahi on AES cases said, "142 patients have been discharged from this hospital". The total number of AES cases registered since June 1 was 398 at the SKMCH and 154 at Kejriwal hospital, according to figures provided by the district administration. Security at SKMCH's has been tightened in view of several TV news reporters violating norms and entering ICUs where AES patients were being kept. "While we have not been able to ascertain the causes of deaths as of now, we should be able to get a better understanding of the causes in two to three days", Chander Shekhar, Additional Director-General, **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)**, told BusinessLine. The multi-disciplinary team will systematically collect clinical, nutritional and epidemiological information from AES patients hospitalized since 18 May 2019. In addition, now health officials in Bihar say that deaths are being reported from Patna, Bhagalpur, Banka, Sitamarhi, Samastipur, East Champaran and West Champaran also apart from Muzaffarpur.

## 'AES outbreak in Muzaffarpur linked to non-infective origin'

June 23, 2019/ Times of India

NEW DELHI: After days of deliberations to find the cause of the encephalitis outbreak in Bihar's Muzaffarpur district, researchers have found the cause to be of "non-infective origin", which means it is "not a virus, any bacteria, fungus or a living organism", official sources told TOI. Researchers, including some from other countries, however, have so far failed to zero in on the exact cause of the outbreak, even as they pointed out several factors, including hypoglycemia triggered by over eating of lychee on empty stomach and malnutrition, and delay in receiving medical care. Several researchers and paediatricians are of the view that post mortem may help bring forth a concrete finding about the cause of deaths. "As soon as rain starts, historically there is a drastic reduction in number of new cases of encephalitis. We are hopeful that the situation will improve soon," a public health expert said. Various teams including researchers from **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)**, National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC), National Institute for Nutrition as well as from Atlanta's Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have been working in Muzaffarpur to pin down the cause of the deadly disease. Doctors, pediatricians and epidemiological experts from New Delhi's All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Safdarjung Hospital and public health experts from WHO and UNICEF are also actively involved to determine the cause as well as provide interventions to control the incidence. "So far, we have not been able to pinpoint the exact cause of the disease.

## [Encephalitis Outbreak Kills Hundreds, Fatality Rate Soars: How Years of Govt Apathy Failed Bihar's Infants](#)



June 23, 2019/ News18

New Delhi: The death toll of children fighting Acute Encephalitis Syndrome (AES) in Bihar crossed 140 on Sunday. The government-run Sri Krishna Medical College and Hospital (SKMCH) in Muzaffarpur district is going through an epidemic-type situation similar to what was witnessed at the Baba Raghav Das (BRD) Medical College and Hospital in Uttar Pradesh's Gorakhpur district in August 2017. Since January 1, over 400 children suffering from AES have been admitted to SKMCH and Kejriwal Matrisadan, a private hospital, in Muzaffarpur. The SKMCH management has opened two more wards in addition to the existing paediatric wards to tackle the emergency situation. Sanjay Kumar, Principal Secretary for Health, said the disease had affected 222 blocks in 12 districts of the state, including Muzaffarpur, Vaishali, Sheohar and East Champaran. As protests over the large number of deaths erupted across the nation, Chief Minister Nitish Kumar recently called a meeting of health department officials, directing them to take necessary measures to fight the disease. The state government has also ordered a socio-economic survey of over 450 people whose children have either been affected by or have died of the disease. "We are trying everything and anything that can save children's lives. From doctors to medicines, everything is being made available," Pandey said. A new diagnostic term "Acute Febrile Illness" or "Acute Viral Fever" is being used for encephalitis-affected patients in UP and the data for these patients is not being released by state health department, Dr Kafeel said. Meanwhile, the Centre has initiated a probe into the large number of deaths among children in Muzaffarpur. Also, the health ministry has alerted the **Indian Council of Medical Research** adding that there were no reports of the spread of this virus from other parts of the country.

## [Experts discuss safer use of nicotine as debate over e-cigarette continues](#)

June 23, 2019/ Business Standard

As raging debate over e-cigarette as harm-reduction product and its impact on younger generation continues in India, healthcare professionals from around the world gathered in Poland to discuss safer use of nicotine. Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENDS), popularly called e-cigarette, is a battery-powered vaporiser that simulates smoking by providing some of the behavioral aspects of smoking, including the hand-to-mouth action of smoking, but without combusting tobacco. Presently, about 3 per cent of adults in India are aware about e-cigarettes and an estimated 0.02 per cent of the population use it. Going tough on e-cigarettes, the health ministry has proposed to classify such alternative smoking devices as "drugs" under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, in a bid to ban their manufacture, sale, distribution and import. The Global Forum on Nicotine held last week in Warsaw saw participation of over 600 delegates from around the globe who discussed safer use of nicotine. Several healthcare professionals from India who participated in the conference debated how regulation not ban would be the way forward in dealing with ENDS. Bharat Gopal, a Delhi-based pulmonologist at the National Chest Centre, said there is a need to give an opportunity to doctors to be able to give option of harm reduction products to its patients who are heavy smokers. According to WHO, more than 10 million die each year due to tobacco use in India and there are about 120 million smokers in the country. In August last year, the Health Ministry issued an advisory to all states

and Union Territories to stop the manufacture, sale and import of ENDS.



**Indian Council of Medical Research** has recommended a "complete" ban on e-cigarettes, saying their use can initiate nicotine addiction among non-smokers, but the debate on its health impact is a continuing topic of discussion between experts.

### [Indian doctors debate e-cigarette ban in global nicotine forum](#)

June 23, 2019/ The week

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## [117 children dead by June 20: AES exposes Bihar health machinery](#)



June 24, 2019/ India Today

On June 3, just when acute encephalitis syndrome (AES) was breaking out in the State, Bihar health Minister Mangal Pandey left for Vancouver in Canada to attend the Women Deliver Conference, tipped as the World's largest conference on gender equality. On June 4, Mangal Pandey tweeted how touched he was on his warm welcome at Vancouver airport. On the same day, he tweeted his pictures of addressing the forum. The Health Minister seemed very proud of having participated in the mega show. Little did he know that AES, which had already claimed lives of two children before he left for the Canada summit, was turning into a huge crisis in his backyard at Muzaffarpur, just about 90 kilometres north from Capital city Patna. By then hapless parents had started rushing their children to government hospitals and the toll had started climbing up. By the time Pandey returned to Patna on June 8, the AES had become a scourge. With its origin still unknown, AES is no less than a crisis, but the Health department's apparent negligence in preventive measures appear unpardonable for the simple reason that not only death due to AES but also its timing is known and documented in Muzaffarpur. Till June 20, the AES has claimed 117 children in Bihar. According to Dr Prabhat Kumar Sinha, ex dean Research of IGIMS Patna and also a former scientist with **Indian Council of Medical Research** at Patna, AES affects central nervous system, mostly in children, starting with high fever. It then disrupts neurological functions causing mental disorientation, seizure, coma and death. Ironically, what causes AES is still not known. This syndrome is very complex and the exact cause of it is yet to be determined. It is shocking that the syndrome that preys on the malnourished kids with low immunity, which first surfaced in Bihar's Muzaffarpur district in 1994, is yet to be identified.

## [Healthcare professionals debate the impact of e-cigarettes](#)

June 24, 2019/ TheHealthSite

The **Indian Council of Medical Research** has recommended a "complete" ban on e-cigarettes, saying their use can initiate nicotine addiction among non-smokers. As a debate rages in India over the use of e-cigarettes as a harm-reduction product and its impact on the younger generation, healthcare professionals from around the world gathered in Poland to discuss safer use of nicotine. Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENDS), popularly called e-cigarettes, are battery-powered vaporisers that simulate the effects of smoking by providing some of the behavioral aspects of smoking, such as the hand-to-mouth action, without combusting tobacco in the process. Presently, about 3 per cent of adults in India are aware about e-cigarettes and an estimated 0.02 per cent of the population use it. According to WHO, more than 10 million die each year due to tobacco use in India and there are about 120 million smokers in the country. In August last year, the Health Ministry issued an advisory to all states and Union Territories to stop the manufacture, sale and import of ENDS. The Indian Council of Medical Research has recommended a "complete" ban on e-cigarettes, saying their use can initiate nicotine addiction among non-smokers, but the debate on its health impact is a continuing topic of discussion between experts.

## [ICMR scientists identify new biomarker for malaria](#)

June 24, 2019/ The Hindu BusinessLine



Detection of malaria infection could become more accurate soon. A team of researchers from **Indian Council of Medical Research's** Jabalpur-based National Institute of Research in Tribal Health (NIRTH) has identified a genetic sequence in the body of malaria parasite that promises to help develop a more sensitive diagnostic test for the disease. Currently, tests used for diagnosing malaria are based on a gene, Histidine rich Protein 2(HRP2), which is rich in an amino acid called Histidine. However, studies have shown that this gene is often absent in some strains of the malaria parasite. Consequently, significant levels of malaria infection were going undetected. Scientists across the world have been searching for new biomarkers that would be more effective. Scientists at the NIRTH have found that an enzyme called glutamate dehydrogenase could offer a solution. "Our study provides scientific evidence for the conserved nature of glutamate dehydrogenase sequences in Indian isolates which can be used as a potential biomarker for diagnosis of malaria," said Dr. Praveen Kumar Bharti, leader of the research team. There are several specific genes in every parasite that can be targeted to identify or kill it. However, these genes are not present in equal measure in all the strains of a parasite. While identifying the genes or proteins for diagnostic or therapeutic purposes, scientists choose a gene or protein that shows the least variation across different regions so that it can be used in as wide an area as possible. In scientific terms, such a gene is considered to be well conserved.

