



# VPCI NEWSLETTER

## Vallabhbhai Patel Chest Institute Newsletter

Vol. 2, No. 2

VPCI Newsletter (1<sup>st</sup> July -31<sup>st</sup> December 2014)

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In this Issue of the VPCI Newsletter, it gives us great pleasure to present to you the new developments, achievements and milestones attained by the V.P. Chest Institute during the period from July to December 2014.

Marking the occasion of the 139<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary, a bust of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel was unveiled at the VPCI campus by Prof. Dinesh Singh, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor of University of Delhi on 31<sup>st</sup> October 2014. All the faculty, staff members and students of VPCI along with hundreds of students and employees of University of Delhi, took the Rashtriya Ekta Diwas pledge.



The Institute organized various Updates, CME Programmes, National & International Workshops, Public Lectures and Symposium during this period. Interactive lectures on Science & Health were

initiated. In consonance with the national initiative of the Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, the Swachha Bharat Abhiyaan, and Good Governance Day were celebrated at the Institute with the participation of all the staff members with great fervor.

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## EVENTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

### Update on NSCLC



An Update on Non-small Cell Lung Cancer (NSCLC) was held at Paintal Memorial Golden Jubilee Auditorium, VPCI on 9<sup>th</sup> July 2014. Prof. Rajendra Prasad, Director, VPCI inaugurated the Update and also delivered a lecture on 'Lung Cancer in India - Current Status'. Two eminent physicians from Rajiv Gandhi Cancer Institute Dr. Ullas Batra and Dr. Ashish Goel also delivered lectures. This was followed by multidisciplinary discussion. Dr. B.K. Menon, Associate Professor, Dept. of Respiratory Allergy and Applied Immunology, VPCI, was the Organising Secretary of the Update.

### CME on the Armamentarium of Molecular Diagnosis in Lung Diseases



A CME programme on "The Armamentarium of Molecular Diagnosis in Lung Diseases" was organized on 11<sup>th</sup> July 2014. Prof. Rajendra Prasad spoke on 'Molecular Epidemiology of Lung Cancer'. Several eminent faculty members from Delhi and NCR including Prof. Madan Mohan Chaturvedi, Director, Cluster Innovation Centre, University of Delhi, Dr. Sudhir Verma, Sri Venkateswara College, University of Delhi. Mr. Troy, Molecular Diagnostics Division, Qiagen Germany spoke on several important topics on Molecular Pathology and role of Automation in Molecular Diagnostics. Dr. Ritu Kulshrestha, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Pathology, VPCI, was the Organising Secretary of this CME programme.

### Update on COPD



An Update on Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) was organized by VPCI and Society for Tobacco Control on 30<sup>th</sup> July 2014. The Update covered the important topics including, Epidemiology and type of tobacco use, Diagnosis of COPD, Management of COPD, Smoking cessation, Pulmonary rehabilitation, etc. Prof. Raj Kumar, Head, NCRAAI and Dept. of Respiratory Allergy and Applied Immunology, VPCI, was the Organising Secretary of this Update. During the programme Three Modules for the Certificate Course in Smoking Cessation for Medical and Paramedical professionals were released.

### RNTCP Update



The Institute conducted the Revised National TB Control Programme (RNTCP) Update on 13<sup>th</sup> August 2014. Prof. Rajendra Prasad, Director, VPCI inaugurated the Update and also delivered a lecture on 'RNTCP: An Overview'. Dr. K. K. Chopra, Director, New Delhi Tuberculosis Centre, New Delhi, Dr. B.K. Vashisht, DTO, BJRM Hospital, Delhi and Dr. Nilang Taley, DTO, RBIPMT Hospital, Delhi,

participated in this Update. Dr. Balakrishnan Menon, Associate Professor, Dept. of Respiratory Allergy and Applied Immunology, VPCI, was the Organising Secretary of the Update.

### 68<sup>th</sup> Independence Day Celebration



The 68<sup>th</sup> Independence Day function was celebrated on 15<sup>th</sup> August 2014 at the VPCI campus with great fervor. The ceremony was attended by VPCI staff with their family members.

