



VPCI NEWSLETTER

VALLABHBHAI PATEL CHEST INSTITUTE

University of Delhi, Delhi-110007, India

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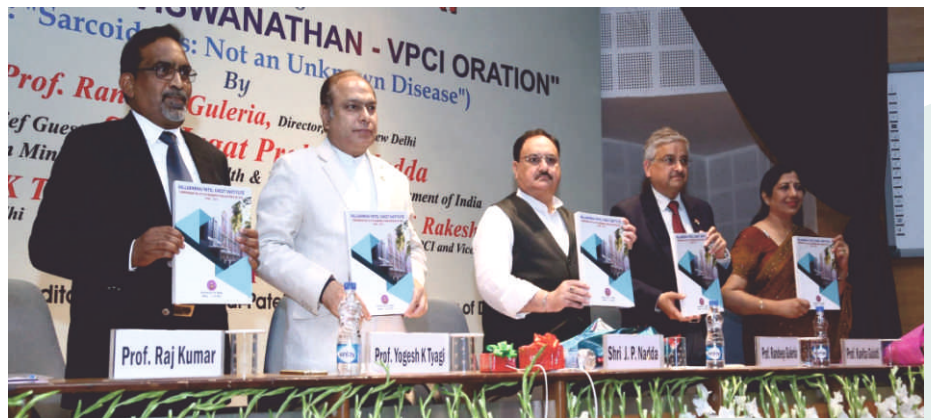
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FROM THE EDITORS DESK

It is with great pleasure; we are presenting the VPCI Newsletter to you for the period January - June 2018.



The V.P. Chest Institute organized many academic programmes during this period including: 65th Institute Day and 4th H.S. Randhawa Oration on 12th January 2018, 69th Foundation Day and 20th Prof. Raman Vishwanathan Oration on 6th April 2018, Public Lectures, Workshops etc. The Institute celebrated 69th Republic Day Celebration, 4th International Yoga Day, NTQLS Awareness Programme and Fortnight Swachhata Pakhwada.

The New Patient Registration Hall, Patients Education Centre and Daily Digital Pollen Count Information for Public were inaugurated during this period.



Prof. Raj Kumar, Director (Acting), congratulates the VPCI faculty, staff and students on their achievements and wishes them all the very best in all their future endeavours.

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EVENTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

65th Institute Day and 4th Prof. H.S. Randhawa Oration - 12th January 2018

The Institute celebrated its 65th Institute Day on 12th January 2018 at the Paintal Memorial Golden Jubilee Auditorium, VPCI, Delhi. Prof. Devesh K. Sinha, Dean of Colleges, University of Delhi, Delhi, was the Chief Guest and Prof. Rakesh Bhatnagar, Chairman Governing Body, VPCI presided over the function. Prof. Raj Kumar, Director (Acting), VPCI, gave brief report on the Institute activities of the past year. On this day, former faculty, staff and students of the Institute were felicitated.



EVENTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

65th Institute Day and 4th Prof. H.S. Randhawa Oration - 12th January 2018

Prof. Devesh K. Sinha, the Chief Guest, inaugurated the “**Patients Education Centre**” at Viswanathan Chest Hospital, the hospital wing of the Institute. The aim of this Centre is to educate, train and counsel the patients regarding good inhalation therapy, bronchoscopy, etc., and enable the patients to cope up with these tests and get the best results. The patient care brochure was released by Prof. Raj Kumar, Director (Acting).



During the Institute Day celebration (on 12th January 2018), the Institute also organised the 4th Prof. H.S. Randhawa Oration in honour of our former Director, Prof. H.S. Randhawa, an internationally acclaimed medical mycologist. Dr. Rajesh S. Gokhale, former Director, CSIR-IGIB, Delhi, delivered this Oration (titled; *TB Disease Manifestations & Mycobacterial Respiratory Versatility*”).



Mr. Deepak Kumar Mishra, Laboratory Attendant, was adjudged as the Best All-Round Sportsman and Ms. Deepa, Stenographer (Joint Registrar Office) was adjudged as the Best All-Round Sportswoman and Mr. Suresh Kumar Thokchom, PhD Student, Department of Pharmacology and Mr. Rohit Taank (Son of Mr. Ramesh Taank, Laboratory Attendant, Department of Microbiology) were adjudged joint winners of Cultural performance for the year. Prof. Kavita Gulati, Department of Pharmacology, VPCI was the Convener of this Programme.

EVENTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

69th Republic Day Celebration - 26th January 2018



The 69th Republic Day function was celebrated on 26th January 2018 at the VPCI campus. The ceremony was attended by VPCI staff with their family members and the relatives of the Indoor patients. Prof. Raj Kumar, Director (Acting), VPCI hoisted the flag. The celebration ended with distributing sweets to all the participants as well as the indoor patients.

Public Lecture Series

Use and Misuse of Antibiotics - 30th January 2018



The Institute organized a Public Lecture on “Use and Misuse of Antibiotics” on 30th January 2018 with the aim to spread awareness about appropriate use of antibiotics and impact of antibiotic resistance amongst general public. Prof. Raj Kumar, Director (Acting), VPCI, in his opening remarks, stressed that avoiding overuse required healthcare professionals and the public to be well informed about use and misuse of antibiotics. These had been set out in the first objective of the World Health Organization, Global Action Plan and in National Action Plan on AMR prepared by

EVENTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Government of India. Prof. Anita Kotwani, Head, Pharmacology Department, VPCI stressed that adequate knowledge and awareness about antibiotic resistance is necessary along with change in behaviour for appropriate antibiotic use. She emphasized the need of community sensitization which can immensely contribute towards controlling the misuse of antibiotics to combat antibiotic resistance and save the effective antibiotics for future generations. Dr. A.C. Dhariwal, Director, National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC), informed the audience that Govt. of India has taken cognizance of the emergence of antibiotic resistance and has accordingly prepared a National Action Plan involving different Ministries and Departments. Approximately, 300 people participated in this programme. The speakers answered a variety of queries on Antibiotics from public. Participants were thankful for the interactive session and expressed happiness about the simple explanations provided about their problems.

Asthma: Causes, Diagnosis and Treatment - 28th February 2018



To create awareness as well as educate people and improve care for the asthmatics, the Institute organized a Public Lecture on “Asthma: Causes, Diagnosis and Treatment” Programme at the VPCI Auditorium on 28th February 2018. Prof. Raj Kumar, Director (Acting), VPCI, spoke about the high burden of asthma worldwide, with more than 300 million asthmatic of which about a tenth of those lived in India. Prof. B.K. Menon and Dr. Nitin Goel, Dept. of Pulmonary Medicine, VPCI spoke on the diagnosis and treatment of asthma and importance of regular follow up and drug therapy which can enable patients to lead a normal life. Approximately, 250 people participated in this programme. The speakers answered a variety of queries on Asthma and its related problems from public. Participants were thankful for getting a leaflet on, “Information on Asthma: Causes, Diagnosis & Treatment” and for the interactive session and expressed happiness about the simple explanations provided about their disease.

NTQLS Awareness Programme - 25th February 2018



EVENTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

The National Tobacco Quit Line Services awareness programme was organised at auditorium gate of VPCI on 25th February 2018 from 6:30 am to 9:30 am. There were many subevents including walkathon, skating, cycling, aerobics, mock fire drills and self-defence sessions for women by Delhi Police. In this event, National Tobacco Quit Line Services (NTQLS) personnel briefed the public about the NTQLS programme and its toll free number 1800-11-2356. The NTQLS counsellors and supervisors distributed educational material kits to the participants and clarified their doubts on various quit line service queries.

Fortnight Swachhata Pakhwada, 1st -15th April 2018



The Institute observed Fortnight Swachhata Pakhwada from 1st -15th April 2018 at VPCI Campus and its adjacent places. Prof. Raj Kumar, Director (Acting) administered the “Swachhata Pledge” (in Hindi and English) to all the Staff members and Students of the Institute on 2nd April 2018. The Institute displayed banners, posters on Swachhata elements.

EVENTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

69th Foundation Day and 20th Raman Vishwanathan VPCI Oration - 6th April 2018



EVENTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

The Institute celebrated its 69th Foundation Day on 6th April 2018 by organizing the 20th Raman Viswanathan VPCI Oration. Prof. Randeep Gularia, Director, AIIMS, New Delhi, delivered this Oration titled; “Sarcoidosis: Not an unknown disease”. Shri J.P. Nadda, Hon'ble Union Minister of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India, was the Chief Guest and Prof. Yogesh K. Tyagi, Vice Chancellor, University of Delhi was the Guest of Honor of this event. The Hon'ble Minister inaugurated two digital display boards of “Daily Digital Pollen Count Information for Public” within the premises of the Institute. The residents staying in and around the area can access this and take precautionary measures to avoid allergic reactions. The Hon'ble Minister also inaugurated the “Compendium on List of Research Publications of VPCI (1949-2017)”, since the Institute's inception. A comprehensive film describing the genesis, objectives, functioning and present status of the Institute, prepared by VPCI for the benefit of general public, was also released by the Hon'ble Minister.