## [5 science-backed reasons to ditch that e-cigarette](#)

June 24, 2019/ TheHealthSite

According to WHO, more than 10 million die each year due to tobacco use in India and there are about 120 million smokers in the country. These figures reflect the strong necessity of curbing smoking in our country. So, in 2007, e-cigarettes were introduced in India as a healthier alternative to tobacco. Since their introduction, India has witnessed widespread success in smoking cessation among non-smokers, females and youth. According to some estimate, their sales have increased by 14-fold since 2008. Recent PTI reports suggest that about 3 per cent of adults in India are presently aware of e-cigarettes and an estimated 0.02 per cent of the population use it. Several studies including World Health Organization reports warn against the usage of e-cigarettes, which fall in the category of electronic nicotine delivery systems (ENDS). Other products included in this category are personal vaporizers, vape pens, e-cigars, e-hookah, vaping devices. According to the WHO, ENDS heat a solution to create a type of aerosol. It contains nicotine and is potentially harmful to our health in more ways than one. So, 12 states in India have recently banned ENDS. Going tough on e-cigarettes, the health ministry has proposed to classify such alternative smoking devices as 'drugs, under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, in a bid to ban their manufacture, sale, distribution and import. The **Indian Council of Medical Research**, on the other hand, has recommended a 'complete, ban on e-cigarettes, saying their use can initiate nicotine addiction among non-smokers.

## Govt Investigations Into Muzaffarpur AES Deaths Show a Health System in Shambles



June 24, 2019/ The Wire

New Delhi: As the central and state governments have finally begun a belated response to the annual crisis in Bihar where children die, suspectedly from Acute Encephalitis Syndrome (AES), their reports and audits show the poor social conditions in the area – making this crisis all together predictable and preventable. A report in the *Times of India* says that the Bihar government did a social audit of 287 families affected by AES and found that 61 children who were affected by AES had not eaten the night before they fell sick. About 64% of the houses which were near litchi orchards said that their children who fell ill had eaten litchis. But in three fourths of these cases, care givers were not aware of AES or the kinds of treatment involved. A report in the *New Indian Express* said that the Bihar government skipped awareness drives about AES this year due to the Lok Sabha elections. Regarding any possibility of linkages between the AES deaths and litchis, the AIIMS team reportedly said that “the work was not sufficient to prove that the toxin is causative in all cases”. They have also recommended further investigations by the National Centre for Disease Control, **Indian Council for Medical Research**, National Institute of Virology and other institutions. Other government data shows that almost all medical centres in Muzaffarpur are rated at zero. Some were so poor in quality that they were not even considered fit for evaluation. There are apparently 103 primary health centres in the district while there should be at least 170. For a primary health centre to be considered worth evaluating, it needs to have a 24×7 centre with at least one medical officer, more than two nurse-mid wives and a labour room.

## India CRO Market Analysis Revealing Key Drivers, Growth Trends and Competitive Assessment through 2023

June 24, 2019/ Market Research Gazette

India has rapidly become one of the preferred destinations for clinical trials owing to its large heterogeneous patient pool, rapidly transforming healthcare market, highly educated physicians and cost competitiveness propels the market growth. In addition, increased investment from foreign companies as well as local market players either individually or in collaboration is likely to boost the market growth during the forecast period. Further, emerging research areas such as diagnostic research are expected to fuel the India CRO market. The India CRO market restraints are rising concern for security especially data security and patient security in clinical trials, lack of collaboration between universities and industry. Further, the compromises done by some India CROs on ethical and technical standards are the major market threat. The two important factors that are making India a favorable market for CRO include India’s acceptance of international guidelines and intellectual property rights. Other factors include the availability of the largest pool of patients and large hospitals, educated and accessible human resource (HR), low operational cost due to cheap HR, and lastly the presence of diverse types of climatic conditions that allow stability studies to be performed with ease in one destination. Some legal factors that favor the growth of India CRO market are efforts by the regulatory authorities such as Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Director Controller General of India (DCGI), Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT), and Indian **Council of Medical Research (ICMR)**.

## HC to govt.: Spell out steps to treat children with LSD

June 25, 2019/ The Hindu



The Madras High Court on Monday directed the Health Secretary to file an affidavit by July 4 listing steps taken by the State government to assist children suffering from Lysosomal Storage Disorders (LSD), a group of over 50 genetically inherited and potentially fatal disorders. Justices Vineet Kothari and C.V. Karthikeyan wanted to know the funds allocated for the treatment of children suffering from LSD and dedicated efforts. "Give us a six months overview of what you have done," the judges told a government counsel. The direction was issued after advocate V. Ramesh, representing LSD Support Society, told the court that though a high-level committee constituted by it in October 2017 had conducted about eight or nine meetings so far, nothing fruitful had come out of them and the children were yet to get enzyme replacement therapy (ERT). It was granted liberty to obtain opinions from **Indian Council of Medical Research** which had instituted a task force on Inborn Metabolic Disorder and Lysosomal Storage with the participation of doctors from the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Sri Ganga Ram Hospital and Maulana Azad Institute of Medical Sciences in New Delhi, Genetic Research Centre in Mumbai, Kasturba Medical College in Manipal and SAT Hospital in Thiruvananthapuram. "It appears that about one in 8,000 children born alive are afflicted by this disorder. The disorder causes accumulation of partially degraded compounds in vital organs which result in multi-organ malfunctions, adversely affecting the quality of life and eventually causing death. It appears that there are different types of LSDs of which Gaucher Disease, Pompe Disease, Fabry, Mucopolysaccharidosis (MPS)-I, II, IV and VI are treatable.

## Bihar: FIR against 39 people for protesting against water crisis, encephalitis deaths

June 25, 2019/ India Today

An FIR has been lodged against 39 people in Harivanshpur village of Vaishali district in Bihar on Tuesday after they protested over lack of water supply and death of several children due to Acute Encephalitis Syndrome (AES) in the area. Station House Officer (SHO) of the area confirmed the news. Till June 20, AES claimed lives of 117 children in Bihar, mostly in Muzaffarpur. Former dean of Research Cell of IGIMS, Patna, and former scientist with **Indian Council of Medical Research** at Patna, Dr Prabhat Kumar Sinha, "AES affects central nervous system, mostly in children, starting with high fever. It then disrupts neurological functions causing mental disorientation, seizure, coma and death." The disease has affected 222 blocks in 12 districts, especially in Muzaffarpur, Vaishali, Sheohar and East Champaran. The fear of Acute Encephalitis Syndrome has grown so much in the area that villagers are vacating their homes. People of Harivanshpur village of Vaishali district have left their homes due to fear of acute encephalitis syndrome (AES). Most families have shifted their children to other villages after the outbreak of the disease to save them from the deadly disease. Earlier, it was assumed that the disease is caused by the fruit litchi. However, Director of the National Research Centre on Litchi Dr Vishal Nath rubbished the claims that litchi was responsible for the deaths of so many children in Bihar. Speaking to India Today TV, Dr Vishal Nath said, "There is no connection between the outbreak of encephalitis and litchi." According to the relatives of persons against whom FIR has been registered, "Our children have died. We did road gherao, but administration has filed FIR against us.



### 3-day research methodology workshop begins at GMC Srinagar

June 25, 2019/ Kashmir Reader



SRINAGAR: The Department of Community Medicine, Government Medical College, Srinagar on Monday started the 12th three-day research methodology workshop. According to a statement, the workshop is attended by faculty and resident doctors of Government Medical College, Srinagar, SKIMS, SKIMS Medical College, Deshbagat University and Directorate of Animal Husbandry, Kashmir. The visiting resource experts include Dr Shariq Masoodi, Professor of Endocrinology SKIMS and Dr Ashoo Grover, head, research methodology unit, **Indian Council of Medical Research** headquarters, New Delhi while in-house faculty included Dr Muhammad Salim Khan, Dr Mohammad Iqbal Pandit, Dr Inaamul Haq, Dr Mariya Amin Qurieshi and Dr Rifat Jan. During these three days, research related topics shall be covered which include, research question, ethics, designs, sampling, protocol development, Mendeley reference manager, review of literature, data management etc. The workshop is accredited by J&K State Medical Council with 12 CME credit hours, said Dr S. Muhammad Salim Khan HOD and organising chairman.

### Research Methodology workshop begins at GMC Srinagar

June 25, 2019/ Greater Kashmir

The Department of Community Medicine, Government Medical College, Srinagar today started 12th three-day research methodology workshop. The workshop was attended by faculty and resident doctors of Government Medical College, Srinagar, SKIMS, SKIMS Medical college, Deshbagat University and Directorate of Animal Husbandry, Kashmir. The organizers said the visiting resource experts are Dr. Shariq Masoodi, Professor of Endocrinology SKIMS and Dr. Ashoo Grover, Scientist-E and head, Research Methodology unit, **Indian Council of Medical Research** Headquarters, New Delhi. The in-house faculty includes Dr. Muhammad Salim Khan, Dr. Muhammad Iqbal Pandit, Dr. Inaamul Haq, Dr Mariya Amin Qureshi and Dr. Rifat Jan. During the workshop, related topics shall be covered which include research question, ethics, designs, sampling, protocol development, Mendeley reference manager, review of literature, data management. The workshop is accredited by J&K State Medical Council with 12 CME credit hours,” said Dr. S. Muhammad Salim Khan HOD and organising chairman.

