CSIR IN MEDIA

CSIR

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CSIR-NEERI

20th June, 2021

4 pvt labs adopt Neeri's gargling sample method

Comparisons With Swabs Being Done To Check Efficiency

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TOI

GARGLING TEST

Nagpur: After government agencies, private laboratories have now adopted the technique of collecting RT-PCR samples through gargling, an innovation developed by the National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (Neeri).

TOI learns that four laboratories will be using this technology. This includes city's Rainbow Medinova and Su-Vishwas, and Mumbai's Hind Labs. Pune's Mylab Discovery Solutions is planning to implement this technology in their mobile laboratories in different states. Hind Labs also plans to use it at Kolkata and Chennai airports.

Earlier, the testing centre at the Regional Police Training School, which is a Nagpur Municipal Corporation-designated sample collection centre for Neeri, first implemented the technology for routine testing which was a first in the country. The Nagpur zilla parishad will also be soon starting its implementation in rural and tribal areas.

The collected samples will be sent to the Indira Gandhi Government Medical College and Hospital and Maharashtra Animal and Fishery Sciences for testing.

Now with private laboratories bringing it into use, the technology is expected to bring about a big change in detecting Covid-19, making the process simpler, faster and cost-effective.

COVID TEST

On directives of the Indian Council of Medical and Research (ICMR), Neeri scientists based in Nagpur are conducting a proficiency exercise and brief training of the lab personnel to ensure smooth transition to the new technique.

"We are asking each laboratory to perform the comparative testing between the routinely used swab test and the saline gargle test for 50 cases. The proficiency report is submitted to Neeri for vetting. Upon 100% satisfactory performance in proficiency test, the labs are allowed to go ahead for testing with saline gargle on full scale," said scientist Krishna Khairnar, who is head at Neeri's environmental virology cell.

As reported by TOI earlier, Neeri has prepared a special buffer medium in which the collected sample is mixed for releasing viral RNA. This eliminates the RNA extraction process which is necessary as in the case with existing testing of samples.

The saline gargle sample collection kit developed by Neeri is commercially available with Mumbai's Hi Media Pvt Laboratories Ltd and Ahmedabad's Meril Diagnostics. "Both the labs have applied for the approval of manufacturing Neeri's one-step RNA release buffer. The Drugs Controller General of India is expected to give its nod soon," added Khairnar.

Published in:
Timesofindia

Himachal Pradesh set for commercial cultivation of saffron

CSIR-IHBT

20th June, 2021

PALAMPUR: For the first time Himachal Pradesh is introducing saffron cultivation at the commercial level aiming to not only surpass the saffron production of neighboring Jammu and Kashmir Union Territory (JKUT) but also make India self-reliant in saffron production. While talking to TOI on Sunday, Dr Sanjay Kumar, director of Council Of Scientific And Industrial Research (CSIR) and Institute of Himalayan Bio resource Technology (IHBT), Palampur, said that production of good quality, disease-free flowering size saffron corms (seed) was the main bottleneck of saffron production which they had overcome with continuous research and scientific procedures

"To overcome this problem, state of art new tissue culture facility is under construction at CSIR-IHBT, which will be capable of producing 3.5 lakh disease-free corms per annum," he said.

Saffron is the important spice crop used in Indian cuisine since time immemorial and has medicinal properties. Currently, it is grown in the Pampore and Kishtwar regions of JKUT.

He said nearly 3000-hectare area was under saffron cultivation in JKUT which produces around 8 to 10 tones of saffron. "Himachal Pradesh also has the congenial climatic conditions for the production of saffron and with time we will not only surpass the JKUT's saffron production but will also help make India self-reliant in saffron production," he said.

Saffron's demand in the country is around 100 tonnes and being an exotic spice it is sold at a premium price of around Rs 2.5 to Rs 3 lakh per kilogram in the market. Growing saffron in the state will make a big impact on the state's economy, cut short its imports. To meet the domestic demand, most of the saffron is being imported from Iran.

Giving technical details Dr Rakesh Kumar, senior principal scientist cum principal investigator said that chemically saffron had three main compounds: Crocin, Picrocrocin, and Safranal, which were responsible for its color, taste, and aroma. He said that the saffron cultivation in non-traditional areas of Bharmour, Tissa in Chamba, Sangla valley in Kinnaur, Nirmand in Kullu, Bara Banghal area in Kangra districts of Himachal Pradesh was possible since these areas had the suitable climate for its production that could give farmers a higher return compared to the traditional crops.

The corm sowing would begin in September or October and the flowers would blossom within a month's time producing for the harvesting of stigma (gynoecium), the female part of the flower, known as 'kesar'.

Sanjay Kumar said that last year they had introduced saffron among the local farmers of Himachal for the experimental cultivation but this year they would be distributing corms for commercial production of the saffron which is a perennial crop.

"And we are not asking farmers to not grow traditional crops but we are asking them to cultivate saffron on the unutilised fields to multiply their income," he said adding that the saffron cultivation could play a valuable and important role in economic, social, cultural and ecological aspects of local communities.

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Timesofindia

City-based Carbanio ties with US chemical firm

CSIR-IICT

20th June, 2021

City-based Carbanio has announced a strategic partnership with US-based custom chemical synthesis company, Neugenlabs LLC located in University of South Florida, USA, for the latter's expansion plans in India.

The US-based company has already set up an office in Bengaluru, and plans to expand in Hyderabad. Neugenlabs specialises in custom synthesis, research and development, development of compounds for pharmaceuticals, agriculture biotechnology and veterinary industries.

The partnership will witness Carbanio helping Neugen Labs with arranging raw materials and other custom chemicals through uninterrupted digital process. "We have collaborated with CSIR-IICT and IISER, Berhampur, to offer uninterrupted chemical supply even during nationwide lockdown. We look forward to establishing such a collaboration with Neugenlabs LLC too," said Carbanio founder Rafi, in a press release.

