Greetings!

I am happy to convey my warm wishes to you all for a happy and prosperous New Year 2014. As a National Institute we have lot of responsibilities to deliver output in the field of epidemiology and disease informatics and we are committed for the same. This year is declared by United Nations as an International Year of Family Farming and institute activities are to be focussed on the family farming especially that benefits small and landless livestock farmers. The commitments made in last year borne fruits in this year, like fast upcoming new laboratory and administrative building at Yelahanka which will be completed by August 2014; a collaborative project for North Eastern Region under the umbrella of Department of Biotechnology (DBT) which provides an opportunity to serve livestock farming community of NER of India; and BBSRC–DBT collaborative project on Bluetongue which is aimed at studying the epidemiology of Bluetongue.

National Animal Disease Referral Expert System (NADRES) database, an innovative, web based, dynamic and interactive livestock disease relational database supported by Geographical Information System (GIS) developed in-house, serves as an epidemiology software. Using NADRES Software disease Advisory (Forecast) is provided to State departments for taking necessary action. It is useful for field veterinarians, administrators, technocrats, research personnel, farmers and academicians. The study on economic impact of livestock disease like Foot and Mouth disease, Peste des petits ruminants, Haemorrhagic Septicaemia are in progress. The institute has been recognised as one of the Trainers Training Institute by Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries, Government of India. Under this programme, we organized trainings on disease epidemiology, economics and disease informatics to staff of Animal Husbandry Department, Sikkim and Scientific staff from different academic and research institutions. Apart from this, training programmes were conducted in biostatistics, research methodology and disease control programmes during this period.
Dr. K.M.L. Pathak, DDG (AS), ICAR visited and reviewed the progress of the construction of Biosafety Laboratory and Administrative building of NIVEDI at Yelahanka, Bengaluru on 19th April, 2014.

Dr. Gaya Prasad, ADG (AH), ICAR visited the construction site of NIVEDI, Yelahanka on 28th February, 2014.

Scientific Activities

Research Advisory Council (RAC) Meeting

7th RAC meeting of NIVEDI was held on 1st March, 2014 under the chairmanship of Dr. M.P. Yadav, Former Director, IVRI. Other members present were Dr. Mrutyunjaya, Former Director, NAIP, Ex-JD’s of HSADL: Dr. H.K. Pradhan and Dr.S.C. Dubey, Dr. Anil Rai, Principal Scientist, IASRI were present as experts in the meeting. Dr. H. Rahman welcomed the RAC Chairman and Members, and briefed about the institute activities and highlighted the research achievements. The committee discussed the Action Taken Report of 2013-14 and the base paper on database development, disease modelling and forecasting. Scientists of NIVEDI presented the achievements made in their respective research projects.

Institute Management Committee (IMC) Meeting

13th Institute Management Committee meeting of NIVEDI, Bengaluru was held on 24th March, 2014 under the Chairmanship of Dr. H. Rahman, Director, NIVEDI. The other members present were Dr. D.M.Das, Director, Dept. of AH&VS, Karnataka, Dr. R. Venkataramanan, JD, IVRI, Bengaluru, Dr. Sathish Kulkarni, Head, SRS-NDRI, Bengaluru, Mr. A. Sreenivasamurthy, F&AO, IIHR, Bengaluru, Dr. M.R. Gajendragad, Principal Scientist, NIVEDI and Mr. Riyaz Ahmed, AO, NIVEDI.

Institute Research Committee (IRC) Meeting

9th IRC meeting of institute was held on 31st May 2014 under the chairmanship of Dr. H. Rahman, Director, NIVEDI, Dr. K. Prabhudas, Former Director, PD_ADMAS, Dr. V.D.P. Rao, Retd Professor, GBPUA&T, Pantnagar; Dr. Gopinath Rao, Professor, UAS, Bengaluru and Dr. Lalith Achouth, Professor, KVAFSU, Bengaluru were the subject matter experts for the meeting. All the scientists of NIVEDI presented the progress of Research projects before the committee.