Workshop on Quality Laboratory Services - 12th April 2018



A workshop on Quality Laboratory Services was organized by the National Centre of Respiratory Allergy, Asthma and Immunology (NCRAAI), VPCI on 12th April 2018. The programme was organised for the laboratory staff of the Institute to improve the quality of laboratory services. Prof. Raj Kumar, Director (Acting), VPCI inaugurated the programme and released a training manual on Quality Laboratory Services. The programme covered the important aspects in laboratory services by renowned faculty from AIIMS and VPCI.

43rd Workshop on Respiratory Allergy: Diagnosis & Management - 18th - 22nd June 2018



EVENTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

The 43rd Workshop on Respiratory Allergy: Diagnosis & Management was held from 18th June - 22nd June 2018 at the Paintal Memorial Golden Jubilee Auditorium, VPCI, Delhi. The five-day Workshop was jointly organised by the Paintal Memorial Golden Jubilee Auditorium, VPCI, Delhi. The five-day Workshop was jointly organised by the National Center of Respiratory Allergy, Asthma and Immunology (NCRAAI), VPCI and the Institute of Genomics & Integrative Biology, Delhi. Prof. Rakesh Bhatnagar, Chairman, Governing Body, VPCI and Vice-Chancellor, Banaras Hindu University, was the Chief Guest, and Dr. A.B. Singh, Professor Emeritus, CSIR-Institute of Genomics & Integrative Biology, Delhi, was the Guest of Honour of this Programme. Prof. Raj Kumar, Director (Acting), VPCI, in his address gave a brief history of the Workshop and its continuous effort in disseminating the expertise knowledge on respiratory allergy and allied diseases to the Doctors of our country as well as neighboring countries. During this event a practical Training Manual with details of skin testing and pulmonary function testing procedures was released. Approximately, 40 numbers of Doctors from all over the country participated in this Workshop.

Patient Registration Hall - 18th June 2018



On 18th June 2018, Patient Registration Hall was inaugurated by the Chief Guest Prof. Rakesh Bhatnagar, Vice Chancellor of Banaras Hindu University and Chairman, Governing Body VPCI. Prof. Rajendra Prasad, Director Medical Education and Professor & Head, Department of Pulmonary Medicine, Era's Lucknow College and Hospital, Lucknow; Dr. A.B Singh, Emeritus Scientist (Ex), CSIR Institute of Genomics and Integrative Biology, Delhi were the Guest of Honour of the occasion. Prof. Raj Kumar, Director (Acting) dedicated the Patient Registration Hall to the patients for better services. The renovated hall was equipped with comfortable seating arrangement for 40 patients, digital registration and digital token system.

4th International Yoga Day - 21st June 2018



EVENTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

The Institute's Yoga Therapy & Research Centre, in collaboration with Morarji Desai National Institute of Yoga (MDNIY), Delhi celebrated the 4th International Yoga Day event at the Paintal Memorial Golden Jubilee Auditorium of the Institute on 21st June 2018. The event was inaugurated by Prof. Raj Kumar, Director (Acting), VPCI, University of Delhi, Delhi. Prof. Raj Kumar in his address said that Yoga is a precious gift of ancient Indian tradition to mankind, the evolution of International Yoga Day and the efforts of Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi Ji made at the 69th Session of United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) on 27th September 2014. He also stressed Yoga should be started from school level. Mr P.R. Santhanam, Joint Registrar, VPCI in his Welcome address spoke about the benefits of Yoga. Prof. B.K. Menon, Nodal Officer VPCI's Yoga Therapy Research Centre spoke about importance of Yoga and how it helps to improve the quality of life in humans. This International Yoga Day event was followed by a yoga practical session by Mr. Manoj, In-Charge, Yoga Therapy Research Centre and his team from the MDNIY. Approximately, 150 participants (including VPCI staff, students patients of VPCI and general public) participated in the yoga practical session of 40 minutes, under the supervision of trained yoga teachers of MDNIY, in accordance with the module prepared by the AYUSH for the International Yoga Day.

RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

Extramural Research Projects

Presently, 17 Extramurally funded Research Projects (funded by ICMR, DST, AYUSH, CCRUM, MoHFW, DIPAS-DRDO, and NIF), Two MRU-DHR-MoHFW-VPCI and 08 research Fellowships funded by ICMR, DST and CSIR are ongoing in the institute. One new extramurally funded research project and one Research Fellowship was additionally sanctioned during the period 1st January 2018 to 30th June 2018. The details are as follows:

Title of the Research Project

Department

A clinical study to evaluate the effects of yogic intervention on pulmonary functions, inflammatory markers, oxidative stress and health status in patients of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD)

Department of Pharmacology
P.I : Prof. Kavita Gulati
Grant : 18.11 (Lakhs)
Funding Agency : AYUSH

Title of the Research Fellowships

Department

Evaluation of an array of PE-PPE genes for potential use in diagnostic assay to identify *Mycobacterium Tuberculosis*

Mr. Kamal Shrivastava, SRF
Prof. Mandira Varma - Basil, Supervisor
Department of Microbiology
Grant : 2.28 (Lakhs)
Funding Agency : ICMR

EVENTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

Multi-disciplinary Research Unit

The meeting of the Multi-Disciplinary Research Unit's Research Advisory Committee (RAC) was held on 11th April 2018. It was chaired by Prof. Subarata Sinha, Dept. of Biochemistry, AIIMS, Former Director, National Brain Research Centre (NBRC). Prof. Madan Mohan Chaturvedi, Dept. of Zoology, University of Delhi (Co-Chairperson), Prof. B.D. Banerjee, Dept. of Biochemistry, UCMS, Dr. Sunita Saxena, Former Director, National Institute of Pathology-ICMR, Safdarjung, Hospital Campus, Prof. S.K. Bansal, Head, Dept. of Biochemistry, VPCI, Nodal Officer for the VPCI-DHR-ICMR-MRU and Dr. Ritu Kulshrestha, Dept. of Pathology were the other members of this committee.



AWARDS & HONOURS

- **Prof. Raj Kumar** was the Guest of Honour, in inaugural session of International Conference, "Strategies for Promoting Inclusive Development" organised by Dr. Bhim Rao Ambedkar College, University of Delhi, Delhi and South Asian Managements Association at VPCI Auditorium, Delhi on 17th March 2018.

- **Prof. Raj Kumar** was Elected as University Representative on Medical Council of India (MCI), University of Delhi on 11th April 2018.

- **Prof. Raj Kumar** was the Panelist in panel discussion, 'How effective are quitline services in SEAR to promote tobacco cessation. Regional Workshop for Capacity Building in Tobacco Cessation in SEAR, WHO FCTC, New Delhi on 23rd - 24th April 2018.



- **Prof. Raj Kumar** delivered Guest Lecture, on 'Current issues in diagnosis and treatment of sarcoidosis', CME on ILD organised by Chest Care and Research Society in association with Era's Lucknow Medical College and Hospital, Lucknow & UP Tuberculosis Association at Hotel Clarks Awadh, Lucknow on 19th May 2018.

- **Prof. Raj Kumar** delivered Guest Lecture on "Expansion of National Tobacco Quitline" on the eve of World No Tobacco Day Programme at The Leela Palace, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi on 6th - 7th June 2018.



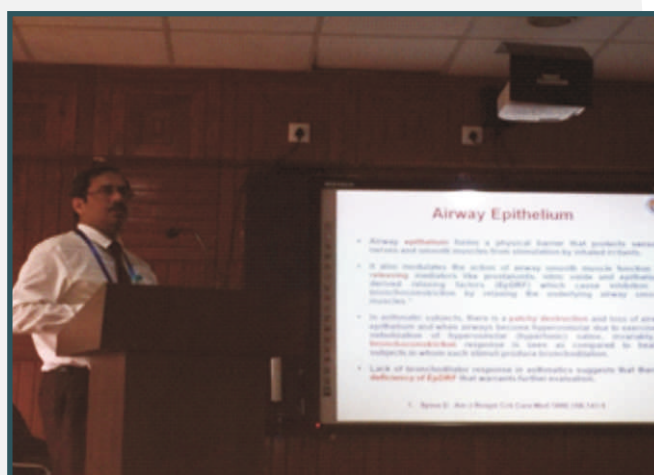
EVENTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