Prof. Rajendra Prasad, Director hoisted the National Flag. He later distributed sweets to all those present as well as indoor admitted patients.

### Teacher's Day Celebration



Teacher's Day was celebrated on 5<sup>th</sup> September 2014 at the Paintal Memorial Golden Jubilee Auditorium. The students greeted the teachers with flowers and the interaction continued with sharing of words of wisdom by the teachers.

### VPCI Alumni Meeting



Another initiative of Prof. Rajendra Prasad, Director, VPCI was the organization of first Alumni Meeting of V. P. Chest Institute Faculty and students at the Paintal Memorial Golden Jubilee auditorium on 18<sup>th</sup> September 2014.

### 10<sup>th</sup> Prof. A.S. Paintal Memorial Oration



The Institute organized the 10<sup>th</sup> Prof. Autar Singh Paintal Memorial Oration on 24<sup>th</sup> September 2014. The Oration (titled; "Blood Pressure Regulation in Heart Failure") was delivered by Prof. M. Fahim, Former Professor & Head, Dept. of Physiology, VPCI, Adjunct Research Professor, Dept. of Physiology, Hamdard Institute of Medical Sciences & Research, Jamia Hamdard, New Delhi. Prof. Dinesh Singh, Vice Chancellor of Delhi University was the Chief Guest. Prof. P.N. Tandon, Chairman, Governing Body, VPCI presided over the function. Prof. Rajendra Prasad, Director, VPCI, gave the welcome address and report of the Institute activities. The programme ended with a vote of thanks by Prof. Ashok Shah, Dept. of Respiratory Medicine, VPCI.

### Swachha Bharat Abhiyaan





The Institute conducted the “Swachha Bharat Abhiyaan” (as a part of ‘Delhi University Swachhata Abhiyaan’) programme on 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2014 at VPCI, in consonance with the national initiative of the Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi. Prof. Rajendra Prasad along with the staff members led this Abhiyaan, walking on the roads adjacent to VPCI with brooms and baskets cleaning and picking up the garbage. After the cleaning drive, all the staff members assembled at the VPCI Auditorium. Speaking on the occasion, which marked the 145<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, Prof. Prasad highlighted the relevance of the campaign as captured in the vision and mission of the Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, the “Swachha Bharat Abhiyaan”. He also administered the “Swachha Bharat Abhiyaan” pledge to all the staff members of the Institute. Prof. S.K. Bansal, Head, Dept. of Biochemistry, VPCI, was the Convener of the Programme.

### Workshop on Bronchial Asthma



The Institute conducted a two-day Workshop on Bronchial Asthma on 18-19<sup>th</sup> October 2014. It was organized by NCRAAI, V.P. Chest Institute in association with Society for Tobacco Control. Experts from different parts of India, deliberated Diagnosis and classification of asthma, Pulmonary function tests, Pharmacology of asthma drugs, Management of stable asthma, Difficult asthma, etc., Hands-on training on technique of using devices (Spirometry, Peak flow meter) and nebulizers were also given. Prof. Raj Kumar, Head, NCRAAI and Dept. of Respiratory Allergy and Applied Immunology, VPCI, was the Course Coordinator of the Workshop.

### Interactive Lecture on Science and Public Health



An Interactive Lecture on Science and Public Health was jointly organized by Daulat Ram College and V.P. Chest Institute on 27<sup>th</sup> October 2014. More than 300 students and faculty members participated in this programme which was sponsored by Department of Biotechnology. Prof. Geoffrey T. Fong, interacted with the audience on “Tobacco use and cancer” and “Risky behaviour and addiction”. Prof. S.K. Bansal was the Staff Advisor, VPCI and Dr. K. Nirmala from Daulat Ram College was the Co-ordinator of this Programme.

### Rashtriya Ekta Diwas





The birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel was celebrated by the Institute as the Rashtriya Ekta Diwas on 31<sup>st</sup> October 2014 with pomp and gaiety. The Delhi University community, led by Prof. Dinesh Singh, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, paid rich tributes to the great leader by organizing several activities in University and College campuses. Hundreds of students and the employees of Delhi University reached the Vallabhbhai Patel Chest Institute (VPCI) in the last phase of the celebration. A bust of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel was unveiled at the VPCI campus by Prof. Dinesh Singh, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, University of Delhi. There was a 'street play' (based on the life of Sardar Patel) and a cultural performance by Delhi University students.



