

 **VIR** 
GLOBAL 2026

MIV - NIV JOINT INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON VIROLOGY

Theme:

Frontiers in Virology: Bridging Discovery,
Technology & Public Health

16-17 April 2026 | Venue: Fortune Inn Valley View, Manipal



Manipal Institute of Virology (MIV)
&
ICMR-National Institute of Virology (ICMR-NIV)

DAY 1 16 April 2026

Venue: Luminaire Hall, Fortune Inn Valley View, Manipal
Inauguration

PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

Invocation

Lighting of the Ceremonial Lamp

Welcome Address

Dr Chiranjay Mukhopadhyay, Director, Manipal Institute of Virology

Overview of VIROGLOBAL 2026

Dr Naveen Kumar, Director, ICMR-National Institute of Virology

Address by

Lt. Gen. (Dr) M. D. Venkatesh VSM (Retd.), Vice Chancellor, MAHE

Inaugural Address by the Chief Guest

Shri Dinesh Gundu Rao, Hon'ble Minister

Health & Family Welfare Department, Government of Karnataka

Unveiling of the Abstract Book

Dr Sharath K Rao, Pro Vice Chancellor, MAHE and

Dr Nivedita Gupta, Scientist G & Head, Communicable Diseases (CD), Division,
Indian Council of Medical Research New Delhi

Felicitation of Chief Guest & Guest of Honour

Vote of Thanks

DAY 1 16 April 2026

Venue: Luminaire Hall, Fortune Inn Valley View, Manipal		
Registration		08:30 am-09:00 am
Session	Name & Title	Time
Plenary Talk 1	Dr Nivedita Gupta , ICMR HQ New Delhi Title: India's National BSL-3 Laboratory Network: Growth, Strengths, and Gaps	09:00 am-09:20 am
Session 1	Clinical Virology: Human and Animal Health	09:20 am-11:50 am
Invited Talk 1	Dr Chiranjay Mukhopadhyay , MIV MAHE Manipal Title: Diagnostic Challenges in Clinical Virology: Case Based Insights	09:20 am-09:35 am
Invited Talk 2	Dr Sanjay Bhattacharya , TMC Kolkata Title: Diagnosis and Management of Cytomegalovirus Infections Among Patients with Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplantation	09:35 am-09:50 am
Inauguration	Chief Guest: Shri Dinesh Gundu Rao Hon'ble Minister Health & Family Welfare Department, Government of Karnataka	10:00 am-11:00 am
Tea Break		11:00 am-11:15 am
Invited Talk 3	Dr Ummer Karadan , BMH Kozhikode Title: A Close Encounter with an Invisible Enemy - Nipah Virus	11:15 am-11:30 am
Invited Talk 4	Dr Praveen K Tirlangi , KMC Manipal Title: Kyasanur Forest Disease: Current Knowledge and Critical Gaps	11:30 am-11:40 am
Discussion		11:40 am-11:50 am
Session 2	Epidemiology and Public Health Interventions	11:50 am-01:15 pm
Invited Talk 5	Dr Roger Hewson , UKHSA England Title: From Detection to Decision: Integrating Genomics, Vector Surveillance and Risk Assessment for Emerging Tick-Borne Viruses	11:50 am-12:05 pm
Invited Talk 6	Dr V Balamurugan , NIVEDI Bengaluru Title: Epidemiological Insights into PPR Virus Control & Eradication in India: Progress, Challenges, and Strategic Framework	12:05 pm-12:20 pm
Invited Talk 7	Dr Yogesh K Gurav , ICMR-NITVAR Pune Title: Economic Evaluations of Antiviral and Vaccines for Viral Disease	12:20 pm-12:35 pm

Invited Talk 8	Dr M Senthil Kumar , DPH Tamilnadu Topic: Effective Vector Surveillance Using Molecular Tools in Tamil Nadu to Reduce the Dengue Disease Burden in the Community	12:35 pm-12:50 pm
Invited Talk 9	Dr Jeromie Wesley Vivian , NIE Chennai Title: Lessons Learnt from AES Outbreaks in India	12:50 pm-01:05 pm
Discussion		01:05 pm-01:15 pm
Lunch Break		01:15 pm-02:00 pm
Panel Discussion 1	Preparing for the Next Pandemic: India's Readiness, Resilience, and Response	02:00 pm-02:40 pm
Plenary Talk 2	Dr Shrikrishna Isloor , Veterinary College Bengaluru Title: Bridging Species Barriers: Diagnosis and Control of Canine Rabies under the One Health Paradigm	02:40 pm-03:00 pm
Tea Break		03:00 pm-03:15 pm