Published in:
Thehindu

Colchicine for phase-II trial

CSIR-IIIM,IICT

20th June, 2021

The Drugs Controller General of India has given approval to Hyderabad-based Laxai Life Sciences Pvt Ltd to undertake two-arm phase-II clinical trials "to assess the safety and efficacy of the drug colchicine in the improvement of clinical outcomes during the treatment of Covid-19 patients". Laxai is partnering with the Indian Institute of Chemical Technology, Hyderabad, and the Indian Institute of Integrative Medicine, Jammu, both of which are units of the government-owned Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR).

Since India is one of the largest producers of this key drug, if the clinical trial is successful, it will be made available to patients at an affordable cost, according to Dr S Chandrasekhar, Director, CSIR-IICT, Hyderabad, and Dr DS Reddy, Director, CSIR-IIIM, Jammu.

Islands in peril

A study by IIT Kharagpur has cautioned that many islands of the Lakshadweep archipelago, such as Chetlat and Amini, may go under water due to rise in sea levels caused by global warming. The only airport in the archipelago, at the southern tip of Agatti Island, and capital Kavaratti also face inundation. The scientists suggest immediate adoption of coastal protection measures.

Published in:

Thehindubusinessline

Explained: What is the New Delta Plus Variant, Its Origin and All You Need to Know

CSIR-NCL

19th June, 2021

The Covid-19 pandemic that has been tormenting the world since late 2019 is not going away anytime soon. The virus's ability to mutate is one of the primary reasons for its long-term effect. SARS-CoV-2, like other viral infections, may evolve quickly and adapt to become more infectious, spread quicker, and undermine vaccine-induced or natural protection as has been witnessed during the second wave of the virus.

The new variety is the consequence of a mutation in the already existing coronavirus strain known as 'Delta,' also known scientifically as B.1.617.2. The Delta variation was initially discovered in India, but in recent months, it has been discovered to spread at a quicker pace in other nations.

The new strain Delta Plus contains a K417N mutation in its spike protein, which has been formally designated B.1.617.2.1. According to media reports, the first sequence of this type was discovered in Europe in March 2021.

The spike protein, an important component of the coronavirus, stimulates the virus's entrance into human cells and the causes infection. Although despite Delta variant's high frequency, its transmission in India has been determined to be quite limited.

How far has it spread?

As of June 7, 2021, there were 63 verified Delta Plus genomes, according to Public Health England. According to GISAID, these are from Canada, Germany, Russia, Nepal, Switzerland, India, Poland, Portugal, Japan, and the United States. The variation has been found in six genome specimens from India, with the UK having the most cases (36).

The National Chemical Laboratory (CSIR-NCL) is now studying the Ratnagiri and Sindhudurg specimens to determine the presence of the Delta Plus variation. These two regions specifically have the highest proportion of active infections in India.

Impact and Treatment

Experts are currently attempting to figure out how this novel variation affects illness development and if it causes severe COVID-19 infection. However, preliminary findings suggest that this novel variation may be resistant to monoclonal antibody cocktail treatments for COVID-19. The therapy, which was recently approved in India, consists of a combination of two drugs: casirivimab and imdevimab.

Some assertions imply that the new variety may be able to evade the coronavirus's immune reaction, but the evidence is insufficient to draw that conclusion. Furthermore, specialists are working to understand numerous other characteristics of Delta Plus, including transmission, infectivity, and resistance to vaccinations.

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News18

NCL organized a national webinar on the Integrated scientific approach

CSIR-NCL

19th June, 2021

New Delhi: NCL organized a national webinar on the Integrated scientific approach for sustainable development Professionals and scientists presented their views on the Integrated scientific approach for restoration of the ecosystem and livelihood generation. Northern Coalfields Limited (NCL), The subsidiary of Coal India Limited organised a National Webinar on Saturday in celebration of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav on the Integrated scientific approach for restoration of the ecosystem by developing and adopting best practices for environment conservation, promoting sustainable farming practices, and livelihood generation.

CMD NCL Shri P K Sinha, Joint Secretary MoC Shri B. P. Pati, Functional Directors of NCL Dr. Anindya Sinha, Shri S S Sinha, Shri R N Dubey, eminent scientists from renowned national institutes, and other professionals joined the webinar. Director (Technical/Project and Planning) Shri S S Sinha chaired the technical presentation session while Dr. Shalini Dhyani Sr Scientist from CSIR-NEERI Nagpur was the coordinator.

Dr. Anindya Sinha, Director (Technical/Operations), NCL presented the NCL's model for Integration of innovations and research for Clean & Green India. Dr. Shalini Dhyani, Senior Scientist, CSIR-NEERI put his views on Sustainable Land Restoration for Ecosystem Services, income diversification.

Dr. H.B. Vasistha, Retd, Scientist & Head, Forest Ecology and Climate Change Division FRI, Dehradun presented the case study on Eco-restoration at Krishnashila and Nigahi Projects of

NCL-Need, Methodology & its impact. Dr. Yogesh K Dubey, Professor, IIFM, Bhopal put the Integrated Wildlife Management Plan of Singrauli Region.

Shri Hemant & his team from NCL-IIT (BHU) Incubation Centre presented the model of "KisanGanga: A self-sustainable model for socio-economic and environmental sustainability of Farmers and Tribes of the country.

Published in:
Psuconnect

India and US launch a hydrogen task force in clean energy push

CSIR-NCL

19th June, 2021

The United States Department of Energy (DOE), India's Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) and the US India Strategic Partnership Forum (USISPF) have jointly launched a US-India Hydrogen Task Force. This is under the US-India Strategic Clean Energy Partnership (SCEP). India and US had decided to revamp their strategic partnership to focus on clean energy sectors such as biofuels and hydrogen after the Joe Biden administration took charge. In March this year, the two countries said they will intensify efforts to take advantage of advanced U.S. technologies and India's rapidly growing energy market.