### Indian govt must end violation of bodily integrity and health of women

June 25, 2019/ Milli Gazette

The Asian Legal Resource Centre (ALRC) wishes to draw the attention of the Human Rights Council to the continuing violation of women’s bodily integrity in India exposing them to serious health consequences in India. Though the abuse of women, including the violation of their bodily integrity is widely prevalent and well documented, a recent report has pushed the extent of the same even further. The report by The Hindu Business Line, a reputed newspaper in India, found that women working in sugarcane fields in Beed district of the state of Maharashtra are being forced to remove their uterus for getting jobs. The rationale behind this that cane cutting is rigorous work with deadlines, and menstruation hinders it. The deadlines are so important that skipping even a day’s work invites a penalty of Rs 500; quite a sum for the Indian poor, most of whom live under Rs 100 (roughly USD 1.75). Further, the women are not only forced to remove their wombs, they

are also forced to pay the expenses for the same too; the modus operandi is that the contractors pay for the medical procedure first, and then deduce the same from their wages and pushing them into almost debt-bondage. This was not the only such trial though, seven tribal girls had perished in an **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)** and the state government conducted post-licensure clinical trials to test the efficacy of the human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine in Khammam in Andhra Pradesh and Vadodara in Gujarat in 2010. The authorities in India admitted to 2,061 clinical trial-related deaths between 2008 and 2011, a majority of them being women. Though in the wake of the deaths, the Supreme Court of India had halted 157 other trials with immediate effect in 2013, there are reports of many more trials being conducted since then. At times, the women in India get violated even because of the supposedly welfare schemes of the state- for example female sterilisation for meagre cash and other incentives. Almost all of them from the most poor and marginalized backgrounds, they are pushed by their husbands/families to go for these procedures mostly conducted in makeshift camps with no facilities and compromised hygienic standards. The conditions in these camps are often so bad that the doctors, in rush to meet government given “targets” – the euphemism India uses for population control – use the same instruments with many women without even sterilizing them.

### **Global Angiotensin Converting Enzymes (ACE) Inhibitors Market to Surpass US\$ 12.4 Billion by 2026**

June 25, 2019/ PRNewswire

SEATTLE, June 25, 2019 /PRNewswire/ -- According to Coherent Market Insights, the global angiotensin converting enzymes (ACE) inhibitors market was valued at US\$ 11,693.6 million in 2017, and is projected to exhibit a CAGR of 0.8% during the forecast period (2018 – 2026).

#### **Key Trends and Analysis of Angiotensin Converting Enzymes (ACE) Inhibitors Market:**

Increasing launch of new products for the treatment of hypertension is expected to drive growth of the angiotensin converting enzyme (ACE) inhibitors market. For instance, in March 2018, Sandoz Canada announced the launch of new generic alternative therapies, Coversyl (containing Perindopril Arginine) and Coversyl Plus (containing Perindopril Arginine and Indapamide Hemihydrate) for treatment of hypertension. Moreover, in January 2017, Silvergate Pharmaceuticals, Inc. launched Epaned (containing Enalapril), an oral solution, for the treatment of hypertension, symptomatic heart failure, and asymptomatic left ventricular dysfunction in adults and children. Therefore, increasing launch of new products is expected to support growth of the ACE inhibitors market. Increasing drug approval activities by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is also expected to boost the angiotensin converting enzymes (ACE) inhibitors market growth. For instance, in August 2016, Silvergate Pharmaceutical Inc. received the U.S. FDA approval for its Qbrelis, containing Lisinopril, an oral solution 1 mg/ml. This drug is indicated for the treatment of hypertension in adults and children. Among regions, North America angiotensin converting enzymes (ACE) inhibitors market is expected to account for the largest market share over the forecast period, owing to increasing number of research and development activities in this region. For instance, in December 2016, Novartis Pharmaceuticals initiated clinical phase III study by using Ramipril, valsartan, placebo of Ramipril, and valsartan for the treatment of acute myocardial infraction. This study is expected to complete in July 2020.

## Key Market Takeaways:



- The global angiotensin converting enzymes (ACE) inhibitors market is projected to witness a CAGR of 0.8% during the forecast period (2018 – 2026), owing to increasing prevalence of hypertension. For instance, according to the World Health Organization's report, around 207 million people annually suffer from hypertension in India.
- Among regions, Asia Pacific is expected to witness significant growth in the angiotensin converting enzymes (ACE) inhibitors market, owing to increasing awareness activities of hypertension and its prevention in this region. For instance, in May 2018, **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)** announced the launch of awareness campaign on hypertension in collaboration with Public Health Foundation of India.
- Major players operating in the global angiotensin converting enzymes (ACE) inhibitors market include, Pfizer, Inc., AstraZeneca Pharmaceutical Company, Novartis AG, Daiichi Sankyo Company, Ltd., United Therapeutics Corporation, Sanofi S.A., Johnson & Johnson Services, Inc., Merck KGaA, Takeda Pharmaceutical Company, and Bayer AG.

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June 25, 2019/ Yahoo Finance

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## Scientists find new biomarker for malaria

June 26, 2019/ Telangana Today

Hyderabad: Detection of malaria infection could become more accurate soon. A team of researchers from **Indian Council of Medical Research's** Jabalpur-based National Institute of Research in Tribal Health (NIRTH) has identified a genetic sequence in the body of malaria parasite that promises to help develop a more sensitive diagnostic test for the disease. Currently, tests used for diagnosing malaria are based on a gene, Histidine rich Protein 2 (HRP2), which is rich in an amino acid called Histidine. However, studies have shown that this gene is often absent in some strains of the malaria parasite. Consequently, significant levels of malaria infection were going undetected. Scientists across the world have been searching for new biomarkers that would be more effective. Scientists at the NIRTH have found that an enzyme called glutamate dehydrogenase could offer a solution. "Our study provides scientific evidence for the conserved nature of glutamate dehydrogenase sequences in Indian isolates which can be used as a potential biomarker for diagnosis of malaria," said Dr. Praveen Kumar Bharti, leader of the research team. There are several specific genes in every parasite that can be targeted to identify or kill it. However, these genes are not present in equal measure in all the strains of a parasite. While identifying the genes or proteins for diagnostic or therapeutic purposes, scientists choose a gene or protein that shows the least variation across different regions so that it can be used in as wide an area as possible. In scientific terms, such a gene is considered to be well conserved.

## Bridging the cleft: How advances in facial surgery have made cleft lips easily treatable

June 27, 2019/ The News Minute

For as long as 12-year-old Preethy (name changed) could remember, the eyes of everyone she met were drawn automatically to her upper-lip before they took in the rest of her. Along with the blatant stares came either pity or scorn, often in equal measure. And since her disability also made speaking significantly difficult, Preethy, hailing from Anantapur district in Andhra, found herself doubly isolated

and rejected. What's worse, even her own family seemed to never support and care for her the way she needed them to. Born with a cleft lip and palate, Preethy could have easily been spared this story of everyday neglect and pain. But ignorance, poverty or superstition mean that she and thousands like her continue to suffer. Cleft lip or palate anomalies are the most common birth defects affecting the facial region. According to one study by the **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)**, roughly 35,000 children are estimated to be born with this condition in India every year. Despite such a high number of cases, however, a lack of public awareness haunts victims of this congenital condition, says Dr JA Nathan, maxillo-facial surgeon at Apollo Hospitals, Chennai.

**Gastric Cancer Therapy Market 2019 is Projected to Exhibit a CAGR of 13% during the Forecast period 2023 Includes business research, Key players, Revenue Size and Share, Complete Industry Analysis**

June 27, 2019/ Best Direct

**Growing Incidence of Gastric Cancer**

According to a report published by **Indian Council of Medical Research** in 2014, gastric cancer is the fourth leading cancer in the world, accounting for 736,000 deaths. Around 1 million new cases of gastric cancer and 0.7 million deaths due to gastric cancer are reported every year. Age-standardized incidence rates are approximately twice as high in men as in women. Presently, gastric cancer is more common in Asia, than in the United States or Europe. Notably, 42% of cases occur in China alone. Thus, increasing incidence of gastric cancer, coupled with strong drug pipeline, and introduction of novel therapies for metastatic stomach cancer, across the world, are likely to drive the market for gastric cancer therapy.

**High Cost of Cancer Therapy and Side Effects of Cancer Drugs**

The global cost of cancer therapy and drugs increased from USD 91 billion to USD 113 billion, in 2016. High cost of therapy and adverse events associated with the existing cancer drugs, for treatment of stomach cancer, may hinder the global stomach cancer market. The serious side effects associated with the usage of drugs include autoimmune reactions and infusion reactions. Additionally, a large patient pool undiagnosed with gastric cancer and the lack of awareness regarding gastric cancer are likely to impede the growth of the global cancer therapy market.

**Asia-Pacific to Dominate the Market**

Asia-Pacific dominates the global gastric cancer therapy market, owing to high incidence of stomach cancer in that region. China is expected to show a tremendous growth for this market, during the forecast period, owing to factors, such as high prevalence of obesity, and growing awareness about diabetes care. The growing incidence of gastric cancer in China is followed by Japan and Korea. China accounts for over 40% of all new gastric cancer cases in the world, which will drive the market for gastric cancer therapy in China.