On this occasion, Prof. Dinesh Singh narrated a few episodes from Sardar Patel's life which are a testimony to the great leader's selfless service to the nation and urged the students to emulate his character in promoting safety, security and national unity. Prof. Rajendra Prasad, Director, VPCI, spoke that Sardar Patel, the iron-man of India, was

instrumental in merger of the princely states, to create a modern India just after independence. Celebrating the birth anniversary as national integration day is a tribute to the national hero. Prof. K. Ravi, Dept. of Physiology, VPCI, the Coordinator of this event, while proposing the vote of thanks, recalled that the Institute originally known as the 'Tuberculosis Institute', the foundation stone of which was laid by Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, was renamed in his memory as Vallabhbhai Patel Chest Institute by Dr S.N. Sen, the then Vice Chancellor, University of Delhi, on 21<sup>st</sup> December 1950. After taking the pledge of Rashtriya Ekta Diwas by the faculty, staff and students, the celebration ended with singing of the National Anthem.

### APACI Workshop



The Asia Pacific Alliance for the Control of Influenza (APACI) organised a two-day workshop on "Epidemiology and Control of Influenza", in collaboration with VPCI on 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> November 2014. This workshop brought together scientists working in the field of Influenza, from across the globe, on one single platform to discuss various strategies to manage the disease burden and promote best practices for prevention and treatment of influenza. The focus was to understand key differences in approaches to pre-pandemic (H5N1, H7N9) and seasonal influenza prevention, to generate an understanding of safety and efficacy of influenza vaccines and to promote best practices for prevention and treatment of influenza. A souvenir containing manuals and research papers were released during the Workshop. Dr. Madhu Khanna, Associate Professor, Dept. of Respiratory Virology, VPCI, was the Organising Secretary of the Workshop.

### Public Lecture on Smoking and Health

As a part of the Public Lecture Series, the Institute arranged a Public Lecture on "Smoking and Health" on 13<sup>th</sup>

November 2014. Prof. S.K. Chhabra, Dept. of Cardiorespiratory Physiology, VPCI spoke on “A to Z of Smoking” and discussed all the basic issues of smoking and its impact on general health. Prof. Rajendra Prasad, Director, VPCI spoke on “Smoking and the Lung” and gave a detailed account of the harmful effects of different types of tobacco smoke on lung function and disease, e.g. COPD, Asthma, Tuberculosis and Lung Cancer. Prof. Raj Kumar, Head, NCRAAI and Dept. of Respiratory Allergy and Applied Immunology, VPCI spoke on “Smoking Cessation” in which he discussed the various modalities involved in cessation of smoking and the technical and societal aspects of this issue. Prof. A. Ray, Dept. of Pharmacology, VPCI was the Organising Secretary of this programme.

### Allergy and Immunology Educational Symposium



On 18<sup>th</sup> November 2014, the “Allergy and Immunology Educational Symposium” was organized by VPCI in association with American Association of Allergists and Immunologists of Indian Origin, (AAAI) USA and Society for Tobacco Control, India. Eminent speakers from USA, Prof. Bobby Quentin Lanier, Executive Medical Director, University of North Texas, Dr Jay. M. Portnay, Chief, Section of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology, Kansas City, MO, Dr Bryan L. Martin, President-Elect, ACAAI, and Associate Dean, The Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio, Dr Leonard Bielory, Director, STARx Allergy & Asthma Center, LLC, New Jersey, and Prof. Sami Bahna, Professor and Chief, Allergy/Immunology Section, Louisiana State University, LA. Dr. Jayesh G. Kanuga, Diplomat of the American Board of Allergy & Immunology and the American Board of Pediatrics and Dr. Mauli Desai, President, AAAI, participated in this Symposium. Prof. Raj Kumar, Head, NCRAAI, Dept. of Respiratory Allergy and Applied Immunology, VPCI, was the Convener of this Symposium.