An official statement said this new Task Force represents industry and government stake holders to assess technology status, study innovative policy options, and make recommendations. The formation of this task force was first announced in April 2021 by US Deputy Secretary of Energy, David M Turk.

"The US and India can help solve the climate crisis by finding ways to scale up access, affordability, and deployment of critical hydrogen technologies. The US-India Hydrogen Task Force bridges government research with industry perspectives," said Ken Vincent, US-India Hydrogen Task Force Co-Chair, and Director of Office of Asian Affairs, Office of International Affairs at Department of Energy (DOE)

Vincent said that the goal is to reach the collective goal of decarbonizing high-polluting

industrial sectors and achieving a greener, cleaner planet.

“USISPF members are represented across the hydrogen supply chain, and we are very excited about the launch of this new public-private partnership. The U.S. India Hydrogen Task Force will help scale up technologies to produce hydrogen from renewable energy and fossil fuel sources and bring down the cost of deployment for enhanced energy security and sustainability”, said Nolty Theriot, Senior Vice President of Government Affairs, USISPF.

The Hydrogen Task Force will be organized into a Steering Committee at the Government level, an Industry council, and working groups or subcommittees in identified priority areas. The focus will be on strengthening cooperation on hydrogen between industry and institutions from both countries.

Another Hydrogen centred association gaining momentum is the India H2 Alliance.

Earlier this week, JSW Steel, CSIR-National Chemical Lab (CSIR-NCL) and the Scottish Development International (SDI) joined this alliance. Think tanks TERI, CEEW, WRI India will be collaborating as partners of the IH2A industry coalition. All of these will be working with the Indian government to build the hydrogen economy and supply chain in the country.

The new member and partner organisations will work with IH2A Steering group Co-Leads Chart Industries and Reliance Industries Limited (RIL). "The India H2 Alliance will focus on industrial clusters, specifically steel, refineries, fertilizer, cement, ports and logistics; as well as heavy-duty transport use cases and the establishment of standards for storage and transport hydrogen in pressurised and liquified form," a statement from this association which was formed in April had said.

Published in:
Business-standard

CSIR-IMMT

19th June, 2021

ଆଇଏମ୍‌ଏମ୍‌ଟିରେ ଇ-ୱାର୍କଶପ୍

ଭୁବନେଶ୍ୱର,୧୮।୬

ଇନ୍‌ଷ୍ଟିଚ୍ୟୁଟ୍ ଅଫ୍ ମିନେରାଲ ଆଣ୍ଡ ମ୍ୟାଟେରିଆଲ ଟେକ୍ନୋଲୋଜି(ଆଇଏମ୍‌ଏମ୍‌ଟି) ପକ୍ଷରୁ ଇ-ୱାର୍କଶପ୍ ଭର୍ଚୁଆଲ ଭାବେ ଶୁଭାରମ୍ଭ ହୋଇଛି। ଇନୋଭେଶନ ଏବଂ ଇଣ୍ଟେଲେକ୍‌ଚୁଆଲ ପ୍ରପର୍ଟିର ବିଭିନ୍ନ ଦିଗ ଉପରେ ଏନ୍‌ସିଏଲ୍ ଇନୋଭେଶନର ଚିଫ୍ ସାଇଣ୍ଟିଷ୍ଟ ଡ. ପ୍ରନଥ ଭେନୁଗୋପାଲନ ଏଠାରେ ବିସ୍ତୃତ ଭାବେ ଆଲୋଚନା କରିଥିଲେ। କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମରେ ପ୍ରାକ୍ଟିକାଲ ଏକ୍ସପେରିଏନ୍ସ, କେସ୍ ଷ୍ଟଡି, ଇଣ୍ଟେଲେକ୍‌ଚୁଆଲ ପ୍ରପର୍ଟି ସମ୍ପର୍କିତ ଟ୍ରେନିଂ ସହ ଅନେକ ସେସନ ରହିଛି। ଆଇପିଆର୍ ଫାର୍ମ, ଏକାଡେମି, ସାଇଣ୍ଟିଫିକ ଏବଂ ଇଣ୍ଡିଆନ ପ୍ୟାଟେଣ୍ଟ ଆଦିରୁ ୨୨ ଜଣ ବିଶେଷଜ୍ଞ ଆଇପି ଇକୋସିଷ୍ଟମର ବିଭିନ୍ନ ଦିଗ ଉପରେ ଏଠାରେ ଆଲୋଚନା କରିବେ। ଏଭଳି କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମ ଫଳରେ ଶିକ୍ଷାନୁଷ୍ଠାନ, ରିସର୍ଚ୍ଚ, ଶିଳ୍ପ, ଏମ୍‌ଏସ୍‌ଏମ୍‌ଇ, ଷ୍ଟାର୍ଟଅପ୍ ସହ ବିଭିନ୍ନ ସଂସ୍ଥାର ବ୍ୟକ୍ତି ବିଶେଷ ଲାଭବାନ ହୋଇପାରିବେ ବୋଲି ଆଇଏମ୍‌ଏମ୍‌ଟି ଭୁବନେଶ୍ୱରର ନିର୍ଦ୍ଦେଶକ ପ୍ରଫେସର ଏସ୍.ବାସୁ କହିଛନ୍ତି। ସିଏସ୍‌ଆଇଆର୍ ଆଇଏମ୍‌ଏମ୍‌ଟି ଇନ୍‌କ୍ୟୁବେଶନ ସେଣ୍ଟର ଇନ୍‌ଟେକ ଆରମ୍ଭ ହୋଇଥିବା ସେ ସୂଚନା ଦେଇଛନ୍ତି। କାର୍ଯ୍ୟକ୍ରମରେ ଇନ୍‌ଟେକ୍‌ର ସିଇଓ ଡ.ଅଶୋକ ସାହୁ, ପିଏମ୍‌ଇ ହେଡ୍ ଡ.ଏସ୍. ଜେନା ଏବଂ ସିନିୟର ସାଇଣ୍ଟିଷ୍ଟ ପବନ କୁମାରଙ୍କ ସହ ବିଭିନ୍ନ କ୍ଷେତ୍ରରୁ ବ୍ୟକ୍ତିବିଶେଷ ଅଂଶ ଗ୍ରହଣ କରିଥିଲେ।

A week long National e-Workshop on Innovation & Intellectual Property Rights organised by CSIR-IMMT (Institute of Minerals and Materials Technology), Bhubaneswar, Odisha.