- **Prof. Raj Kumar** delivered four Guest Lectures, on 'Allergy Diagnosis: *in-vivo*', Mites and its allergens: its concentration and clinical relevance', Key factors to be considered before initiation of AIT and management of polysensitized patients' and 'Setting-up an Allergy Clinic' and provide Hands on Practical Training – SPT in 43rd Workshop on Respiratory Allergy: Diagnosis and Management on 18th - 22nd June 2018.
- **Prof. Anita Kotwani** interview on fixed-dose combinations of antibiotics and antimicrobial resistance and the comments appeared in BMJ, 2018 doi:10.1136/bmj.k560, published on 5th February 2018, 'India's antibiotic combinations thwart efforts to curb drug resistance.
- **Prof. Anita Kotwani** delivered Invited talk on, 'The challenge of anti microbial resistance related to waste water discharge from pharmaceutical Industry and hospitals' at interactive workshop organised by the Netherland Embassy on 14th February 2018.
- **Prof. Anita Kotwani** delivered Invited talk on, "Surveillance of antibiotic use: Essential for containment of AMR" at the Annual Indian Pharmacological Society, Mumbai on 15th -17th February 2018.
- **Prof. Anita Kotwani** participated in workshop on “Evidence synthesis of qualitative and mixed methods research” under the Indo-US 21st Century knowledge Initiative projects, organized by Faculty of Social Science, Jamia Milia Islamia, 19th -25th February 2018.
- **Prof. Anita Kotwani** delivered Invited talk on “Drug utilization studies of antimicrobials” during the 35th National Workshop on Clinical Pharmacology organised by the Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education & Research, Chandigarh on 17th March 2018.
- **Prof. Anita Kotwani** delivered Invited talk and interacted with school teachers on “Use and misuse of antibiotics in the community”, at Silver Line Prestige School, Ghaziabad on 31st March 2018.
- **Prof. Kavita Gulati** delivered Invited talk on "The process of reporting ADRs" at skill development programme on basics and regulatory aspects of pharmacovigilance: optimising medicine safety is our goal" at Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission, National Coordination Centre - Pharmacovigilance Program of India (PvPI), Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India from 15th - 24th January 2018.
- **Prof. Kavita Gulati** delivered Invited talk on "Translational research on drug safety in respiratory disorders: focus on methylxanthines" during National Conference on Diseases and Drugs: Emerging Trends and Challenges organized by Zakir Husain Delhi College from 31st January - 1st February 2018.
- **Prof. Kavita Gulati** was the chairperson for the International Conference on "Challenges for Global Competitiveness of AYUSH and Ntatural Products" and the IASTAM Oration and Award Function 2018 organised by DIPSRU, Delhi on 2nd - 4th February 2018.
- **Prof. Kavita Gulati** delivered Invited talk on the "Experimental and clinical studies on methylxanthine induced cardiotoxicity for ensuring drug safety" organized by Madurai University during 10th International Conference on Recent Advances in Cardiovascular Sciences, Academy of Cardiovascular Sciences, Madurai from 8th - 10th February 2018.



EVENTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

- **Prof. Kavita Gulati** delivered Invited talk on "Complementary role of yogic intervention in the management of obstructive airway disease" during Golden Jubilee Concluding Celebrations and 50th Annual Conference of Indian Pharmacological Society (IPSCON-2017) on Theme: Integrating Pharmacology with Modern Healthcare organised by NMIMS, Mumbai from 15th - 17th February 2018.
- **Prof. Kavita Gulati** delivered Guest Lecture on "Adverse event reporting and casualty assessment" in Workshop on "Ethics in Human Research and Good Clinical Practices" at PGIMER, Delhi on 28th March 2018.
- **Prof. Kavita Gulati** delivered Invited talk on "Role of immune system during stress- induced gastric ulcerogenesis: Strategies for gastric cytoprotection" on Advances in GI Cytoprotection during the 10th International Symposium on Cell/Tissue Injury and Cytoprotection/Organoprotection (ISCTICO 2018) in Kyoto, Japan from 28th - 30th June 2018.
- **Dr. Vishal Bansal** delivered Invited talk on "Role of epithelium in the airway responses to hyperosmotic solutions in normal and sensitized Guinea Pigs" jointly organized by Indian Science Congress Association, Kolkata, West Bengal and Manipur University, Imphal, Manipur. 105th Indian Science Congress: Reaching the Unreached Through Science & Technology, Manipur University on 16th -20th March, 2018.
- **Dr. V. Rohil** was invited as External Expert for the "Project meeting on Monitoring and Review Committee (PMRC) 27th February and 15th May 2018 and for the Seventh Executive Board Review Meeting of 12th Five Year Plan project held at DIPAS, DRDO on 18th May 2018.
- **Dr. Ritu Kulshrestha** presented poster paper titled, 'BFGF/FGFR-1, 2 signaling pathway during the remodelling of pulmonary extracellular matrix', at the International Symposium on Immunohistochemistry, Organised by Dept of Pathology at Tata Medical Center, Kolkata in collaboration with International Society for IHC and molecular morphology (ISIMM), California, USA and Nordic Immunohistochemical Quality Control (NordiQC), Aalborg, Denmark, from 4th -7th January 2018.



EVENTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

- **Dr. Ritu Kulshrestha** delivered Guest lecture on “Potpourri of interesting cases and diagnostic traps in broncho-pulmonary cytology” at the CME on Gray Zones and Recent Updates in Breast, Thyroid, Bronchopulmonary and Cervical Cytology Organised by Division of Cytopathology National Institute of Cancer Prevention & Research Noida, 4th-5th June 2018.
- **Dr. Ritu Kulshrestha** delivered Guest lecture on “Tumor dedifferentiation and interstitial lung disease are indicators of poor prognosis in advanced stage papillary adenocarcinoma of lung treated with gefitinib” at the 5th Annual Conference of Asia-Australasian Pulmonary Society, held in Taipei, Taiwan, 31st March - 1st April 2018.



DISTINGUISHED VISITORS



A team of officers from National Alcohol and Tobacco Authority (NATA) Sri Lanka visited National Tobacco Quit Line Services (25th April, 2018) with aim to learn the best practices in tobacco control legislation at National and Sub-National level. Dr. Raj Kumar Director (Actg.) VPCI, Delhi, hosted and chaired the programme. The session started with a brief introduction of the National Tobacco Quit Line Services (NTQLS). In this session, he presented the History of Tobacco, Type of Tobacco use, Harmful effects of Tobacco, Pharmacotherapy, Need of TQLS, Function of National Tobacco Quit Line Services (NTQLS) V.P. Chest Institute, Delhi.

EVENTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

MEDIA REPORTS

The Institute organized a Press Conference of **National Tobacco Quit Line Services (NTQLS)** of VPCI on 11th January 2018. Almost all the English and Hindi newspapers of NCR covered the detailed reports on the services of the NTQLS which were published in their respective editions during 11th - 13th on January 2018.

Prof. Raj Kumar interview to the Hindustan Times (English daily) was quoted in an article “Pollen pollution shoots up during March, post-monsoon”, in the Hindustan Times, (e-paper), on 20th February 2018.

Prof. Raj Kumar interview was quoted in an article “Ghar ke carpet-parde se bhi ho sakte hein asthma”, in the Sandhya Times (Delhi Edition) on 7th March 2018.

Prof. Raj Kumar interview was quoted in an article “Youn tham lein asthma”, in the Navbharat Times (Delhi Edition) on 27th May 2018.

SUPERANNUATION AND FAREWELL



Mrs. Susan Jacob, Nursing Sister superannuated from her services after a completion of almost 34 years of service in VPCI.



Mrs. Lalita Tuteja, Senior Technical Assistant, superannuated from her services after a completion of almost 28 years of service in VPCI.



Shri Dhirender Bahadur, Junior Assistant superannuated from his services after a completion of almost 24 years of service in VPCI.



Shri Yeshvir Singh, Wireman superannuated from his services after a completion of almost 13 years of service in VPCI.

EVENTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS



Shri J.P. Nadda, Hon'ble Union Minister of Health & Family Welfare, GOI with Prof. Raj Kumar, Director (Acting) VPCI, other Faculty Members of University of Delhi and VPCI staff on its 69th Foundation Day on 6th April 2018.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT VPCI

24th September 2018: 14th Prof. Autar Singh Paintal Memorial Oration

24th October 2018: 4th Dr. V.K. Vijayan Oration

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