IAEC Meeting

5th Institutional Animal Ethics Committee (IAEC) meeting of NIVEDI was conducted on 11th March 2014 under the Chairmanship of Dr. H. Rahman, Director, NIVEDI, Dr. S.G. Ramachandra, Chief Research Scientist, IISc and CPCSEA Nominee, Dr. D. Prabhuda, Non-Scientific Socially-Aware Member, Dr. M.R. Gajendragad, Principal Scientist, Dr. D. Hemadri, Principal Scientist, Dr. P.P. Sengupta, Principal Scientist and Dr. P. Krishnamoorthy, Scientist & Member Secretary were present during the meeting. The Principal Investigators presented the projects requiring animal experiments before the committee and four projects were approved by the committee. The Member Secretary presented the list of projects approved so far by IAEC.
XXII Annual Review Meet of All India Coordinated Research Project on Animal Disease Monitoring and Surveillance (AICRP on ADMAS) was held at Imphal, Manipur on 27th June, 2014. The chief guest Shri. Govindas Konthoujam, Hon’ble Minister of Veterinary, Commerce & Industry, Sericulture, Govt. of Manipur while inaugurating the review meet appreciated the ICAR and NIVEDI for conducting the review meet in Imphal and sought the support of NIVEDI in controlling the transboundary animal diseases in that part of the country. He also released Annual Report of AICRP on ADMAS. The inaugural function was attended by dignitaries Shri L. Lakher, IAS, Commissioner, Dept of Vet. & AH, Govt. of Manipur, Dr. S. Joykumar Singh, Retd. Director, Dr. Saidokhum Joute, Director (Vet.) and Joint Director, ICAR complex, Imphal. The Principal Investigators of the AICRP on ADMAS centres were present. The technical session was Chaired by Dr. Gaya Prasad, ADG (AH), Co-chaired by Dr. H Rahman, Director. Dr. Jyoti Misri, Principal Scientist, ICAR was also present in the review meet.

NIVEDI organized an interactive meeting under the Chairmanship of Dr. K.M.L. Pathak, DDG (AS) at ICAR Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi on 1st April, 2014 to discuss the results and submission of final report of the project “Study to determine the incidence of Bovine Viral Diarrhoea (BVD) in India and its importance in dairy industry” sponsored by M/s. Intervet (MSD Animal Health) India Pvt Ltd under Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode. The project work was undertaken jointly by NIVEDI, Bengaluru and HSADL, Bhopal.

NIVEDI organized a meeting on Bovine Viral Diarrhoea (BVD) disease with Dr. Griff Dagleish, MSD-Australia, Dr. Abhijit Gurjar, MSD, USA and Dr. Kilari, MSD, India on 4th April, 2014. Dr. H. Rahman, Director, NIVEDI briefed about the institute research activities to MSD officials and Dr. S.S. Patil, Senior Scientist presented on BVD scenario in bovines of India.

5th Institute Biosafety Committee (IBSC) meeting of NIVEDI was conducted on 24th March, 2014 under the chairmanship of Dr. H. Rahman, Director, NIVEDI, Dr. V.V.S. Suryanarayana, Retd. Principal Scientist, IVRI, Dr. S. Srinivas, Medical Officer, IVRI and Dr. S.G. Ramachandra, Chief Research Scientist, IISC were the expert members present in the meeting. Dr. P.P. Sengupta, Member Secretary appraised the members about the research projects involving DNA recombinant related work with biosafety.
Undergraduate students from Veterinary College, Bidar visited NIVEDI on 23rd January, 2014 as a part of Internship training programme.

Dr. H. Rahman, Director, NIVEDI visited the AICRP on ADMAS centre in Jaipur, Rajasthan and reviewed the progress of the Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) activities on 10th February, 2014.

International Women’s Day was celebrated on 10th March, 2014 by staff of the institute and organized different activities for women employees. Dr. H. Rahman, Director, NIVEDI graced on the occasion.

Institute quarterly Hindi Implementation Committee meeting was held on 11th April, 2014 at NIVEDI under the chairmanship of Dr. H. Rahman, Director.

Dr. Kenneth C. Earheart, Country Head, CDC, USA, Dr. Sheik Shah Hossain, CDC, India and Dr. S. Abdul Rahman, President, Commonwealth Veterinary Association visited NIVEDI, Bengaluru and interacted with Scientists on 15th January, 2014.

NIVEDI organized interactive meeting with Dr. M.B. Chabra, Retd. Professor, LUVAS, Hisar on 15th February, 2014. He delivered guest lecture on “Epidemiology of Parasitic Diseases” on the occasion.

Dr. Bethan Purse, Ecological Modeller, Centre for Ecology and Hydrology, Edinburgh University, UK delivered a guest lecture on "Understanding Impact of Environment Change on Vector-Borne Diseases" on 22nd May, 2014.
Dr. G. Govindaraj, Scientist and Principal Investigators of AICRP on ADMAS centres visited FMD affected villages in Malur and Mulbaghal, Kolar district, Karnataka and conducted survey to assess economic loss due to FMD on 21st January and 5th March, 2014.