**Pilot scheme on fortification of rice and distribution through PDS approved by govt: WCD Ministry**



June 27, 2019/ Business Standard

A centrally-sponsored pilot scheme on fortification of rice and its dispersal through Public Distribution System (PDS) has been approved by the government, the Women and Child Development Ministry said on Thursday. Fortification is a complementary strategy to fight malnutrition under which the addition of key vitamins and minerals such as iron, iodine, zinc, vitamins A & D to staple foods such as rice, wheat, oil, milk and salt are done to improve their nutritional content. Replying to a Rajya Sabha question, WCD Minister Smriti Irani said, according to information received from the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, the Department of Food and Public Distribution has approved the "Centrally Sponsored Pilot Scheme on fortification of rice and its distribution through Public Distribution System." "Financial assistance of up to 90 per cent in case of North-Eastern, Hilly and Island States and up to 75 per cent in case of rest of the States has been extended. "Further, the Government of India has also advised all states and UTs especially those states and UTs, that are distributing wheat flour through PDS, to distribute fortified wheat flour through PDS," she said, in a written reply. She further said that the requirement of nutrients in children varies with age, gender and nutritional status of the children. The Recommended Dietary Allowance for Indian population is finalized by the National Institute of Nutrition **Indian Council of Medical Research** (NIN-ICMR) based on the recommendations of the Expert Group, based on individual variability and nutrient bio-availability from the habitual diet, she said.

**Pilot scheme on fortification of rice and distribution through PDS approved by Govt**

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## [The global advanced medical stopcock market is expected to reach US\\$ 1,167.6 Mn in 2027 from US\\$ 841.3 Mn in 2018](#)



June 27, 2019/ PRNewswire

The market is driven by the factors such as, growing incidence of chronic diseases, rapidly growing number of surgical procedures and growing geriatric population. However, the market is likely to face challenge such as safety concern while using stopcocks, which is likely to impact the market minutely. For the geriatric population the advanced medical stopcock are used along with the infusion pumps. As the infusion pumps are used for the administration of medication/ hormone/ nutrition and others. Elderly population is defined as group of people aged 65 and over. Population ageing is poised to become one of the most significant social transformations of the twenty-first century. According to the report of United Nations, in 2017, there were approximately 962 million people aged 60 or over across the globe, that consists of 13% of the global population. The population aged 60 or above is growing at a rate of about 3 per cent per year. Across the globe, the number of persons aged 80 or above is projected to triple by 2050. The approximate population is around 137 million in 2017 which will reach up to 425 million in 2050. The value is expected to increase to 909 million in 2100, around seven times its value in 2017. The elderly people are more likely to have cancer, cardiovascular diseases, organ failure, diabetes and more. With increase in the number of geriatric population, the prevalence of the chronic diseases has increased. The treatment procedures become more complicated in the elder population than younger people, and the effect of the disease on quality of life is particularly deep in this population. The elder group of people also require enteral feeding for their daily nutrition, thus the usage of the medical stopcocks are required in more quantity. Thus, owing to the above mentioned factors the market for the advanced medical stopcocks is likely to grow during the forecast period. Global advanced medical stopcock market was segmented by type, and end user. The type segment was classified as low-pressure stopcocks, medium-pressure stopcocks and high-pressure stopcocks. And on the basis of the end user the market is classified as hospitals & clinics, ambulatory surgery centers, and homecare. Some of the major primary and secondary sources included in the report for the advanced medical stopcock market are World Health Organization, American Australian Influenza Surveillance Report, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Dubai Health Authority, **Indian Council of Medical Research**, Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation, International Society of Aesthetic Plastic Surgery and others.

## [State government urged to ban e-cigarettes](#)

June 28, 2019/ Times of India

PANAJI: Based on the recommendations of **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)** to ban e-cigarettes, National Organisation for Tobacco Eradication (NOTE) has urged chief minister Pramod Sawant and health minister Vishwajit Rane to ban e-cigarettes in the state. Backed by research studies on electronic nicotine delivery systems (ENDS), the NOTE and Consumer Voice, a Delhi-based voluntary organisation had appealed to Central and state governments to ban such devices across India. The NOTE, in its submission to the state government, has quoted recently released white paper on ENDS advocating complete prohibition of e-cigarettes across the country to protect public health. NOTE secretary, Shekhar

Salkar, said that according to a global adult tobacco survey report, 9.7% adults in Goa consume tobacco in some or the other form. “The newer forms of addictions are destroying our younger generation,” Salkar said. “Several research studies have time and again proven that e-cigarettes are as dangerous as tobacco cigarettes. E-cigarettes are being marketed as a harm reduction and ‘safe’ product, which is contrary to the truth” chief operating officer of Consumer VOICE, Ashim Sanyal, said. In August 2018, ministry of health and family welfare had issued an advisory to all states and union territories to ensure that ENDS, e-nicotine flavoured hookah, or any such devices that enable nicotine delivery are not manufactured, distributed, traded, imported and advertised within their jurisdiction. Salkar said e-cigarettes are battery-powered devices used to smoke or ‘vape’ a flavoured solution containing a varying concentration of nicotine, an addictive chemical found in cigarettes and other forms of tobacco products.



### **If You Block An Ambulance, You'll Now Have To Pay A Fine Of Rs 10,000**

June 28, 2019/ inUth.com

**The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)** says in its report that around half of those who suffer heart attacks take over 400 minutes to reach a hospital. Although this number might go down soon as a fine of Rs 10,000 will be imposed on those who do not give way to the emergency services. Other than increasing fines for those offences such as drinking and driving and overloading of vehicles, changes to The Motor Vehicles Bill has added vehicles which block ambulances on the road. This comes as welcome move among ambulance managers and drivers who report witnessing multiple deaths in a month owing to the late arrival of the ambulance. Harmanpreet Singh, an ambulance manager, told The Tribune, “Whenever we reach any accident spot late due to traffic bottlenecks, the delay risks the lives of serious patients. Therefore, it was necessary to take action against commuters who do not give way for ambulances, as every four out of 10 patients bear the brunt of delay by the ambulance services.”

### **University of Hyderabad faculty awarded**

June 28, 2019/ The Hans India

Hyderabad: Prof Ravi Kumar Gutti, Professor in the Department of Biochemistry, School of Life Sciences, University of Hyderabad has been awarded the Keystone Symposia - Global Health Award funded by the University of Hong Kong and the Croucher Foundation. Prof Ravi Kumar will be presenting his research work in October 2019 at a meeting on Cancer Stem Cells: Advances in Biology and Clinical Translation, in Lee Shau Kee Lecture Centre of The University of Hong Kong in Pok Fu Lam, Hong Kong. Keystone Symposia, a non-profit organization dedicated to connecting the scientific community for the benefit of the world community and accelerating life. Prof Ravi Kumar's research interest is in stem cell biology and particularly on post-transcriptional regulators (non-coding RNAs) involved in platelet production. His advanced research is supported and funded by many government bodies such as DBT, DST, **ICMR**, CSIR and UGC.



## H1N1 Influenza-438 Positive, 27 Deaths In J&K This Year

June 28, 2019/ Kashmir Observer



SRINAGAR — Twenty seven people died due to swine flu in Jammu and Kashmir this year so far, government of India informed parliament on Friday. In all, 1076 people died of the H1N1 influenza in India and highest number of deaths occurred in Rajasthan (205) followed by Maharashtra with 189 deaths and 146 in Madhya Pradesh. Responding to a question in Lok Sabha, Minister of State Health and Family Welfare Ashwini Kumar Choubey said 438 H1N1 cases were registered and of them 27 people died. In a total, he said 26,140 cases were registered and 1,076 deaths have been reported in India due to Seasonal Influenza (H1N1) till June 23. He said as per the Constitutional provisions, health is a State subject and primary responsibility of health matters rest with the States and UTs. However, the Central Government has been closely monitoring the Seasonal Influenza situation and have been in regular touch with the States and UTs on the issues and have taken numerous measures to contain and manage the Seasonal Influenza (H1N1), he said. Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP) and its State units have enhanced the surveillance for Influenza like Illness (ILI) and Severe Acute Respiratory Infections (SARI), he said. “During the year 2018, 3 batches of training were organized on ventilator management and management of critically ill influenza patients in the months of May and June,2018 in which 14 States with 102 participants were oriented.” Further, he said, Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme(IDSP) assisted lab network of 12 Laboratories are providing laboratory support in terms of testing, quality assurance, guidance, providing viral transport mediums and diagnostic reagents. “The diagnostic capacity has also been strengthened by **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)** through more than 41 Virus Research Diagnostic Laboratories (VRDL) to test clinical samples (6 labs are common to both IDSP and ICMR).”

## H1N1 Influenza-438 Tested Positive,27 Deaths Reported In J&K This Year So Far:GoI

June 28, 2019/ MENAFN.COM

(MENAFN - Kashmir Observer) SRINAGAR — Twenty seven people died due to swine flu in Jammu and Kashmir this year so far, government of India informed parliament on Friday. In all, 1076 people died of the H1N1 influenza in India and highest number of deaths occurred in Rajasthan (205) followed by Maharashtra with 189 deaths and 146 in Madhya Pradesh. Responding to a question in Lok Sabha, Minister of State Health and Family Welfare Ashwini Kumar Choubey said 438 H1N1 cases were registered and of them 27 people died. In a total, he said 26,140 cases were registered and 1,076 deaths have been reported in India due to Seasonal Influenza (H1N1) till June 23. He said as per the Constitutional provisions, health is a State subject and primary responsibility of health matters rest with the States and UTs. However, the Central Government has been closely monitoring the Seasonal Influenza situation and have been in regular touch with the States and UTs on the issues and have taken numerous measures to contain and manage the Seasonal Influenza (H1N1), he said. The situation, he said, was reviewed by the Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare on 25 April 2018 and 16 October 2018 and by Union Health Secretary on 6 February this year and at the level of Union Additional Secretary (Health) on 21 January 2019. Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP) and its State units have enhanced the

surveillance for Influenza like Illness (ILI) and Severe Acute Respiratory Infections (SARI), he said. 'During the year 2018, 3 batches of training were organized on ventilator management and management of critically ill influenza patients in the months of May and June, 2018 in which 14 States with 102 participants were oriented.' Further, he said, Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP) assisted lab network of 12 Laboratories are providing laboratory support in terms of testing, quality assurance, guidance, providing viral transport mediums and diagnostic reagents. 'The diagnostic capacity has also been strengthened by **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)** through more than 41 Virus Research Diagnostic Laboratories (VRDL) to test clinical samples (6 labs are common to both IDSP and ICMR).'



