



GYAN-e: ICMR-NIRBI e-NEWSLETTER

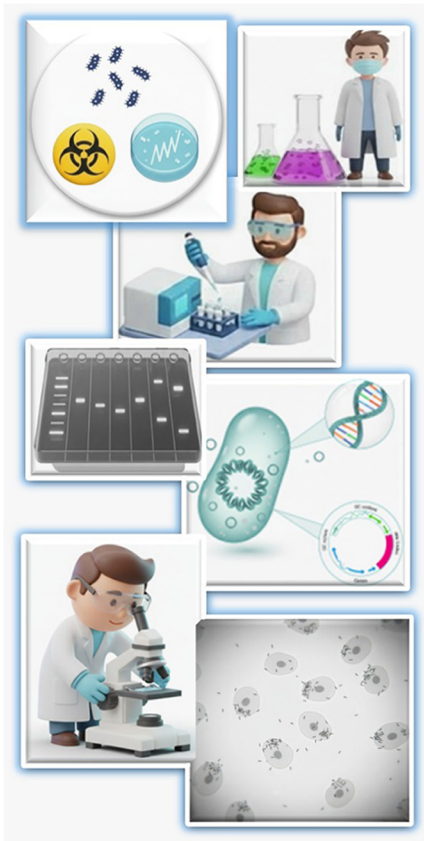
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Director's



I present with great pride the second quarterly issue of the ICMR-NIRBI newsletter "GYAN- e". This quarter was marked by several important and remarkable events. At the top was the unveiling of the bust of Dr. Dilip Mahalanabis, the great physician scientist and a pioneer of oral rehydration therapy on the occasion of 63rd Foundation Day of the institute. The event was also marked by an eminent lecture by Prof. P. Balram, Padma Bhushan and the former Director, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, and successful hosting of Early Research Scholar Conclave, 2026 to encourage innovation by the next generation scientists.

On the research front, we have identified improper drug disposal as an overlooked driver of antimicrobial resistance and published critical frameworks for the tiered customization of antimicrobial stewardship program for India's public health system. Our scientists contributed to the Global Burden of Disease (GBD) data analysis published in Lancet Infectious Disease and Lancet Respiratory Medicine.

In continuation of the institute's legacy, our team was at the forefront of the diarrhoeal disease outbreak investigation at Indore, Madhya Pradesh. Through hands-on training workshops on foodborne pathogens and bacterial identification and AMR diagnosis, we remained committed to scientific capacity building in India and South-East Asia to address critical public health issues.

Dr. Santasabuj Das
 Director, ICMR-NIRBI

Events

1. 2nd Hands-on training workshop entitled "Bacterial Identification and AMR Diagnostics (8-10 April, 2026)
2. Clinical Workshop on AMR Study - Acinetobacter (10-11 April 2026)

Outbreak Investigations

Outbreak of diarrhoeal diseases at Bhagirathpura area, UPHC Bhagirathpura (ZONEN), Sub-District/District Indore, Madhya Pradesh.

Publications

GBD 2023 Asia Chronic Respiratory Disease Collaborators. Burden of chronic respiratory disease in Asia, 1990-2023: a systematic analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study 2023. Lancet Respir Med. 2026 Mar;14(3):233-255. IF(2024): 32.8

Student's Conclave

ICMR NIRBI hosted its first Early Research Scholar Conclave (ERSC) 2026 on 28th January 2026. The conclave featured a plenary lecture by Dr. Sudipto Saha, Bose Institute, Kolkata. The highlight was an innovative Out-of-the-Box Idea (Innovative Idea Incubator) session, followed by multiple oral presentations and a dynamic poster session by early career researchers.



Unveiling of Bust of Dr. Dilip Mahalanabis

The bust of Dr. Dilip Mahalanabis, Father of ORS, Padma Vibhushan was unveiled on the 14th of February, 2026. Dr. Dilip Mahalanabis was a legendary clinician and pioneer of Oral Rehydration Therapy (ORT). His contribution in the field of ORT continues to save millions of lives world wide.



Foundation Day & Dr. S.C. Pal Oration

ICMR-NIRBI celebrated its 64th Foundation Day on 18th February 2026. Dr. S.C. Pal Oration 2026 was delivered by Padma Vibhushan Prof. Padmanabhan Balaram on "Discovering Forgotten Pioneers of Human Infectious Disease: The Stories of Cholera and the Corona Virus." The celebration also featured awards to Early Researcher Conclave winners, felicitations of staff completing 25 years of service and a vibrant cultural programme by staff of the institute.



Workshop on Food Borne Pathogens

ICMR-NIRBI organized a five-day regional workshop from 3rd-7th February 2026 titled "Strengthening Capacity to Combat Foodborne Pathogens: An Integrated Approach to Food Safety," in collaboration with the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), New Delhi. Participants came from Nepal, Bhutan, Maldives, Sri Lanka, and Thailand, as well as from different states of India.



Symposium

ICMR-NIRBI convened the One Day Symposium 2026 on 19th February 2026, fostering high-level scientific dialogue on priority areas of infectious disease research. Scientific sessions were enriched by eminent experts from diverse disciplines, namely Prof. Gaurinath Samudrala (Jawaharlal Nehru University); Dr. Amirul Islam Mallick (IISER Kolkata); Dr. Ritesh Ranjan Pal (IACS Kolkata); Dr. Dipankar Maji; Dr. Saravanan Matheshwaran (IIT Kanpur); Dr. Anuj Sharma (WHO); Dr. Saugata Hazra (IIT Roorkee); Dr. Souvik Mukherjee (NIBMG, Kalyani); and Dr. Punyasloke Bhadury (IISER Kolkata).



Our Aim

R: Research
E: Excellence in
A: AMR & Address
C: Community
H: Health Issues

CONGRATULATIONS



Sudipta Pati (Technical Assistant), secured 2nd position among female participants in the prestigious The Buddha Trails 30K race organised by The Hell Race 30Km in 5hr 01min 14sec!

Editorial Board

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Outbreak Investigation

Cases of loose motion and vomiting were reported from Bhagirathpura area, UPHC Bhagirathpura (ZONEN), Sub-District/District Indore, Madhya Pradesh. District RRT investigated the outbreak. House to house survey was done. A coordination was established with the local administration, PHE and Nagar Nigam Department. A medical camp was established in the affected area. Cases were given symptomatic treatment. Distribution of ORS, Zinc tablets and Chlorine tablets was done within the community. ASHA & ANM were informed to maintain a proper line list of all the affected cases. Cases of all age groups were affected. A total of 92 stool samples were tested at MGM Microbiology Lab, DPHL Indore and NIRBI, Kolkata from 29.12.2025 to 3.02.2026. 4 samples tested positive for *V. cholerae* by culture. Pipeline leakages were repaired. Chlorine tablets were distributed to the households. Community awareness and health education given by the peripheral team on safe drinking water, hygiene and sanitation. (source: <https://idsp.mohfw.gov.in/>). Scientists from the institute provided technical support as part of central team members, interacted with doctors, patients and community, collected samples for testing, created demonstration video to test for *V. cholerae*, provided some test kits to be used in the field. Shared detailed report of samples collected with state health department later.

Technical Reports Published

Technical report on TIER specific customization of antimicrobial stewardship program- A framework document for implementation.

A TIERED antimicrobial stewardship framework for India's public health system: A research brief of AMRES project.