Published in:

Dharitri, Prameya

CSIR And Tata MD Partner To Make COVID-19 Detection More Accessible Across India By Harnessing Network Of CSIR Labs

CSIR-NEIST,IIIM,CSMCRI,NIIST,IGIB,IIP

18th June, 2021

New Delhi: The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), India's apex scientific research organisation and Tata MD, the new healthcare venture from the Tata Group have announced a significant partnership to ramp up the COVID-19 testing capacity across Tier II and III towns as well as rural areas across India. CSIR and Tata MD are developing this capacity to manage any future surge in the COVID-19 testing requirements.

The initiative will utilise CSIR's network of labs across India and help increase India's testing capacity in smaller locations in the country. CSIR and Tata MD will jointly develop the testing capacity and the RT-PCR CRISPR test will be done using the Tata MD CHECK SARS-CoV-2 test kits that are powered by FELUDA technology from CSIR-IGIB.

"Apart from vaccination, rapid testing and isolation of SARS-CoV-2 positive persons has emerged as the best strategy in combating Covid-19. This initiative in partnership with Tata MD, to deploy the RT-PCR CRISPR test across multiple CSIR labs spread across the country is an important step. This will augment the national capacity to test for COVID and detect it locally" said Dr Shekhar C Mande, Director General, CSIR.

Tata MD is also deploying a proprietary 3-room design mobile testing lab that can conduct end-to-end, on-site COVID-19 testing to increase the testing capacity in the state.

"By partnering with CSIR's network of labs and deploying fully equipped mobile laboratories, we are confident that we can quickly augment testing capacity using faster and scalable methods. This will significantly enhance the ability of state and district administrations to ensure wider availability and easier access to testing on an on-going basis," said Girish Krishnamurthy, CEO and MD of Tata Medical and Diagnostics.

Significantly, 13 CSIR labs have been engaged in carrying out RT-PCR testing during the Covid-19 pandemic and this partnership between CSIR and TATA-MD is aimed at expanding the testing capacity further over the next few months by deploying the TATA-MD CHECK testing via the vast network of 37 CSIR labs spread across the country from CSIR-IIIM in Jammu in North to CSIR-NIIST in Thiruvananthapuram in South and CSIR-CSMCRI, Bhavnagar in West to CSIR-NEIST Jorhat in North-East.

The first CSIR lab to go live with Tata MD is located at CSIR-Indian Institute of Petroleum (IIP), Dehradun, Uttarakhand. Commenting on the development, Dr Anjan Ray, Director CSIR-IIP, 'We are happy that CSIR-IIP is the first CSIR lab to launch this initiative and the current testing capacity will be 800 daily tests that can be scaled up using the Tata MD CHECK automation solution if demand rises significantly'.

Tata MD provides an end-to-end and reliable COVID-19 testing solution-

Tata MD CHECK SARS-CoV-2 test: A paper strip based RT-PCR CRISPR test Powered by FELUDA from CSIR-IGIB, which has been approved by ICMR and is simple with high accuracy and requires standard laboratory equipment like thermocyclers.

Tata MD Automated testing solution- Tata MD CHECK Automated testing solution can increase testing capacity by thousands with no cross-contamination. The solution can be deployed in an existing NABL II approved molecular laboratory as well as Tata MD mobile testing labs.

Tata MD Mobile Testing Labs- Tata MD is also deploying a proprietary 3-room design mobile testing lab, the lab built in partnership with Lowe's and United way and fabricated by ShanMukha MIT can conduct end-to-end, on-site COVID-19 testing to increase the testing capacity in the state.

About Tata Medical and Diagnostics Ltd (Tata MD)

Tata Medical and Diagnostics Ltd (Tata MD), the new wholly owned healthcare venture from the Tata Group, aims to provide leading-edge, patient-centric diagnostic solutions to make healthcare access more reliable for consumers.

Tata MD's products and solutions will span different facets of a fast-evolving healthcare economy including the launch CRISPR-based innovative diagnostics, state-of-the-art medical devices as well as integrated 'connected care' solutions for rural and urban consumers.

Launched during the 2020 pandemic, Tata MD has developed and launched Tata MD CHECK, the world's first commercially available CRISPR Cas-9 based COVID-19 test, powered by FELUDA from CSIR-IGIB, a leading Indian biosciences research institute.

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Indiaeducationdiary

CSIR-IHBT

18th June, 2021

कुल्लू जिले में भी होगी औषधीय हींग की खेती

जिले के बंजार, कुल्लू और नग्गर में रोपे गए हींग के 350 पौधे

रोशन ठाकुर

कुल्लू। जिले में भी अब औषधीय गुणों से भरपूर हींग की खेती की जाएगी। इसके लिए कृषि विभाग कुल्लू ने घाटी के सात किसानों को 350 हींग के पौधे वितरित किए हैं। जून से इन्हें खेतों में लगाया गया है।

हींग की खेती के लिए कुल्लू जिले की जलवायु को भी उपयुक्त पाया गया है और बतौर ट्रायल जिला के नग्गर, सैंज तथा कुल्लू में किया जा रहा है। औषधीय गुणों से भरपूर हींग की खेती बढ़ावा देने के लिए अब देश में पैदावार की जा रही है। अफगानिस्तान से लाए गए हींग के बीज का पालमपुर स्थित हिमालय जैव संपदा प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान (सीएसआईआर) की लैब में वैज्ञानिक तरीके से तैयार किया गया है।