Scientists of NIVEDI, Bengaluru (Dr. P.P. Sengupta, Dr. V. Balamurugan and Dr. M. Nagalingam) attended the camel health camp organized by AICRP on ADMAS Centre, Jaipur at Ugariawas Village, Jaipur, Rajasthan on 12th February, 2014.

Dr. D. Hemadri, Principal Scientist, attended bluetongue outbreaks in Sukalpet, Iranna camp, Yedkala Doddi, Timmapur, Burma Camp villages in Sindhonoor taluk of Raichur District on 26th February, 2014.

Shri. Aghore Debbarma, Hon’ble Minister of Agriculture and Animal Resources, Govt. of Tripura inaugurating Livestock Farming and Livestock Disease Awareness programme at Bamuti, West Tripura. The programme was jointly organized by NIVEDI, Bengaluru and ICAR Research Complex for NE region, Tripura on 17th February, 2014 and around 250 farmers participated in the programme.

NIVEDI organized Trainers Training programme for Field Veterinarians from Dept. of AH & VS, Govt. of Sikkim on "Epidemiology, Diagnosis and Control of Haemoprotozoan Parasitic Diseases" during 10-19th January, 2014 and on "Field Epidemiology" during 22-31st January, 2014.

NIVEDI organized training programme on Research Methodology, Epidemiology and Bio-Statistics held from 17-19th January, 2014. Dr. D. Swaroop, Former Director, CIRG, Makhdoom was the chief guest for the inaugural function. Around sixty participants from Veterinary, Medical, Dental, Pharmacy and Life sciences attended the training.
NIVEDI, Bengaluru organized Indo-UK Workshop on The use of molecular epidemiology and functional genomics to underpin the development of novel interventions to combat bovine Staphylococcus aureus mastitis in India during 1-3 February, 2014. The workshop was jointly sponsored by The Royal Society, London and Department of Science and Technology, Ministry of Science and Technology, Government of India. Twenty researchers engaged in various aspects of Bovine mastitis from different parts of India and United Kingdom participated in the workshop. Prof A. K. Srivastava, Director-cum Vice-Chancellor, NIRD, Karnal briefed about the Dairy Sector in India and impact of mastitis. Prof Duncan Maskell, University of Cambridge, Prof. Ruth Zadoks, University of Glasgow, Dr. S. K. Varshney, Director, DST, New Delhi and Dr. A. K. Rawat, Director, DBT, New Delhi were the other eminent speakers. Dr. B. R. Shome, Principal Scientist, NIVEDI, Bangalore, India and Dr. Mark A. Holmes, School of Veterinary Medicine, University of Cambridge, UK jointly coordinated the workshop.

As part of the Brucellosis- Control Programme (BCP), NIVEDI, Bengaluru organized training programme to Field Veterinary Officers, Dept. of Animal Husbandry, Govt. of Rajasthan at Jaipur on 11th February, 2014 and Veterinary Officers, Dept. of AH & VS, Govt. of Punjab, Chandigarh on 6th June, 2014.

NIVEDI organized training programme on "Basic Epidemiology and Disease Informatics, and Livestock Disease Economics" for Principal Investigators and Co-PI's of AICRP on ADMAS centres during 3-7th March, 2014.

NIVEDI, Bengaluru organized "Hands on Training on Quantitative Real Time PCR for diagnosis of Brucellosis" under DBT Network project on Brucellosis during 2-4th June, 2014.

One day workshop on Bluetongue was organized by NIVEDI, Bengaluru under BBSRC-DBT project on Bluetongue on 9th June, 2014 and 100 Veterinary Extension officers from Karnataka attended the workshop. During the inaugural function Dr. D. M. Das, Director AH&VS Karnataka, Dr. H. Rahman, Director, NIVEDI, Prof. Peter Mertens, Pirbright Institute, UK, Dr. Susheela Maan, LLRVASU highlighted the importance of bluetongue control.
Participation in Meetings/ Seminars/Symposia

1. All the Scientists, Senior Technical Officers and Administrative staff of NIVEDI participated in the training for Internal Auditors as per ISO 9001:2008 conducted by Zero Defect Consultants, Bengaluru on 22nd January, 2014.