### VPCI- Honour Lecture

The VPCI-Honour Lecture was organized on 16<sup>th</sup> December 2014. Prof. P. N. Tandon, Chairman, Governing Body, VPCI was the Chief Guest. Prof. Avinash C. Pandey, Vice Chancellor, Bundelkhand University, Jhansi, U.P., spoke on the topic of “The Epoch of Nano-Therapy Cutting Edge Adv-



-anced Theranostics and its Threat”. Prof. Qamar Rahman, Director & Dean Research, Amity University, Lucknow, U.P., spoke on the topic of “Nano-materials and Futuristic Medicine”. Prof. S.K. Bansal, Dept. of Biochemistry, VPCI was the Convener of the Programme.

### Good Governance Day



The Institute organized a seminar on “Use of Technology and Innovations in Promoting Good Governance” to observe the ‘Good Governance Day’ on 26<sup>th</sup> December 2014 at the VPCI Auditorium. It is in consonance with the Govt. of India’s initiative of ‘Good Governance Day’ for celebrating the birth anniversary of Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, former Prime Minister of India on 25<sup>th</sup> December 2014. Prof. M.P. Gupta, former Additional Secretary, Ministry of Finance, Govt. of India and Dr. Sukrita Paul Kumar, Aruna Asaf Ali Chair, Cluster Innovation Centre, University of Delhi, were the speakers of this Seminar.

## Grand Round Presentation

The Institute continued to conduct the Grand Round Presentations and six presentations by VPCI Faculty Members on the topics of frontline areas in scientific research were delivered during the period.



Dr. Vishwajeet Rohil, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Clinical Biochemistry, presented on the topic, “Myocardial Infarction Markers” on 8<sup>th</sup> July 2014.



Dr. Anuradha Chowdhary, Associate Professor, Dept. of Medical Mycology, presented on the topic, “Emergence of Azole Resistance in *Aspergillus*: A Potential Problem” on 12<sup>th</sup> August 2014.

Dr. Mandira Varma-Basil, Associate Professor, Dept. of Microbiology, presented on the topic, “Phylogenetic Polymorphisms and Molecular Epidemiology of *M. tuberculosis*” on 9<sup>th</sup> September 2014.



Dr. Ritu Kulshrestha, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Pathology, presented on the topic, “Pathogenesis of Pulmonary Fibrosis: A Moving Target” on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2014.

Dr. Kavita Gulati, Associate Professor, Dept. of Pharmacology, presented on the topic, “Pharmacovigilance: Concepts and Applications” on 11<sup>th</sup> November 2014.



Dr. Vishal Bansal, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Physiology, presented on the topic, “Pulmonary Rehabilitation in Interstitial Lung Disease” on 9<sup>th</sup> December 2014.

## RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

### Multi-disciplinary Research Unit

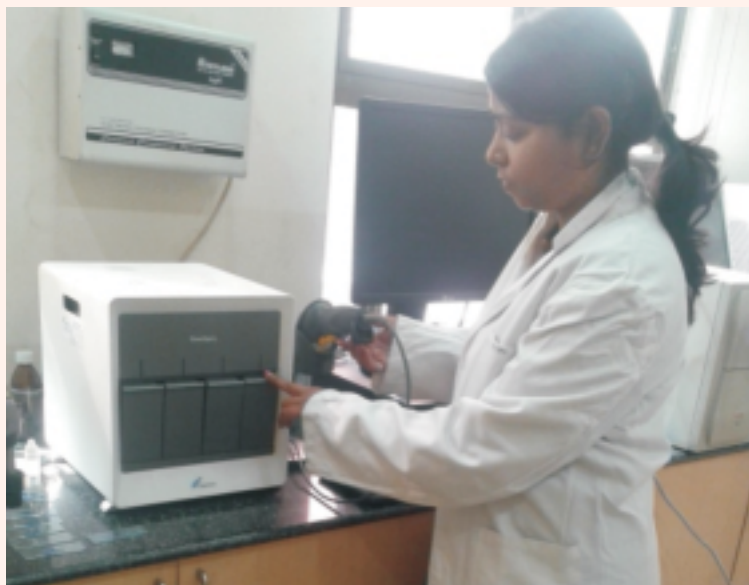
The Multi-disciplinary Research Unit (MRU) sanctioned by the Department of Health Research (DHR), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Govt. of India, under the aegis of the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), has been established at VPCI. Two projects on non-communicable lung diseases, including lung cancer and lung fibrosis were shortlisted in the Special Project Review Committee held in ICMR on 18<sup>th</sup> November 2014, as follows :