संस्थान ने ट्रायल के तौर पर हींग की पैदावार के लिए जिला कुल्लू को भी चुना है। सीएसआईआर की यह पहल कामयाब हुई तो हींग से जिला कुल्लू के किसानों की आर्थिकी में और मजबूती आएगी। जिला कृषि अधिकारी कुल्लू डॉ. प्रकाश कश्यप ने कहा कि देश में हींग की खेती को बढ़ावा देने के लिए अफगानिस्तान से हींग का बीज लाकर संस्थान ने इससे पौधा तैयार कर विकसित किया है। देश में सालाना हींग की खपत करीब 1200 टन है। भारत अफगानिस्तान, उज्वेकिस्तान, ईरान से हर साल हींग का आयात करता है। कहा कि संस्थान ने पालमपुर स्थित रिसर्च सेंटर में हींग के पौधों की लगभग आधा दर्जन वैरायटी तैयार किया है। कहा कि शोध के बाद सीएसआईआर ने कुल्लू जिले को हींग उत्पादन के लिए सही पाया है। लाहौल-स्पीति और चंबा जिले को भी हींग के खेती के लिए उपयुक्त माना गया है। हींग की खेती के लिए तापमान 20 से 30 डिग्री तापमान होना जरूरी है ओर कुल्लू के बड़ाग्रां, बंदरोल व सैंज के धाउगी के सात किसानों को हींग का बीज वितरित किया है। ट्रायल में लगभग दो बीघा भूमि पर 350 हींग के पौधों की खेती की जा रही है। - संवाद

जिला कुल्लू में हींग के खेत में महिला।

पांच साल बाद तैयार होगी हींग की फसल

कुल्लू। हींग की फसल पांच साल में तैयार होगी। पौधे की जड़ पूरी तरह तैयार होने के बाद बीज तैयार होगे। बाजार में एक किलो हींग का रेट 25 हजार से अधिक मिलता है। हींग के पौधे से निकलने वाले दूध को सूखाया जाता है और बाद में एक ठोस पदार्थ का रूप लेता है।

HIMACHAL PRADESH PUBL
INVITATION F

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Amar Ujala

CSIR-IHBT

18th June, 2021

जानकारी | कृषि मंत्री वीरेंद्र कंवर ने किया सीएसआईआर और आईएचबीटी का दौरा

किसानों की आय बढ़ाने में अहम किरदार निभा रहा आईएचबीटी

कार्यालय संवाददाता - पालमपुर

ग्रामीण विकास, पंचायती राज, कृषि, पशुपालन एवं मछली पालन मंत्री वीरेंद्र कंवर ने सीएसआईआर-हिमालय जैवसंपदा प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान का दौरा किया। उन्होंने संस्थान के शोध कार्यों एवं प्रक्षेत्र गतिविधियों का अवलोकन किया तथा वैज्ञानिकों से चर्चा की। उन्होंने आशा व्यक्त की कि संस्थान राज्य में ग्रामीण विकास के साथ-साथ किसानों की आय बढ़ाने तथा उन्हें आत्मनिर्भर बनाने में अपना सक्रिय योगदान देगा। उन्होंने संस्थान को राज्य सरकार की ओर से पूर्ण सहयोग देने का आश्वासन भी दिया। संस्थान के निदेशक डा. संजय कुमार ने संस्थान की शोध एवं प्रौद्योगिकी विकास से संबंधित उपलब्धियों, खास कर हींग और केसर जैसी बहुमूल्य फसलों के बारे में जानकारी दी। संस्थान समय-समय पर प्रदेश के लाहुल और स्पीति जिला में हींग तथा चंबा, कुल्लू और मंडी जिलों में केसर की खेती के लिए किसानों को रोपण सामग्री उपलब्ध करवाता रहा है। पुष्प खेती एवं शहद उत्पादन के क्षेत्र में संस्थान एक अग्रणी भूमिका निभा रहा है। इस क्षेत्र में हजारों किसानों, बागबानों एवं उद्यमियों को जोड़ा गया है। साथ ही व्यवसायिक रूप से महत्त्वपूर्ण 'मसाला फसलों की खेती के कार्यक्रम' भी संस्थान ने शुरू

किए हैं। इस सफलता से न केवल युवाओं को रोजगार मिलेगा, अपितु किसानों की आय में भी वृद्धि होगी, जिससे 'आत्मनिर्भर भारत' के संकल्प को सिद्ध करने में सहायता मिलेगी। संस्थान, प्रदेश के ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में जंगली गेंदे, दमस्क गुलाब, नींबू घास, सुगंधबाला आदि जैसे सुगंधित फसलों की खेती और प्रसंस्करण द्वारा किसानों की आय बढ़ाने में सक्रिय भूमिका निभा रहा है, जिससे किसान परंपरागत फसलों की अपेक्षा अधिक आय प्राप्त करके आत्मनिर्भता की ओर बढ़ रहे हैं। इस अवसर पर डा. अजय कुमार शर्मा, सचिव, कृषि विभाग, राकेश कंवर, विशेष सचिव, (कृषि), नरेश ठाकुर, निदेशक, कृषि विभाग, डा. अजमेर सिंह डोगरा, निदेशक, पशुपालन विभाग तथा डा. राजेश्वर चंदेल कार्यक्रम निदेशक व प्राकृतिक खेती भी मौजूद रहे।

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Divya Himachal, Himachal Dastak

CSIR-IHBT

17th June, 2021

Minister lauds works of CSIR

PALAMPUR, JUNE 17

Virendra Kanwar, Minister for Rural Development, Panchayati Raj, Agriculture, Animal Husbandry, today visited the CSIR-Himalayan Institute of Bioresource Technology.

He appreciated works and achievements of the institute and expressed hope that along with rural development, the CSIR-IHBT would work towards increasing the income of farmers and making them self-reliant.