### **Can India remove the infamous tag of World Diabetics Capital?**

June 29, 2019/ ETHealthworld.com

On the global health stage, Diabetes is one of the most talked topic. Health advocates are now admitting that if the diabetics population will keep on growing at this alarming rate, it will soon emerge as the biggest epidemics of modern era. It is sadly the fourth leading cause of death in developed countries making it one the most deadly Non Communicable disease. As per a report by the **Indian Council of Medical Research**, the Public Health Foundation of India and Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation, 72 million Indians suffer from Type-2 diabetes today and is expected to almost double to 134 million by 2025. Unfortunately on the global health stage, India bears the infamous tag of being the Diabetic Capital of the world. For a progressive nation that is making a steady progress in healthcare, the negative reputation need utmost attention of policy makers, healthcare system and public at large. We can't afford to ignore the growing menace of Diabetes and other NCDs. Sedentary lifestyle and unhealthy diet patterns are key factors driving the growth of Non Communicable diseases in the country. As per WHO, Non-communicable diseases kill 41 million people each year, equivalent to 71% of all deaths globally. Each year, 15 million people die from a NCD between the ages of 30 and 69 years; over 85% of these "premature" deaths occur in low- and middle-income countries. WHO's fact sheet on diabetes states that an estimated 3.4 million deaths are caused due to high blood sugar in the world. Today Indian consumer is strongly inclined to natural solutions that improve health and wellness. Consumers are increasingly becoming aware of the need to embrace healthier lifestyles and fight lifestyle led Non Communicable diseases. 'The Eat Right Movement' launched by Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) is a great initiative to promote safe and healthy food in India. As part of the initiative, a majority of Indian and global F&B giants took pledge to reduce the level of salt, sugar and fat in food products. 'Ek Chammach Kam' campaign launched jointly by Municipal corporation of Greater Mumbai (MCGM) and Public Health Department, also created high decibel awareness about non-communicable diseases (NCDs) in India.

### **ICMR-DHR International Fellowship awarded to UoH Faculty**

June 30, 2019/ Telangana Today

Hyderabad: Dr Radheshyam Maurya, Assistant Professor at the Department of Animal Biology, School of Life Sciences, University of Hyderabad (UoH) has been awarded the long term **ICMR-DHR** International Fellowship for the year 2019-2020. He will be hosted by the renowned Leishmania biologist, Dr David Sacks,

Chief, Intracellular Parasite Biology, National Institute Allergy and Infectious Disease (NIAID), NIH, Bethesda, MD, USA, a leading medical research institute in the world, according to a press release. The proposed titled of his research is 'A study on epigenetic modification of the host macrophage genome during Leishmania infection' to understand host pathogens interactions in the pathogenesis of Visceral Leishmaniasis, the release added. Now you can get handpicked stories from Telangana Today on WhatsApp /Telegram everyday. Click these links to subscribe and save this number 9182563636 on your contacts.



### **Bihar encephalitis outbreak: Litchi alone not responsible for spread of AES among children**

June 30, 2019/ India Today

With not many new cases of children affected with the dreaded Acute encephalitis syndrome (AES) surfacing across Bihar, the focus of Nitish government has now shifted on what causes the killer syndrome and what needs to be done to prevent its recurrence. Following Chief Minister's directive to this effect, the Muzaffarpur district administration has initiated an investigation into the case of 672 children who were admitted with AES. More than 150 children have died this year because of AES across various districts of Bihar. Most of the deaths have been attributed to low blood sugar level (hypoglycemia). AES has affected 222 blocks in 12 districts, Muzaffarpur, Vaishali, Sheohar and East Champaran being the worst hit. AES, incidentally, is an umbrella medical condition named by WHO where children are admitted to hospitals with clinical neurological manifestations which include mental confusion, disorientation, convulsion, delirium or coma. Preliminary medical investigation has also identified litchi fruit as a possible cause that triggers hypoglycaemic encephalopathy. In 2012-2013, a two-member team including virologist Dr T Jacob John and Senior Pediatrician Dr Arun Shah had picked a particular toxin found in litchi fruit that was responsible for causing hypoglycaemic encephalopathy. It often develops hypoglycemia. Our brain needs normal levels of glucose in the blood to function. When the liver fails to supply the need, an alternate pathway of glucose synthesis, called fatty acid oxidation, is switched on in our bodies. However, Methylene cyclopropyl glycine (MCPG) a known content of litchi fruit blocks this pathway, leading to seizures and in many cases, death, said Dr Prabhat Kumar Sinha, ex-dean Research of IGIMS Patna and also a former scientist with **Indian Council of Medical Research** at Patna.

### **ICMR fellowship for UoH faculty**

June 30, 2019/ Telangana Today

Hyderabad: Dr. Radheshyam Maurya Assistant Professor at the Department of Animal Biology School of Life Sciences, University of Hyderabad (UoH) has been awarded the long term ICMR-DHR International Fellowship for the year 2019-2020. He will be hosted by the renowned Leishmania biologist, Dr. David Sacks Chief Intracellular Parasite Biology, National Institute Allergy and Infectious Disease (NIAID), NIH, Bethesda, MD, USA, a leading medical research institute in the world, according to a press release. The proposed titled of his research is 'A study on epigenetic modification of the host macrophage genome during Leishmania infection', which intends to understand host pathogens Interactions in the pathogenesis of Visceral Leishmaniasis, the release added. Now you can get handpicked stories from Telangana Today on WhatsApp /Telegram everyday. Click these links to subscribe and save this number 9182563636 on your contacts.

## [In a severely congested 'smart' city, what are PSUs, Western Railways, BSF doing in Delhi?](#)



July 01, 2019/ COUNTERVIEW

One of the early text books I read on political economy started with a scenario set in Sao Paulo, Brazil, a city with huge traffic problems in the 1970s and 1980s, with a traffic jam at a major crossing on a hot summers day, that turns into a gridlock, and then leads to people abandoning their cars unable to bear the severe heat, only aggravating the problems. This then leads to outbreaks of road rage, fistfights and soon into a welter of riots and inflicting a severe breakdown of law and order, that then spreads to others parts of Brazil. Brazil tackled the problem with its characteristic simple out of the box thinking. Sao Paulo still functions. I think India is now a better candidate to revolution coming out of a traffic jam. In India apart from the ministries, departments and agencies, we also have a concentration of public sector undertakings (PSU) corporate offices in New Delhi. Many of these actually need not be here. Lets take a few to illustrate this. Why is the Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) required to be in New Delhi? Why must the Director General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) be in the capital? It goes just as well for the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP), Central Industrial Security Force (CISF), Sashasta Seema Bal (SSB), Border Security Force (BSF), Indian Coastal Guard (ICG), Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), **The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)**, Indian Council of Historical Research (ICHR), Steel Authority of India Ltd (SAIL), Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd (BHEL), and so many others who make for a crowded alphabet soup in New Delhi. Delhi also has a Delhi government, several municipal corporations to add to the overcrowding. Then we must ask as to why the New Delhi Municipal Corporation (NDMC) has to be on Sansad Marg, and the Delhi High Court sitting almost next door to the Supreme Court? Apparently there is a magnetism that draws almost every other national organization to be as close as possible to that small part of India where the national leadership lives and works. Shifting many of these out of New Delhi will not in anyway impair their abilities.

## [Punjab MPs worried over cancer cases](#)

July 02, 2019/ The Hindu

Union Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar on Tuesday told the Lok Sabha that there was no scientific evidence to link the use of fertilizers and pesticides with cancer. The Minister's reply came after two Punjab MPs, Ravneet Singh Bittu (Congress) and Bhagwant Mann (Aam Admi Party), spoke of an alarming rise in cases of cancer in the State's Malwa region because of the excessive use of fertilizers. The Congress MP said so many patients from Punjab were travelling to Bikaner by train to get themselves treated for cancer that the train had come to be known as the "cancer train". The Minister said the **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)** put the incidence of cancer in Punjab to 100-110 for every 1,00,000 individuals, which was almost equal to the national average. "The Punjab government has also reported that the consumption of fertilizer has no link with prevalence of cancer in Punjab," he said. Mr. Tomar asked the Punjab government to join the Ayushman Bharat central health insurance scheme under which free cancer treatment up to 5 lakh could be availed. Food Processing Minister Harsimrat Kaur Badal, who represents the Bhatinda Lok Sabha constituency, alleged that the Punjab government had stopped funding support to a multi-specialty hospital in the State.



## [Uterus, breast cancer rising among younger women in Bengaluru](#)

July 02, 2019/ The New Indian Express



BENGALURU: The annual percentage change in breast cancer and uterine cancer cases is the highest among women in Bengaluru, according to data released by **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)**. The findings of the country's apex medical research body come as a warning flag for women in the Silicon City, as it is witnessing a 6.3 per cent highest annual percentage change in the corpus uteri, typically referred to as endometrial cancer that arises from the epithelial lining of the uterine cavity. According to findings released in Cancer Monograph 2019, there are more female cancer cases in Bengaluru than male cases. "Endometrial cancer or cancer of the corpus uteri is primarily a disease of postmenopausal women, although 25 per cent of cases occurs in premenopausal patients too. It is more an urban disease," Dr Ramachandra of Kidwai Oncology Institute said. Experts say uterine, breast and cervical cancers go unnoticed in rural areas because of lack of ample diagnostics facilities. "Most of the cancers come to us in advanced stages," said Dr B Ramesh, medical director, Altius Hospital, Bengaluru. According to ICMR, cancer of the cervix has been the most important cancer in women in India over the past two decades. The monograph document has highlighted that there continues to be an urban-rural divide for cancer of the cervix. "As of today, in the urban PBCRs, cervical cancer ranks at number two, following breast cancer. However, in rural areas, cervical cancer is still a leading site of cancer among females," the monograph said.