Title of the Project	Department
To elucidate the role of CRTAase induced epigenetic modulation via acetylation by the novel mechanism in the gene expression profile of lung carcinogenesis using various polyphenols and their synthetic analogue	Department of Biochemistry P.I.: Dr. V. Rohil
Extracellular matrix remodelling and expression of matrix metalloproteinases in pulmonary fibrosis.	Department of Pathology P.I.: Dr. Ritu Kulshrestha

### New Research/Teaching Initiatives



An anaerobic laboratory facility was established by Dr. Malini Shariff, Dept. of Microbiology. It was inaugurated on 15<sup>th</sup> September 2014 by Prof. P.N. Tandon, Chairman, Governing Body and Prof. Rajendra Prasad, Director, VPCI. It consists of the state of the art equipments for achieving anaerobiasis like Anoxomat and Vitek 2 an automated system for identification of anaerobes. The laboratory is fully functional and caters to clinical specimens received from Vishwanathan Chest Hospital of VPCI. Two technicians and a laboratory attendant have been fully trained to carry out the work.



The latest diagnostic modality for *mycobacterium tuberculosis* by Gene Expert was established and standardised in the Dept. of Microbiology, under Dr. Mandira Verma-Basil.

### Extramural Research Projects

Presently 19 extramurally funded research projects are ongoing in the Institute. In addition two new extramurally funded Research Projects (given below) were sanctioned during the period.

Title of the Project and Date of Sanction	Funding Agency and Grant Amount	Principal Investigator & Duration
Awareness of antibiotic resistance and antibiotic prescription for treatment of acute upper respiratory tract infection and diarrhea in children: a qualitative study among primary care doctors and community pharmacists in NCT, Delhi.	WHO Rs. 3.10 lakhs	Dr. Anita Kotwani July 2014 for five months
To assess the price and availability of essential medicines in Delhi after the implementation of the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Policy 2012	WHO Rs.11.28 lakhs	Dr. Anita Kotwani December 2014 for one year

Presently 23 Research Scholars having received Fellowships from DBT, DST, ICMR and UGC, are engaged in working in the various departments (Biochemistry, Microbiology, Medical Mycology, Pathology, Physiology, Pharmacology and Respiratory Virology) of the Institute.

### AWARDS AND HONOURS



A Book "Manual of Tuberculosis" written by Prof. Rajendra Prasad was released by the Vice Chancellor of Aligarh Muslim University & Agra University on 20<sup>th</sup> November 2014.



**Prof. Rajendra Prasad** received the LMA Transformation Leadership Award 2014. Shri Alok Ranjan, Chief Secretary, Uttar Pradesh and President, Lucknow Management Association, gave this award in the Valedictory Session of LMA Annual Convention on "Driving U.P.'s Growth through Power Sector" on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2014 at Indira Gandhi Pratishthan, Lucknow.



The LMA felicitated Prof. Rajendra Prasad for his exemplary contribution and for a long career in the field of Pulmonary Medicine.

**Prof. Rajendra Prasad** received the 2<sup>nd</sup> ICAAI Foundation Day Lecture Award from the Indian College of Allergy, Asthma & Applied Immunology for the purpose of excellence in the field of Allergy and Asthma.

**Prof. Rajendra Prasad** received the Swami Ram Award in API Uttarakhand for the purpose of excellence in the field of Pulmonary Medicine.

**Prof. Rajendra Prasad** was the Member of Four Technical Expert Groups and Consultancy: (1) Diagnosis and Treatment of Extrapulmonary Tuberculosis under RNTCP in India, Govt. of India, 2014 (2) Formulating Strategies for Intensified TB Control Campaign under RNTCP, Govt. of India, 2014 (3) DST Guided Treatment for Drug Resistant TB Patients in India, Govt. of India, 2014 (4) Guidelines for Diagnosis and Management of Bronchial Asthma, Indian Chest Society and NCCP (I), 2014.