"The institute is playing an active role in increasing the income of farmers by cultivating and processing aromatic crops such as wild marigold, damask rose, lemon grass, sugandhabala etc. This will help farmers earn more as compared to traditional crops," said the minister. TNS

Published in:
The Tribune

HC directs Karnataka to start survey of Vrishabhavathi Valley

CSIR-NEERI

17th June, 2021

The Karnataka High Court has directed the state government to start a survey of the whole stretch of the Vrishabhavathi river to check encroachment and illegal construction on its banks from the Bengaluru Urban area until the limits of the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP).

It did this after the CSIR-National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (CSIR-NEERI) recommended a complete survey of the Vrishabhavathi river valley. "The survey should include complete details of illegal encroachments, buffer area to be maintained stormwater drain, agricultural runoff, actual boundaries of all the lakes, " NEERI said.

The Court also directed the government to file an affidavit, setting a time limit for completing the survey. The order was passed by a division bench of Chief Justice Abhay Shreeniwas Oka, and Justice Suraj Govindaraj was in response to a Public Interest Litigation (PIL) filed by advocate and social activist Geetha Misra.

The bench directed the additional chief secretary and the Urban development department to hold a meeting of all authorities concerning the rejuvenation of the river.

In its report submitted to the court in compliance with its order, NEERI stated the city's current estimated sewage waste generation is 1,440 MLD. It also pointed out that there are about 293 industries in the valley, and these industries generate hazardous waste of 2,680.152 per annum

NEERI focused on two main issues: disposal of effluent, domestic and industrial wastewater, and solid waste, which must be addressed on priority to rejuvenate the river.

NEERI also made some recommendations in terms of short-term measures to be undertaken:

- Check unauthorised developments around lakes
- Prevent entry of waste
- Fence along the stretch of the river to avoid solid waste dumping
- The toll-free number to receive complaints about dumping
- Mobile application to check illegal construction
- Ban on use of phosphates in the manufacture of detergents
- Stop illegal discharge of effluent
- Survey of the whole stretch of river
- Fence along the periphery of the river
- Dredging and desilting
- De-weeding and construction of silt traps/screens at inlet points
- Diversion of sewage from existing stormwater drains

Published in:
Theleaflet

Neanderthal gene is not making South Asians sick: Indian study

CSIR-CCMB

17th June, 2021

A gene remnant that humans inherited from Neanderthals is not making South Asians more prone to severe form of SARS-CoV-2 as it was suggested by some well-known geneticists in the West, showed a study by Indian researchers published in Scientific Reports on Friday.

In September last year, a geneticist Svante Paabo, at Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology at Leipzig in Germany, credited for his pathbreaking work on the Neanderthal genome, and his colleague Hugo Zeberg, in a paper published in Nature said an ancient gene variant from the extinct hominin that some people carry make them prone to serious complications from Covid-19. Their study which included samples from many Bangladeshi-descendants in the UK, found that nearly 30 per cent of South Asians have this variant in their genome as against 8 per cent of Europeans and 4 per cent of Americans.

However, a team of Indian researchers mainly from Banaras Hindu University (BHU) in Varanasi and the Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology, Hyderabad found that the presence of this gene variant – called Neanderthal core haplotype — does not pose greater risk to Indians or even Bangladeshis unlike their counterparts in Europe.

“They collected data coming from the UK Bangladeshi population and there they showed that the frequency of deaths (in the first wave) was two times more than the native population. Then they assumed that this could be because of this gene variant found in higher frequency in Bangladeshi population,” said Gyaneshwer Chaubey, a professor of genetics at BHU.

“But as we have seen from other international projects, people who are living away from the countries of origin for long have many other factors such as food habits, nutrition level and hygiene that alter their susceptibility to diseases,” Chaubey said.

Genetic factors

He strongly believes that there are some genetic factors that are protecting our people from severity of the infection and that will not be known unless and until genomic wide association (GWA) studies are carried out in India.

Kumarasamy Thangaraj, a CSIR-CCMB scientist and another senior author of the paper, agreed that such largescale GWA studies covering populations from different States are required to understand genetic susceptibility and resistance to the infection. In the current study, the scientists compared the infection and case fatality rates with South Asian genomic data over three different timelines during the pandemic but failed to establish a correlation.

Significantly, in an earlier study, Chaubey together with researchers from multiple institutions across the country chanced upon a gene variant associated with ACE2 receptor, an enzyme that offers a gateway to the SARS-CoV-2 virus into the human system. They showed that this variant has a protective effect on people. Whichever State that had a lower frequency of this gene had suffered maximum during the first wave of the pandemic. While only 30 per cent people had this gene variant in Maharashtra, which suffered the maximum, while it was close to 90 per cent in the north-eastern population, which was among the least affected.

When asked why did India then have a second wave, the BHU professor said it could be attributed to the emergence of more deadly virus variants. “This is precisely the reason we need a dedicated GWA on South Asian Covid-19 patients,” he said.

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Thehindubusinessline

NBT Reality Check: Footpaths are misguided, roads are deadly… how to walk here in Delhi

CSIR-CRRI

17th June, 2021

Highlights:

- 45 to 47 percent of pedestrians die in Delhi road accidents
- Lack of infrastructure required to cross the road
- According to the 2019 report, 678 pedestrians were killed in Delhi in a year.

New Delhi

Recently, five people including four members of a family were crushed by a dumper in Najagphad. The place where this accident happened, there was a footpath but vehicles were parked on it, so the pedestrians were going on the road only when they were crushed by the dumper. This condition is not only in Najafgarh, but in most areas of Delhi. The statistics of the traffic police themselves show that about half of the people who die in road accidents are pedestrians. Despite this, no agency is ready to remove the encroachments on the roads. What is the condition of footpaths in Delhi, NBT reporters took stock of it and also talked to experts about the problem of footpaths. There are no footpaths anywhere, so somewhere it is occupied, where should the pedestrians go?