## [Association promoting ENDS urges govt to consult industry before banning e-cigarettes](#)

July 02, 2019/ Business Standard

An umbrella body of trade representatives promoting Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENDS) including e-cigarettes has urged the government to refrain from rushing into any proposals to ban such devices without consulting stakeholders or examining the facts. The voluntary association of Trade Representatives of ENDS in India (TRENDS) comprising importers, distributors, and marketers of such "alternative" smoking devices has suggested that the government should initiate a consultative process so that opinion of all stakeholders can be heard and facts placed in the correct perspective. ENDS are devices that heat a solution to create an aerosol, which also frequently contains flavours, usually dissolved into propylene glycol and glycerin. There are various types of ENDS devices like e-cigarettes, heat-not-burn devices, vape, e-sheesha, e-nicotine flavoured hookah among others. In a white paper released recently, the **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)** said e-cigarettes adversely affects the cardiovascular system, impairs respiratory immune cell function and airways in a way similar to cigarette smoking and is responsible for severe respiratory diseases. It also poses risk to foetal, infant and child brain development, the white paper claimed. In August last year, the Union Health Ministry issued an advisory to all states and Union Territories to stop manufacture, sale and import of ENDS. The advisory was subsequently challenged in the Delhi High Court which ruled it to be non-binding on states and government bodies. However, some states, including Punjab, Karnataka, Kerala, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Jharkhand, Rajasthan and Mizoram have already banned use and sale of e-cigarettes, vape and e-hookah.

## [Children of incarcerated parents vulnerable to insensitivity, says a study conducted by JMI's Department of Social Work](#)



July 02, 2019/ India Today

A study conducted by the Department of Social Work, Jamia Millia Islamia (JMI) on the children of incarcerated parents has revealed that the stigma has made them vulnerable to insensitivity, ridicule, and harassment from their relatives, peers, and teachers with a few exceptions. The research study titled 'Predictors/Determinants of Psycho-social Health among Children of Incarcerated Parents', conducted during the period of years from June 1, 2017, in Delhi covered 72 children of incarcerated parents between the age group of six to 18 years living in the community along with their past and present caregivers. Forty families and members of three civil organizations engaged in dealing with the issue were also interviewed during the course of the research. The research was conducted by a team, led by Professor Neelam Sukhramani, the Principal Investigator. Dr. Sigamani Panneer, was Co-Principal Investigator. Other team members were Shivangi Gupta, Navnee Gupta, and Shahnshah Alam. It was carried out with funding support from **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)**.

## [Deaths due to Non-Communicable Diseases in India in 2016 was 61.8 pc: Govt](#)

July 02, 2019/ United News of India

New Delhi, Jul 2 (UNI) The contribution of Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) to total death in the country was 61.8 per cent in 2016, as compared to 37.9 per cent in 1990, claims an **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)** report titled "India: Health of the Nation's States", the Rajya Sabha was informed on Tuesday. 'In Kerala, Goa and Tamil Nadu, due to epidemiological transition, fewer deaths are recorded for Communicable, maternal, neonatal and nutritional diseases, thereby raising share of NCDs in total deaths,' said Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare Ashwini Kumar Choubey in a written reply, here. Risk factors for NCDs inter alia include ageing, unhealthy diet, lack of physical activity, high blood pressure, high blood sugar, high cholesterol and overweight.

## [ICMR Report On Non Communicable Diseases; India: Health of the Nation's States](#)

July 02, 2019/ The India Saga

According to **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)** report entitled "India: Health of the Nation's States", Contribution of Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) to total death in the Country was 61.8% in 2016, as compared to 37.9% in 1990. Tuberculosis is a Communicable Disease. In the States of Kerala, Goa and Tamil Nadu, due to epidemiological transition, fewer deaths are recorded for Communicable, maternal, neonatal and nutritional diseases, thereby raising the share of NCDs in total deaths. Risk factors for NCDs inter alia include ageing, unhealthy diet, lack of physical activity, high blood pressure, , high blood sugar, high cholesterol and overweight. Though public health is a State subject, Central Government supplements the efforts of the State Governments. National Programme for Prevention and Control of Cancer, Diabetes, Cardiovascular Diseases and Stroke (NPCDCS) is being implemented under the National Health Mission (NHM). The objectives of the programme include health promotion activities and opportunistic screening for common Non Communicable Diseases

(NCDs) including cancer. Population based screening of common NCDs, i.e. diabetes, hypertension and cancers (Oral, Breast and Cervical cancer) has also been initiated under National Health Mission (NHM). Key components of population based screening include community based risk assessment, screening, referral, and follow up of all individuals of 30 years and above for common NCDs (hypertension, diabetes, oral cancer, breast cancer and cervical cancer). The initiative will help in early diagnosis and will generate awareness on risk factors of NCDs.



### **Fertilizer consumption has no link with cancer in Punjab: Government**

July 02, 2019/ SocialNews.XYZ

New Delhi, July 2 (IANS) Consumption of fertilizers has no link to the prevalence of cancer diseases in Punjab, Union Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar informed the Lok Sabha on Tuesday. The issue came up after MP from Ludhiana Ravneet Singh Bittu raised a question on the rise in the number of cancer cases in the state. "The **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)** has said that according to the Cancer Registry of Punjab, the incidence of cancer cases was 100-110 for every 100,000 individuals which is almost equal to the national average. The Punjab government has also reported that the consumption of fertilizer has no link with prevalence of cancer in Punjab," said Tomar. The National Programme for Prevention and Control of Cancer, Diabetes, Cardiovascular Diseases and Stroke (NPCDCS) is also being implemented for interventions up to the district level which includes awareness generation for Cancer prevention, screening, early detection and referral to an appropriate level institution for treatment. "Strengthening of Tertiary Care Cancer facilities Scheme is being implemented to support setting up of State Cancer Institutes (SCI) and Tertiary Care Cancer Centres (TCCC) in different parts of the country," said Tomar. The government is also making efforts to promote judicious use of fertilizers with the cooperation of state governments. Farmers are also being educated as part of the scheme.

### **The Cancer Foundation Challenges The White Paper on ENDS by ICMR**

July 02, 2019/ Devdiscourse

In a letter to the Minister of Health and Family Welfare, the Prime Minister's Office and the **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)**, The Cancer Foundation - a non-profit organisation involved in multi-aspect alleviation of the cancer problem, shared a rebuttal to the white paper released by ICMR on May 29, 2019. In the letter, referencing the white paper which called for a complete ban on Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENDS), The Cancer Foundation (CF) expresses concern that both ICMR and the Government of India are taking a one-sided view of the situation and a contrarian viewpoint should be given due consideration with a view to formulating regulations for the category. Highlighting the statistics on the increase in disease burden caused by consumption of tobacco is at a rise, the letter called out that in India itself, approximately 45% of all cancers among males and 17% among females are directly attributable to tobacco use. In addition, nearly 1.35 million Indians die due to tobacco-related illnesses each year, taking a toll not just on families and society but also on the public health system. To this end, the letter states that "many scientific institutions of repute have acknowledged that tools such as Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENDS) pose significantly less risk to health compared to traditional cigarettes or bidis. These devices, which contain addictive

nicotine, but do not emit the toxic medley of carcinogens found in cigarette smoke, are growing popular as an alternative that smokers can opt for to reduce their exposure to toxins and lower risk of cancer and other tobacco-related illnesses."



### **Younger women getting Uterus, breast cancers**

July 02, 2019/ NYOOOZ

By Express News Service BENGALURU : The annual percentage change in breast cancer and uterine cancer cases is the highest among women in Bengaluru, according to data released by **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)**. According to findings released in Cancer Monograph 2019, there are more female cancer cases in Bengaluru than male cases. Awareness has also helped in early diagnosis of the disease, especially among rural women. Experts say uterine, breast and cervical cancers go unnoticed in rural areas because of lack of ample diagnostics facilities. "As of today, in the urban PBCRs, cervical cancer ranks at number two, following breast cancer.

### **Fertilizer consumption has no link with cancer in Punjab: Government**

July 02, 2019/ Daijiworld.com

Consumption of fertilizers has no link to the prevalence of cancer diseases in Punjab, Union Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar informed the Lok Sabha on Tuesday. The issue came up after MP from Ludhiana Ravneet Singh Bittu raised a question on the rise in the number of cancer cases in the state. "The **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)** has said that according to the Cancer Registry of Punjab, the incidence of cancer cases was 100-110 for every 100,000 individuals which is almost equal to the national average. The Punjab government has also reported that the consumption of fertilizer has no link with prevalence of cancer in Punjab," said Tomar. The National Programme for Prevention and Control of Cancer, Diabetes, Cardiovascular Diseases and Stroke (NPCDCS) is also being implemented for interventions up to the district level which includes awareness generation for Cancer prevention, screening, early detection and referral to an appropriate level institution for treatment. "Strengthening of Tertiary Care Cancer facilities Scheme is being implemented to support setting up of State Cancer Institutes (SCI) and Tertiary Care Cancer Centres (TCCC) in different parts of the country," said Tomar. The government is also making efforts to promote judicious use of fertilizers with the cooperation of state governments. Farmers are also being educated as part of the scheme.