**Prof. Rajendra Prasad** gave faculty lecture on Influenza Vaccine in COPD at the International Workshop on Epidemiology and Control of Influenza, Delhi on 7<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> November 2014.

**Prof. Rajendra Prasad** gave 13 faculty lectures and presented 16 research papers and was the chairperson in 11 National level and State level Conferences/Workshops and CME Programmes in different states of India on the topics including Asthma, Allergy, Smoking Assessment, Tuberculosis, Pharmacotherapy, Chest x-ray, MDR & XDRTB, Sleep Medicine, etc., during the period.

**Prof. S.K. Bansal** was the member of Governing Body, Deshbandhu College, University of Delhi, Delhi.

**Prof. S.K. Bansal** participated in CME programme “My Health-My Life: Prostate cancer (Get the fact)” on 1<sup>st</sup> November 2014 organised by Association of Clinical Biochemists of India at Crown Plaza, Gurgaon, Haryana.

**Prof. Raj Kumar** delivered Guest Lecture in 'Indoor Air Pollution Including Radon Gas' and was the chairperson in the sessions during The 16<sup>th</sup> Joint National Conference of the National College of Chest Physicians (NCCP) India and Indian Chest Society (ICS) NAPCON - 2014” at Jaypee Palace Hotel and Convention Centre, Agra (UP) India on 21<sup>st</sup> November 2014.

**Prof. Raj Kumar** was the Resource Person on “India Tobacco Control Leadership Program” organized by Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health (JHSPH-INDIA) at Radisson Blu Hotel, Dwarka, New Delhi on 9<sup>th</sup> November 2014.

**Prof. Raj Kumar** visited Beijing, China for Asia Pacific Quitline Workshop, Beijing, China from 25<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> October 2014.

**Prof. Raj Kumar** delivered two Guest Lectures “Immune Diagnosis and Immune Therapy in Allergic Diseases – Inflammasomes” and Workshop on PFT and was the Resource Person of 'Lung Function Testing' organized by Sri Lanka College of Pulmonologists on 26<sup>th</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup> September 2014 at Galadari Hotel, Colombo, Srilanka.

**Prof. Raj Kumar** delivered two Guest Lectures on “Importance of History in Diagnosing Nasobronchial

Allergy” and “Role of Laboratory Tests in the Diagnosis of Allergy its Triggers” and was the chairperson of “Food Allergy: Practical Approach” and “Role of Allergen Specific Immunotherapy” scientific sessions at NORTH ALLERGICON 2014 on 7<sup>th</sup> September 2014 at Sri Balaji Action Medical Institute, New Delhi.

**Dr. Mandira Varma-Basil** gave faculty lecture on the Molecular Diagnosis of Tuberculosis at PATHCON on 14<sup>th</sup> December 2014.

**Dr. Mandira Varma-Basil** attended the Workshop on Evaluation of New TB Diagnostics at NIRT, Chennai on 8<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> December 2014.

**Dr. Mandira Varma-Basil** attended the Operational Research Capacity Building Workshop of North Zone on 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> November 2014 held at Gian Sagar Medical College Ram Nagar Rajpura, District Patiala, Punjab.

**Dr. Mandira Varma-Basil** attended the Zonal Task Force Workshop (RNTCP) at Tanda, Himachal Pradesh on 20<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> September 2014.

**Dr. Mandira Varma-Basil** gave faculty lecture on Phylogenetic polymorphisms and Molecular epidemiology of *M. tuberculosis*. Add on Course in Medical Biotechnology at Miranda House on 19<sup>th</sup> September 2014.

**Dr. Mandira Varma-Basil** gave faculty lecture on the Importance and significance of identification of Non tuberculosis mycobacteria (NTM) in clinical samples CME on Current Scenario of Infectious Diseases in North India on 28<sup>th</sup> September 2014.