45 to 47 percent of pedestrians died in accidents

Delhi Traffic Police She herself believes that the roads of the city are the biggest danger for the passers-by. In Delhi, 45 to 47 percent of the people who die in road accidents are pedestrians. The main reason for this is that there are not enough subways and footover bridges on the roads, nor are the footpaths good enough for pedestrians to walk on them.

Lack of infrastructure required to cross the road

According to the Delhi Traffic Police's 2019 report, 678 pedestrians were killed and 1887 were injured in a year. In this report, the reason for the loss of lives of these people has been

told due to lack of necessary infrastructure to cross the road. At the same time, it has also been said that the condition of the footpaths is bad. They are neither user friendly nor maintenance. A large number of footpaths are occupied, due to which pedestrians have to walk on the road.

Design flaws in sidewalks

Chief Scientist and Road Safety Expert, Central Road Research Institute (CRRI), Dr. S. According to Velmurugan, the biggest problem in Delhi is that if you are going somewhere on foot, you don't get any continuous footpath to take you 200 meters safely. There is either encroachment on the footpath or the authorities make their design such that people have to step on the road in the middle. Even on the sidewalks made on deserted roads, vendors come and sit on the sidewalks as seen along the Ridge Road, Shankar Road or Highways.

Because of this people avoid walking on the sidewalk. Apart from this, the design of the sidewalk is also not up to the standards. As per the rules, footpaths should be at least 1.8 meters wide and their height should not exceed 150-200 mm. But in Delhi, there are footpaths of very high, sometimes very low and less width. In NDMC area also the situation is slightly better at few places.

Dr. Velmurugan suggests that there should be quality rating of footpaths in Delhi based on their utility and land use based footpaths should be made. There is a dire need to make pedestrian friendly footpaths, especially in commercial and institutional areas, so that people can walk safely. Enforcement agencies should also take strict action to stop encroachment on them.

Delhi's 20 most dangerous roads for pedestrians…

Road name	Number of pedestrians killed in the accident
ring road	63
Rohtak Road	48
outer ring road	37
GT Karnal Road	36
Najafgarh Road	16
GT Road	14
Mathura Road	13
NH-8	10
Ravidas Marg	9
Mehrauli-Badarpur Road	8
Bawana Road	8
NH-24	7
Wazirabad Road	6
Pushta Road	6
happy way	6
road no 57	6
Narela Road	6
Yamuna Pushta Road	5
New Rohtak Road	5
Burari Road	5

(Data from the Traffic Police report 'Road Accidents in Delhi-2019' analyzing the causes of road accidents)

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Presswire18

Navbharattimes

CSIR-CSIO

17th June, 2021

CSIO, IIT join hands for research works

TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

CHANDIGARH, JUNE 16

The Central Scientific Research Organisation (CSIO) here and the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Ropar, will work in a collaborative manner to pursue the development and commercialisation of products in the field of agriculture and water by complementing each others' capabilities and resources.

A memorandum of understanding (MoU) in this regard was signed by Prof Anantha Ramakrishna, Director of CSIO; and Prof Rajeev Ahuja, Director, IIT Ropar, today. At the IIT, the Technology and Innovation Foundation for the Agriculture and Water Technology Development Hub (AWaDH) will carry out activities under the MoU.

The CSIO is engaged in research, design and development of intelligent scientific and industrial instruments in the area of agrionics, medical devices, optics, photonics, public safety, computational instrumentation, calibration and certification, while AWaDH falls in the framework of the National Mission on Interdisciplinary Cyber Physical Systems to carry out extensive research and development in the domain of agriculture and water.

Prof Ahuja said the MoU would promote and encourage inter-institutional movement of faculties and researchers related to product and technology development in the crucial areas of agriculture and water.

Prof Ramakrishna said the tie up would also facilitate exchange of students for summer and winter internships and research thesis.

PACT TO PROMOTE FACULTY MOVEMENT

Prof Rajeev Ahuja, Director, IIT Ropar, said the MoU would promote and encourage inter-institutional movement of faculties and researchers related to product and technology development in the crucial areas of agriculture and water.

Published in:

The Tribune, Hindustan Time,

CSIR-IICT

16th June, 2021

IICT, Anthem join hands for 2-DG drug

2డీజీ ఔషధంపై సీఎస్ఐఆర్-ఆంథెమ్ బయోసైన్సెస్ ఒప్పందం

ఈనాడు డిజిటల్, హైదరాబాద్: కొవిడ్ నివారణ ఔషధం 2డీజీ తయారీతోపాటు, సాంకేతిక బదిలీకి సంబంధించి తాము ఒప్పందం కుదుర్చుకున్నట్లు హైదరాబాద్‌కు చెందిన సీఎస్ఐఆర్-ఐఐసీటీ, బెంగళూరుకు చెందిన ఆంథెమ్ బయోసైన్సెస్ సంస్థలు మంగళవారం ఒక ప్రకటనలో తెలిపాయి. మధ్యస్థ, తీవ్ర లక్షణాలతో బాధపడుతున్న కరోనా రోగులు ఈ ఔషధంతో త్వరగా కోలుకోగలుగుతున్నట్లు, ఆక్సిజన్‌పై ఆధారపడటం తగ్గుతున్నట్లు అధ్యయనాల్లో వెల్లడైన సంగతి తెలిసిందే. తాజా ఒప్పందం కొవిడ్-19పై పోరాటంలో వివిధ చికిత్సలను ఎంపిక చేసుకునే విషయంలో ప్రజలకు సహాయకారిగా ఉంటుందని సీఎస్ఐఆర్-ఐఐసీటీ డైరెక్టర్ డాక్టర్ చంద్రశేఖర్ తెలిపారు. 2డీజీ తయారీకి దిల్లీలోని డీసీజీఐ నుంచి అనుమతి పొందేందుకు ఆంథెమ్ బయోసైన్సెస్ సంస్థ దరఖాస్తు చేయనుందని ఆయన వెల్లడించారు. అనంతరం కర్ణాటకలోని బొమ్మసాంద్రా, బెంగళూరు, హోరోహల్లి, కనకపుర తదితర ప్రాంతాల్లో సదరు ఔషధాన్ని వాణిజ్యపరంగా ఉత్పత్తి చేయనుందన్నారు. 2డీజీ ఔషధ తయారీలో తమ సంస్థకు అనుభవం ఉందని ఆంథెమ్ బయోసైన్సెస్ సీఈవో, వ్యవస్థాపకుడు అజయ్ భరద్వాజ్ పేర్కొన్నారు.