### **Gastric Cancer Therapy Market Exhibit a Steady 13% CAGR by 2023: Including Market Trends, Business Outlook, Future Opportunities | 360 Research Reports**

July 02, 2019/ Healthcare Herald

"Gastric Cancer Therapy Market Report 2019-2023" helps the consumer to take business decisions and to understand strategies of major players in the industry. The report also calls for market-determined results deriving feasibility survey for consumer needs. Global Gastric Cancer Therapy Market Report ensures qualified and verifiable aspects of market data operating in the real-time scenario. The



analytical studies are conducted ensuring consumer needs with a complete understanding of market capacities in the real-time scenario. According to a report published by **Indian Council of Medical Research** in 2014, gastric cancer is the fourth leading cancer in the world, accounting for 736,000 deaths. Around 1 million new cases of gastric cancer and 0.7 million deaths due to gastric cancer are reported every year. Age-standardized incidence rates are approximately twice as high in men as in women. Presently, gastric cancer is more common in Asia, than in the United States or Europe. Notably, 42% of cases occur in China alone. Thus, increasing incidence of gastric cancer, coupled with strong drug pipeline, and introduction of novel therapies for metastatic stomach cancer, across the world, are likely to drive the market for gastric cancer therapy. The global cost of cancer therapy and drugs increased from USD 91 billion to USD 113 billion, in 2016. High cost of therapy and adverse events associated with the existing cancer drugs, for treatment of stomach cancer, may hinder the global stomach cancer market. The serious side effects associated with the usage of drugs include autoimmune reactions and infusion reactions. Additionally, a large patient pool undiagnosed with gastric cancer and the lack of awareness regarding gastric cancer are likely to impede the growth of the global cancer therapy market.



### [153 children died of Acute Encephalitis Syndrome in Bihar: Govt to Rajya Sabha](#)

July 03, 2019/ Times of India

NEW DELHI: As many as 153 children have died due to Acute Encephalitis Syndrome (AES) while 720 such cases were reported in Bihar till June 28 this year, minister of state for health, Ashwini Kumar Choubey has said. He was asked about the steps taken by the government to investigate the cause of deaths and the remedial measures adopted. According to figures available till June 28 this year, the number of AES cases - 720 and number of deaths - 153, the minister informed the Rajya Sabha on Tuesday. The minister elaborated on a number of measures that the union health ministry initiated to support the state in containing AES cases while adding that "as per Constitutional provisions, health is a state subject". Choubey, in his reply said that union health minister had reviewed the situation with his counterpart in Bihar and also with officials from ministry. A central team of experts consisting of public health specialist from various central government institutes was deputed to assist the state government in taking containment and management measures, he said. He further said the minister had also visited Shri Krishna Medical College and Hospital, (SKMCH) at Muzaffarpur in Bihar. The Ministry further deployed another high-level multi-disciplinary team to Muzaffarpur after drawing senior pediatricians from various central government institutes to advise the state government in its efforts to manage the cases. "Central team consisting experts from **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)** was also deployed at SKMCH. The team is also scrutinising and reviewing the case records of discharge and deceased patients using a standardised tool to know the reasons for mortality," the reply said. Orientation training of all pediatricians of SKMCH on clinical case management and treatment protocol of AES was conducted on regular basis by the central team.

## [Cancer cases on rise in Kerala, says KK Shailaja](#)

July 03, 2019/ The New Indian Express



THIRUVANANTHAPURAM: Health Minister KK Shailaja on Tuesday told the assembly there was an alarming increase in the number of cancer patients in the state. In government hospitals alone, 57,727 new cases of cancer were registered between 2018-19. The numbers will be higher, if private hospital data is included. As per official data, 25,464 cases were registered at medical colleges, while 15,267 cases were registered at Regional Cancer Centre (RCC), Thiruvananthapuram. Malabar Cancer Centre, Thalassery recorded 4,620 cases, Cochin Cancer Research Centre recorded 8,011 cases and Ernakulam General Hospital registered 4,365 cases. The numbers show there has been a steady increase in cancer cases. In 2017-18, 54,092 cancer cases were registered in the state. Shailaja said studies are being undertaken at RCC, in association with **Indian Council of Medical Research**, to unravel the reasons behind the rise in number of cases, especially breast cancer. Since January, details are being collected from RCC patients to understand if there was a connection to alcohol, pan masala and tobacco.

## [Human cell atlas: An initiative for holistic understanding of human body](#)

July 03, 2019/ The Hindu BusinessLine

A new human atlas initiative has been launched to create a unified database of molecular network of all the tissues in the human body and to derive a holistic picture of working of human body. The project named Manav has been launched by the Department of Biotechnology and Persistent Systems, a biotechnology company. This mega project will collate and integrate molecular information on human tissues and organs that currently lies hidden in research articles in an unstructured and disorganized form. The project would utilize large biological community, both students and scientists, for extracting and adding the information from scientific literature at the level of cells and organs. The database would eventually help researchers in identifying gaps in current knowledge and help in future projects in diagnostics and disease biology. The project team is in talks with other scientific agencies such as the All India Council of Technical Education, Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), University Grants Commission and **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)** for possible collaboration. This initiative will not only seal the gaps in knowledge on human body but will also create a trained population of biologists. With the data curation and analysis skills imparted during this project, students will have better opportunities for the job in life science sector. The undergraduates and postgraduates from the various distinct fields of biology such as zoology, biotechnology, botany, biochemistry, pharmacology and medical sciences can register and contribute to this project.

## [This Bengaluru startup's low-cost device is using AI to detect cervical cancer in rural Karnataka](#)

July 03, 2019/ YourStory.com

A staggering 43 crore women in India are above 15 years of age. This means they are constantly exposed to the risk of developing cervical cancer. Well, let's break it

down for you. Every year, around 1.2 lakh women get diagnosed with cervical cancer, but only 45 percent of them manage to survive. According to the **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)** and the National Institute of Cancer Prevention and Research (NICPR), one woman dies due to the disease every eight minutes in India. And some of the main reasons for the low rate of survival can be attributed to the delay in diagnosis, the high cost associated with the detection of cervical cancer, and the general lack of awareness about the nitty-gritty of the ailment. Aindra, a Bengaluru-based startup, is now attempting to resolve this problem through an Artificial Intelligence (AI)-powered device called CervAstra. The innovative device banks on the pap smear test, and works as a point-of-care apparatus that can be deployed to identify cervical cancer at a low cost. Founded by Adarsh Natarajan (40) in 2012, the startup has successfully helped diagnostic centres and laboratories screen 700 women using this device across rural areas in Karnataka.



### **Angiotensin Converting Enzymes (ACE) Inhibitors Market – Report Analysis till 2026**

July 03, 2019/ Coherent Magazine

Angiotensin converting enzymes inhibitors are used to for the treatment of various medical conditions such as hypertension, coronary artery disease, heart failure, diabetes, chronic kidney diseases, scleroderma, and migraines. Frequently prescribed angiotensin converting enzyme (ACE) inhibitors are benazepril, perindopril, trandolapril, captopril, enalapril, lisinopril, and ramipril. ACE inhibitors are the first choice drugs for the treatment of hypertension. Increasing prevalence of hypertension is one of the major drivers for the angiotensin converting enzymes (ACE) inhibitors market growth. For instance, according to World Health Organization's (WHO) report, in 2018, around 207 million people including 112 million men and 95 million women suffer from hypertension, annually in India. For instance, in September 2018, Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust initiated clinical Phase II study of Enalapril Maleate for the pre-eclampsia condition. This study is for evaluating drug safety and efficacy on the patients. Pre-eclampsia condition is a pregnancy complication characterized by high blood pressure. It has various signs and symptoms including proteinuria, upper abdominal pain, and shortness of breath. Asia Pacific is also expected to witness significant growth in the angiotensin converting enzymes (ACE) inhibitors market over the forecast period, owing to increasing awareness activities regarding hypertension and its prevention in this region. For instance, in May 2018, **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)** organized an awareness campaign on hypertension in collaboration with Public Health Foundation of India. According to ICMR, around 10.8% deaths annually caused by hypertension in India. Therefore, such programs will help to increase awareness for the treatment and management of hypertension, thereby supporting the ACE inhibitors market growth in this region.

### **Road accidents see profound increase in J&K, 5529 accidents in 2018**

July 03, 2019/ Kashmir Patriot

SRINAGAR: The road accidents in Jammu & Kashmir are being seen to see a profound increase. Every year hundreds of people suffer from these accidents. After the road accidents, management and political leaders are expressing their regret, but it seems to fail to overcome. According to official data, 5529 road accidents

were reported in the state in 2018, in which 908 people were killed and 7250 were injured. In the first four months of this year, 696 accidents have been reported, in which 270 people were killed. According to official data, there are 15 road accidents each day in the state, in which a person is killed and 4 injured. In a report issued by **Indian Council of Medical Research** in 2017, it has been said that in Jammu and Kashmir Traffic accidents have the maximum number of deaths and disabilities. In recent days only two cardiovascular accidents occurred in which 46 people were killed, including 11 instructed students. According to figures, more than 10 road accidents have occurred in Jammu districts.. The districts of Ramban, Poonch, Kishtwar and Rajouri are situated every month in the degraded road. There are accidents. The locals are accused of bringing out the day lighted road accidents due to the government's negligence.