**Dr. Madhu Khanna** was invited as speaker at MICROCON 2014, the 38<sup>th</sup> National Conference of the Indian Association of Medical Microbiologists on “Diagnosis of Different Respiratory Viruses in Patient's Presenting with Influenza like Illness from Various Hospital in Delhi, India”, at Jaipur, Rajasthan, India from 15<sup>th</sup> -19<sup>th</sup> October 2014.

**Dr. Anita Kotwani** was the member of the Steering Committee on AMR under the chairmanship of DGHS, MoH&FW, meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> December 2014 at Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi.

**Dr. Anita Kotwani** gave faculty lecture on “Pricing and Generic Medicines in India”, at NAPCON 2014, Agra, November 21<sup>st</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2014.

**Dr. Anita Kotwani** was invited as speaker by the Conference Director of RDD (Respiratory Drug Delivery) Asia 2014 held at Goa, 12<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup> November 2014. Title of the lecture, “Access to Inhaled Therapy in India: Availability, Price and Affordability of Asthma Medicines”.

**Dr. Anita Kotwani** gave faculty lecture on “Balancing Appropriate Access to Antibiotics in India” on 24<sup>th</sup> October 2014 for Emblem Health Value Initiative lecture series at the Global Healthcare Innovation Management Center, Fordham University, New York.

**Dr. Anita Kotwani** gave faculty lectures on “Medicine Pricing and Reimbursement”. “Insight into India's Pharmaceutical Pricing Policy: Will the Revised Policy Improve Access to Medicines?”, at DIA Annual Conference at Mumbai on 16<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup> October 2014.

**Dr. Anita Kotwani** was invited as member of the core group of AMSP (Antimicrobial Stewardship Program) and

nodal person for planning the studies to understand the prescription practices in hospitals as well as community on 19<sup>th</sup> September 2014 at ICMR, HQ, New Delhi.

**Dr. Vishal Bansal** gave a faculty lecture on “Physiological Aspects of Temperature Regulation”, organized by Heat Physiology Group, and participated in the Continuing Education Program (CEP) at Operating in Hot Environment- Issues & Management Defence Institute of Physiology and Allied Sciences, New Delhi, 17<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> November 2014.

**Dr. Vishal Bansal** provided training in Cardio-pulmonary Rehabilitation to Ms. Yogita Dixit, Laboratory Technician, Department of Pulmonary Medicine & Sleep Disorders at AIIMS on 3<sup>rd</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> November 2014.

**Dr. V. Rohil** was invited by UGC Academic Staff College, Sambalpur University, Odisha to deliver a total of four (4) lectures, on “Molecular Approaches of Stress Response in living Organism” in the capacity of Resource Person for the Refresher Course in Life Science (MD) on 27<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> October 2014.

**Dr. Mujeeb-ur-Rahman** attended a workshop on “An Introduction to STATA for Medical Statistics” at Institute of Home Economics in collaboration with London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, U.K. under UK-India Education and Research Initiative (UKIERI) on 24<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> November 2014.

**Dr. Ritu Kulshrestha** delivered two Guest Lectures on, “Cytology of Infectious Diseases of Lungs” and on “Cytology of Benign Tumors and Non-Neoplastic lesions of Lung” in the Thoracic Cytology Workshop. 44<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of Indian Academy of Cytologists (Cytocon-2014) Kota, Rajasthan 13<sup>th</sup> -16<sup>th</sup> November 2014.

**Dr. Ritu Kulshrestha** gave faculty lecture on, “Update on Asbestos Related Diseases in India” in the symposium entitled; “The Ongoing Challenge of Occupational Lung Disease in the Developing World, on 30<sup>th</sup> International Congress of the International Academy of Pathology (IAP 2014) Bangkok, Thailand, 5<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> October 2014.

**Dr. Ritu Kulshrestha** gave faculty lecture on, “Molecular Pathogenesis of Lung Fibrosis and Lung Cancer”, Cardiothoracic Path CME 2014 at Kasturba Medical College, Manipal University, Mangalore on 27<sup>th</sup> -28<sup>th</sup> September 2014.