Published in:
Eenadu

CSIR-IICT

16th June, 2021

IICT, Anthem join hands for 2-DG drug

CITY BUREAU
Hyderabad

City- based Indian Institute of Chemical Technology (IICT) announced signing an agreement for technology transfer and manufacture of the anti Covid drug 2-DG with Anthem Biosciences Pvt. Ltd, a Bengaluru-based integrated biopharmaceutical company.

The agreement with Anthem Biosciences is the second collaboration on 2-DG drug announced by IICT. A few days ago, it entered into a non-exclusive licensing agreement with Hyderabad-based Lee Pharma for synthesis of 2-DG.

The 2-DG drug, which was developed by DRDO and launched by Dr Reddy's Laboratories, is still available in limited quantities across the country. The multiple collaborations of IICT with pharma companies is expected to make 2-DG accessible and affordable in the near future.

Limited studies have shown that 2- DG helps in quick recovery and reduction in oxygen dependence among moderately and severely affected Covid patients. On May 1, the Drug Controller General of India approved 2-DG for emergency use.

Under the terms of the license agreement, Anthem Biosciences gets non-exclusive license for the process knowhow for synthesis of 2-DG. "The agreement is inline with CSIR's efforts to help people access various therapeutic options to combat Covid-19. CSIR labs have undertaken clinical trials of various repurposed drugs for the treatment of Covid-19," Director, CSIR-IICT, Dr S Chandrasekhar said.

Anthem Biosciences is in the process of filing the application for getting the approval from DCGI and will subsequently manufacture and commercialise 2-DG from their facilities.

"We have hands-on experience in the development and manufacturing of prodrug of 2-DG API for a discovery research biopharmaceutical company from the USA. Because of our prior experience on 2-DG Prodrug, post DCGI approval, we are geared up to supply multi-ton API to meet the immediate demand," said Ajay Bhardwaj, CEO and Founder of Anthem Biosciences.

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CSIR-NML

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एनएमएल के कर्मियों व परिजनों को लगा टीका

जमशेदपुर. एनएमएल में टीकाकरण अभियान चलाया गया. इसमें एनएमएल के ऐसे कर्मी, जिनकी आयु 45 साल से अधिक है, उन्हें टीका लगाया गया. मंगलवार को कुल 25 लोगों ने टीका लगवाया. इसमें सेंट्रल वेलफेयर समिति के अध्यक्ष डॉ अरविंद सिन्हा, गोलमुरी वेलफेयर समिति के अध्यक्ष डॉ डी मिश्रा, सचिव डॉ रंधाना, एग्रिको वेलफेयर समिति के अध्यक्ष डॉ केएल हांसदा, सचिव कृष्णा कुमार, वरिष्ठ चिकित्सा पदाधिकारी डॉ अरविंद कुमार आर्या, कुमार राहुल समेत अन्य मौजूद थे.

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Metro to monitor vibration levels at 80 spots on Yellow, Violet lines

CSIR-CRRI

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The monitoring of vibration levels will be done on two corridors: Yellow Line (Huda City Centre to Samaypur Badli) and Violet Line (Kashmere Gate –Raja Nahar Singh). The Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) will soon start monitoring the vibration levels at 80 locations in the Capital to ensure that they stay within permissible limits in the underground sections of the network, said DMRC officials.

The monitoring of vibration levels will be done on two corridors: Yellow Line (Huda City Centre to Samaypur Badli) and Violet Line (Kashmere Gate –Raja Nahar Singh).

"This type of vibration monitoring helps in ensuring that track and rolling stock systems are performing within the defined parameters. The samples will be randomly collected from different locations to assess whether the vibration levels are within acceptable limits. If any variation is reported, then accordingly necessary steps are taken to mitigate the same," said a DMRC official.

With the expansion of its network in the Capital, the agency has in the past received complaints from residents that they feel the vibration every time a train passes in the tunnel. In the past, residents of Saket, Hauz Khas, Begumpur, Shahbad Mohammadpur, Sarvpriya Vihar have raised the issue. Vibration is caused due to the interaction between the wheel and the rail track in underground stations.

According to Dr Nasim Akhtar, principal scientist at transportation planning and environment division, CSIR-Central Road Research Institute (CRRI) vibration above 72VdB (vibration decibel) can cause some discomfort to people. Akhtar said vibration on underground tracks is usually between 70-80 VdB, but on a soil base it gets killed. The vibration is amplified where the track has been laid on a rocky surface.

Akhtar said, "It is good that they are checking the vibrations at different locations. It is needed, especially in old systems, to identify areas on tracks or wheels, which require repair. The vibration levels are high in underground tracks near the curves. If the tracks are on rocky surface, then it will amplify the vibration level."

DMRC officials said that the Metro has been regularly monitoring vibration levels.

"In the past, such monitoring has been carried out at locations such as Saket, Malaviya Nagar, Begumpur, Hauz Khas, Khan Market, Golf Links, Azadpur, Palam, Dashrathpuri, etc. DMRC since its beginning has taken adequate care to ensure that vibration levels in its underground section remain within permissible limits."

DMRC officials said efforts have been taken to reduce vibration in the underground network constructed in Phase-I and II.

Anuj Udhrain, secretary of Hauz Khas Central RWA, said, "There are around 60 houses in the area which are affected by the vibration caused due to trains passing underground. The problem has aggravated over the past two years."

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