### **153 children died of Acute Encephalitis Syndrome in Bihar: Government to Rajya Sabha**

July 03, 2019/ Financial Express

The minister elaborated on a number of measures that the Union Health ministry initiated to support the state in containing AES cases while adding that "as per Constitutional provisions, health is a state subject". As many as 153 children have died due to Acute Encephalitis Syndrome (AES) while 720 such cases were reported in Bihar till June 28 this year, Minister of State for Health, Ashwini Kumar Choubey has said. He was asked about the steps taken by the government to investigate the cause of deaths and the remedial measures adopted. According to figures available till June 28 this year, the number of AES cases – 720 and number of deaths – 153, the Minister informed the Rajya Sabha on Tuesday. The minister elaborated on a number of measures that the Union Health ministry initiated to support the state in containing AES cases while adding that “as per Constitutional provisions, health is a state subject”. Choubey, in his reply said that Union Health Minister had reviewed the situation with his counterpart in Bihar and also with officials from ministry. Strategic Health Operations Centre (SHOC) facility of NCDC was activated to monitor the AES situation in Muzaffarpur and co-ordinate tasks at the field level, he stated. Choubey said that the ministry had deputed five teams of doctors along with technicians from Central government hospitals to SKMCH to support clinical management. “Central team consisting experts from **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)** was also deployed at SKMCH. The team is also scrutinising and reviewing the case records of discharge and deceased patients using a standardised tool to know the reasons for mortality,” the reply said. Orientation training of all pediatricians of SKMCH on clinical case management and treatment protocol of AES was conducted on regular basis by the central team.

### **Bhopal: NCHSE writes to government over banning e-cigarettes**

July 04, 2019/ Free Press Journal

BHOPAL: Based on the recent recommendations made by **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)** to ban e-cigarettes, National Centre for Human Settlements & Environment (NCHSE). Has sent letters to the chief minister, minister of public health and family welfare and minister of consumer protection of Madhya Pradesh urging them to impose a prohibition on e-cigarettes in the state.

Along with the letter, NCHSE has submitted a copy of the ICMR research paper. titled 'White paper on Electronic Nicotine Delivery System (ENDS)' which recommends complete prohibition of E-cigarettes in the country in the greater interest of protecting public health based on current available data from multiple research. ENDS or e-cigarettes are battery-powered devices used to smoke or 'vape', a flavoured solution containing a varying concentration of nicotine, an addictive chemical found in cigarettes and other forms of tobacco products. These devices also contain other ingredients as flavouring agents and vapourizers, which are also found to be harmful for health. The most common type of such devices is e-cigarettes that produce an aerosolized mixture of the flavoured liquids and nicotine, which is inhaled by the user. Director general, NCHSE Dr Pradip Nandi, expressed his view that ENDS are the newer forms of addiction, which is destroying our younger generations.



### [Congress expresses concern over road accidents](#)

July 04, 2019/ State Times

JAMMU: Congress has expressed serious concern over alarming rate of road accidents, deaths and serious injuries, as the State has been rated as number one as per a survey. Responding to the situation on the fatal road accidents, JKPCCC said that casualties and serious kinds of disablements on account of road accidents in J&K are very alarming. "J&K has been rated as number one in the country by a survey of **Indian Council of Medical Research**, for number of deaths and permanent disablements from 1996 to 2016, while the State is at number three on account of rate of accidents in the country per ten thousands vehicles," a spokesman of JKPCCC said. "In total 9,050 deaths have taken place in road accidents from January 2010 to December 31, 2018, which is almost 900 deaths every year. One precious life is lost per seven hour, as around 15 accidents take place every day," he said, adding that alone in erstwhile Doda district 1,200 deaths have taken place from 2010 till 2019, which is alarming. Party regretted that precious loss of lives and permanent disablements in road accidents are casually ignored without any effective mechanism or action and only another serious accident leads everyone to call for necessary measures. "Time has come that deterrent actions are taken against all those responsible for implementation of norms and regulations, as most of these accidents can be avoided by some appropriate steps," he said.

### [Human atlas: An initiative for holistic understanding of human biology](#)

July 04, 2019/ Down To Earth Magazine

A new human atlas initiative has been launched to create a unified database of molecular network of all the tissues in the human body and to derive a holistic picture of working of the human body. The project named Manav has been launched by the Department of Biotechnology and Persistent Systems, a biotechnology company. This mega project will collate and integrate molecular information on human tissues and organs that currently lie hidden in research articles in an unstructured and disorganised form. The project team is in talks with other scientific agencies such as the All India Council of Technical Education, Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), University Grants Commission and **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)** for possible collaboration. This initiative will not only seal the gaps in knowledge on human body but will also create a trained population of biologists. With the data curation



and analysis skills imparted during this project, students will have better opportunities for jobs in life science sector. The undergraduates and postgraduates from the various distinct fields of biology such as zoology, biotechnology, botany, biochemistry, pharmacology and medical sciences can register and contribute to this project. A similar Human Cell Atlas project was launched in 2016 as a collaborative effort between scientists. This project is designed to generate data pertaining to cellular and molecular activities of various cell types in the body in both its normal and disease state using techniques such as single cell genomics. The Indian project, on the other hand, depends on the knowledge already available in scientific literature to derive information on cellular network.



### [Union Health Ministry's proposal to classify ENDS devices as 'drugs' sent to Attorney General](#)

July 04, 2019/ Economic Times

NEW DELHI: The Union Health ministry's proposal to classify ENDS devices, including e-cigarettes, as "drugs" in order to ban their manufacture, sale, distribution and import has been sent to the Attorney General for his opinion, officials said Thursday. Banning alternative smoking devices like e-cigarettes, heat-not-burn devices, vape and e-nicotine flavoured hookah is one of the priorities of the Health ministry in the first 100 days agenda of the second term of the Modi government, an official source said. "The proposal which has been approved by the Drug Technical Advisory Board (DTAB), the government's top advisory body on technical matters related to medicines in the country is now awaiting opinion from the Attorney General," the source said. The Union Health Ministry's proposal pertains to classifying ENDS devices, including e-cigarettes as "drugs" under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act. The proposal stated that under the provisions of 'drugs' in the Act, any item intended to be used as an aid to help quit smoking is covered under the definition of drugs. Apex research body - the **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)** has recommended a "complete ban" on Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENDS), saying their use can initiate nicotine addiction among non-smokers also. In a white paper released recently, the ICMR said e-cigarettes adversely affects the cardiovascular system, impairs respiratory immune cell function and airways in a way similar to cigarette smoking and is responsible for severe respiratory diseases. However, a consumer body, the Association of Vapers India (AVI), has questioned the veracity of ICMR white paper on ENDS, saying empirical evidence from countries that have allowed e-cigarettes show "smoking rates have declined at a historic pace".

### [Union Health Ministry's proposal to classify ENDS devices as 'drugs' sent to Attorney General](#)

July 04, 2019/ Business Standard

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advisory body on technical matters related to medicines in the country is now awaiting opinion from the Attorney General," the source said. Apex research body - the **Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)** has recommended a "complete ban" on Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENDS), saying their use can initiate nicotine addiction among non-smokers also. In a white paper released recently, the ICMR said e-cigarettes adversely affects the cardiovascular system, impairs respiratory immune cell function and airways in a way similar to cigarette smoking and is responsible for severe respiratory diseases.



### **Malaria should be made notifiable disease, Dr Harsh Vardhan advises**

July 04, 2019/ Devdiscourse

Dr Harsh Vardhan, Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare held a high-level meeting to review the preparedness for prevention and control of vector-borne diseases (malaria, dengue, and chikungunya) in Delhi, here today. Shri. Satyendra Jain, Health Minister, Government of Delhi; Mayors of Delhi; Ms Preeti Sudan, Union Health Secretary; Prof. Balram Bhargava, Secretary DHR and DG, **ICMR**; DGHS, MoHFW; Chairman, NDMC; Health Secretary, NCT of Delhi; Medical Supdts. of the Central Government and State government hospitals in Delhi; senior officials from Union Health Ministry and Govt. of NCT of Delhi; ICMR; NCDC and NVBDCP; and representatives of Municipal Corporations of Delhi were also present. Taking stock of the situation, Dr Harsh Vardhan was briefed on the current situation of malaria and dengue in Delhi and the action required from the State government, Municipal Corporations, state hospitals, school education department, DHR, Railways and the Containment Board etc. Stressing on the importance of widespread awareness on prevention and control of the vector-borne diseases, the Union Health Minister urged all stakeholders to undertake awareness drives through active community participation and cooperation of all stakeholders such as RWAs, shopkeepers' and traders' associations. He further stated that school children can play a very important role in creating awareness.

### **Make dengue, malaria notifiable diseases: Vardhan tells Delhi govt**

July 04, 2019/ Business Standard

Union Health Minister Harsh Vardhan Thursday asked the Delhi government to make malaria and dengue notifiable diseases and work for making the national capital "vector free". He also sought appointment of nodal officers at all city hospitals, including the private ones, to ensure that the government and private interventions and efforts to prevent the vector-borne diseases are in tandem. Vardhan was reviewing the preparedness for prevention and control of vector-borne diseases like malaria, dengue, and chikungunya in the national capital. He urged the city government and the municipal corporations to work towards making hospitals, schools and government buildings "vector-free". Delhi Health Minister Satyendra Jain, **ICMR** Director General Dr Balram Bhargava, Chairman of NDMC, Health Secretary in Delhi government, along with medical superintendents of the central and state government hospitals in Delhi, and representatives of municipal corporations, were among those who attended the meeting, a statement by the Union Health Ministry said.

**Dr. Harsh Vardhan chairs high level review meeting on prevention and control of vector borne diseases in Delhi**



July 04, 2019/ 5 Dariya News

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With regards,

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