**Dr. Himani Singh** gave lecture on, “Molecular Basis of Smoking Related Lung Fibrosis” at the CME Programme, The Armamentarium of Molecular Diagnosis in Lung diseases, 11<sup>th</sup> July 2014, VPCI, University of Delhi, Delhi.

**Ms. Apoorva Pandey** gave lecture on, “Immunopathogenesis of Lung Fibrosis: Role of Toll Like Receptors” at the CME Programme, The Armamentarium of Molecular Diagnosis in Lung diseases, 11<sup>th</sup> July 2014, VPCI, University of Delhi, Delhi.

**Mr. L.K. Kotarkonda** gave lecture on, “Molecular mechanisms of Epithelial Mesenchymal Transition in Lung Disease” at the CME Programme, The Armamentarium of Molecular Diagnosis in Lung diseases, 11<sup>th</sup> July 2014, VPCI, University of Delhi, Delhi.

**Mr. DibyaRanjan Pati**, Ph.D student was awarded Senior

Research Fellowship from Indian Council of Medical Research on August 2014.

**Ms. Roopali Rajput**, Ph.D student was awarded Young Scientist Award to attend the 5<sup>th</sup> ESWI Influenza Conference at Riga, Latvia from 14<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> September, 2014.

**Ms. Anju Gautam**, SRF was awarded Travel Bursary from Indian Immunology Society to attend IMMUNOCON 2014, Madurai.

**Dr. Jayanthi Gunesekharan** received the best free poster award for her poster entitled; “Phenotypic and Molecular Characterization of Drug Resistant Pseudomonas Aeruginosa Isolates from Clinical Samples” at MICRO-D-CON, 26<sup>th</sup> -29<sup>th</sup> November 2014, New Delhi.

### Media Reports

**Prof. Rajendra Prasad**, Director, VPCI gave an interview to a Senior Health Correspondent, Hindustan, a Hindi daily newspaper. The content of this interview was published in an article form, titled; “चूल्हे का धुआं महिलाओं में कैंसर का कारण”, Hindustan (Hindi), Delhi Edition, on 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2014.

**Prof. Rajendra Prasad**, Director, VPCI gave an interview to a Senior Correspondent, Amar Ujala, a Hindi daily newspaper. The content of this interview was published in an article form, titled; “ये शहर जिंदगी जीना सिखाता है”, Amar Ujala (Hindi), Lucknow Edition, on 7<sup>th</sup> July 2014.

The Institute celebrated the “**RashtriyaEktaDiwas**” on 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2014. A bust of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel was unveiled at the VPCI campus by Prof. Dinesh Singh, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, University of Delhi. The event was covered in most of the leading daily newspapers of Delhi.

**Prof. Rajendra Prasad**, Director, VPCI gave an interview to a Senior Correspondent, Amar Ujala, a Hindi daily newspaper. The content of this interview was published in an article form, titled; “हेल्दी दीवाली हैप्पी दीवाली”, AmarUjala (Hindi), Delhi Edition, on 21<sup>st</sup> October 2014.

### Infrastructure Development





A well-furnished “VPCI Gym with Badminton Court” was opened for the staff and students of VPCI on 15<sup>th</sup> September 2014.



The renovation work of the Purchase Section was completed on September 2014.

### Promotions and New Recruitment



Mr. P.R. Santhanam, Deputy Registrar was upgraded to the post of Joint Registrar on completion of five years of service at VPCI, with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2014.

### Superannuation and Farewell



Mrs S.K. Thressiama, Nursing Sister, superannuated from her service on 31.08.2014 after a successful completion of almost 34 years in VPCI.



Mr Ami Lal, Mali, superannuated from his service on 31.10.2014 after a successful completion of almost 35 years in VPCI.



Mrs Sheela, SafaiKarmachari, superannuated from her service on 31.08.2014 after a successful completion of almost 24 years in VPCI.



Mr Ashok Jain, Sorter, superannuated from his service on 30.11.2014, after a successful completion of almost 37 years in VPCI.

### ADDRESS FOR CORRESPONDENCE

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Mr Ibrahim, Head Mali, superannuated from his service on 30.11.2014 after a successful completion of almost 27 years in VPCI.

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