2. Dr. D. Hemadri, Principal Scientist attended the International Workshop on Bluetongue at Veterinary Biologicals and Research Institute, Hyderabad from 30th January - 1st February, 2014.


4. Dr. P. Krishnamoorthy, Scientist participated as Scientific Expert in the State specific Farmer Scientist Interaction during Krishi Vasant 2014, the National Agricultural Fair cum Exhibition held from 9-13th February, 2014 at Central Institute of Cotton Research, Nagpur, Maharashtra.

5. Dr. M. R. Gajendragad, Principal Scientist participated in the Joint Orientation Workshop on “Emerging and re-emerging zoonotic diseases for medical and veterinary professionals” conducted by National Centre for Disease Control, Delhi and presented a paper on “NADRES : Surveillance in animal diseases” held on 10th February, 2014.

6. Dr. D. Hemadri, Principal Scientist attended ICAR Institutes-SAU-State Department interface meeting held at SMILDA, AH&VS, Hyderabad on 14th February, 2014.

7. Dr. P.P. Sengupta, Dr. V. Balamurugan, Dr. S.S. Patil, Dr. K.P. Suresh, Dr. G. Govindaraj, Scientists participated in the International Conference on Animal Health and Welfare and the 18th Asian Regional Meeting of the Commonwealth Veterinary Association held at NIANP, Bengaluru from 20-24th February, 2014.

8. Dr. V. Balamurugan, Senior Scientist participated in the DBT-BBSRC sponsored PPR meeting held at TANUVAS, Chennai on 7th March, 2014.

Joining

Dr. G. S. Desai, Senior Scientist joined the institute upon transfer on 2nd May, 2014.
Dr. Awadesh Prajapati joined as Senior Technical Officer [Veterinary] (T-6) upon his selection on 1st January, 2014.

ARS Scientists deputed to NIVEDI, Bengaluru

Smt. Vidya. R and Shri. T. Satish Kumar from Central Institute of Brackishwater Aquaculture, Chennai and Shri. Saurav Kumar from Central Institute of Fisheries Education, Mumbai were deputed to NIVEDI, Bengaluru for in-service training from 15th May, 2014 to 14th August, 2014.

Trainings/Workshops organized

1. Implementation meeting of National Control Programme on Brucellosis in Jaipur, Rajasthan during 10-12th January, 2014.

2. Conducted Trainers Training Programme on Epidemiology, Diagnosis and Control of Haemoprotozoan Parasitic Disease during 10-19th January, 2014.


9. Organized Interactive meeting on BVD (Bovine Viral Diarrhoea) sponsored by M/s. Intervet Pvt. Ltd., Pune jointly organized by NIVEDI, Bengaluru and HSADL, Bhopal at ICAR Head Quarters, New Delhi under the Chairmanship of Dr. K.M.L. Pathak, DDG (AS) on 1st April, 2014.

10. Organized World Veterinary Day on 26th April, 2014 and lecture on Animal welfare was delivered by Dr. Shiela N. Rao, CUPA, Bengaluru.


Mr. K. Vijaya Raj joined as Stenographer Grade III upon his selection on 4th June, 2014.
15. Organized AICRP on ADMAS Annual Meeting at Imphal, Manipur on 27th June, 2014.

**New Projects Sanctioned**

DBT-NER “Centre for Advanced Animal Diagnostics and Services on Animal Health and Diseases” (ADSAHD) started from April, 2014. Dr. H. Rahman, Project Coordinator

1. Surveillance and Molecular analysis of MRSA, MR-CoNS, VRE, ESBL and Carbapenemase producing Gram-Negative bacteria in farm animals, the animal handlers and livestock products in NE India. (PI: Dr. B.R. Shome, Principal Scientist)
2. Sero-epidemiological study of brucellosis in livestock in North East states of India using ELISA and Fluorescent Polarization Assays. (PI: Dr. R. Shome, Principal Scientist)
3. Epidemiological study of Classical Swine Fever (CSF), Porcine Reproductive and Respiratory Syndrome (PRRS) and Porcine Torque Teno Virus (TTV) in North East (NE) region of India. (PI: Dr. D. Hemadri, Principal Scientist)
4. Development of Infectious Disease Information System (IDIS) and Risk assessment models for Transboundary animal diseases (TAD) & other emerging livestock diseases in NE region of India. (PI: Dr. K.P. Suresh, Scientist)

**Distinguished visitors**

1. Dr. S. Ayyappan, Director General, ICAR & Secretary, DARE