Parallel Sessions					
Venue: Luminaire Hall, Fortune Inn Valley View, Manipal			Venue: Utsav Hall, Fortune Inn Valley View, Manipal		
Session		Time	Session		Time
Session 3	Viral Diagnostics and Technological Innovations	03:15 pm-04:35 pm	Session 4	Molecular Virology and Evolution	03:15 pm-04:35 pm
Invited Talk 10	Dr Sreekumar E , IAV Thiruvananthapuram Title: Antiviral Approaches Against Chikungunya: Targeting Host Cellular Pathways	03:15 pm-03:30 pm	Invited Talk 15	Dr Varsha Potdar , Scientist E, ICMR-NIV Pune Title: Implementing Next Generation Sequencing (NGS) for Genetic Characterization of Influenza Viruses for Pandemic Preparedness	03:15 pm-03:30 pm
Invited Talk 11	Dr Stalin Raj , IISER Thiruvananthapuram Title: Establishing Cellular Immune Assays and Cytokine Reagents for Studying Viral Immunity in Ferrets	03:30 pm-03:45 pm	Invited Talk 16	Dr Rajendra Pilankatta , Central University of Kerala Kasargod Title: Molecular Architecture and Antiviral Strategies Targeting Dengue Virus Replication Complex	03:30 pm-03:45 pm
Invited Talk 12	Dr Deepa Sharma , WHO India Title: Molecular Detections of Viruses of Public Health Significance with Special Emphasis on Polio and Measles	03:45 pm-04:00 pm	Invited Talk 17	Dr Sanjeev Kumar , ICGB New Delhi Title: Structural Basis of Antibody Escape and Broad Neutralization in Evolving SARS-CoV-2 Variants	03:45 pm-04:00 pm

Invited Talk 13	Dr Rahul Dhodapkar , JIPMER Puducherry Title: Advances in Serologic Diagnosis of Infectious Diseases	04:00 pm- 04:15 pm	Invited Talk 18	Dr Anup Mazumder , BRIC- NIBMG Kalyani Title: Acetylation Dependent Modulation of Antiviral Immune Response by RNA Virus Proteases	04:00 pm- 04:15 pm
Invited Talk 14	Dr Atul Garg , SGPGI Lucknow Title: CMV Reactivation in Critically ill ICU Patients	04:15 pm- 04:25 pm	Invited Talk 19	Dr Vikas Sharma , ICMR- NIV Pune Title: Endogenous Viral Elements (EVE): Diversity, Evolution, and Role in Host Mosquito Biology	04:15 pm- 04:25 pm
Discussion		04:25 pm- 04:35 pm	Discussion		04:25 pm- 04:35 pm
Oral Presentations		04:35 pm- 05:35 pm	Oral Presentations		04:35 pm- 05:35 pm
A Curated Cultural Evening & Gala Dinner					07:00 pm onwards

DAY 2 17 April 2026

Parallel Sessions			
Venue: Luminaire Hall, Fortune Inn Valley View, Manipal		Venue: Utsav Hall, Fortune Inn Valley View, Manipal	
Session	Time	Session	Time
Oral Presentations	08:30 am-09:30 pm	Oral Presentations	08:30 am-09:30 pm

Venue: Luminaire Hall, Fortune Inn Valley View, Manipal		
Plenary Talk 3	Dr Kar Muthumani , Bharat Biotech, Hyderabad Title: Advancing Nucleic Acid Vaccines and Antibody Therapies to Address Global Viral Threats	09:30 am-09:50 am
Session 5	Virus-Host Interactions: Pathogenesis, Immunology and Transmission	09:50 am-11:10 am
Invited Talk 20	Dr Naveen Kumar , ICMR-NIV Pune Title: Host Metabolism Shapes RNA Virus Evolution, Fidelity, and Antiviral Vulnerability	09:50 am-10:05 am
Invited Talk 21	Dr Sujatha Sunil , ICGB New Delhi Title: From Entry to Inflammation: Post Translational Check Points in Chikungunya Virus Infections	10:05 am-10:20 am
Invited Talk 22	Dr Anuradha Tripathy , ICMR-NIV Pune Title: Distinct Cytokine Signatures and Antibody Neutralisation Capacity Differentiate Post-Acute Sequelae of COVID-19 from Recovered Individuals Despite Comparable T Cell Responses	10:20 am-10:35 am
Invited Talk 23	Dr Alok Kumar Chakrabarti , ICMR-NIRBI Kolkata Title: The Bacterial Virus Continuum: From Classical Phage-Based Bacterial Profiling to Targeted Next-Generation Therapies for Antimicrobial Resistance	10:35 am-10:50 am
Invited Talk 24	Dr Arindam Mondal , IIT Kharagpur Title: Why a Bat Influenza Virus Hesitates to Infect Humans? A Phospho-Mimetic Adaptation in the Viral RdRP Regulates Species Specific Fitness	10:50 am-11:00 am
Discussion		11:00 am-11:10 am
Tea Break		11:10 am-11:25 am
Plenary Talk 4	Dr Shridhar Narayanan , FNDR Bengaluru Title: Discovery and Development of a Novel Anti-Viral Agent	11:25 am-11:45 am

Session 6		Antiviral Therapeutics and Vaccine development	11:45 am-01:10 pm
Invited Talk 25	Dr Soumya Chatterjee , Merck USA Title: Dengue Vaccine Development: What We've Learned– and What Comes Next		11:45 am-12:00 pm
Invited Talk 26	Dr Soma Chattopadhyay , ILS Bhubaneswar Title: Design & Development of Antiviral Molecules for RNA Viruses		12:00 pm-12:15 pm
Invited Talk 27	Dr Madhu Chhanda Mohanty , ICMR-NIV Pune Title: Implementation of iVDPV Surveillance in India: Addressing Vaccine-Derived Polio Viruses in Children with Primary Immunodeficiency		12:15 pm-12:30 pm
Invited Talk 28	Dr Shashank Tripathi , IISc Bengaluru Title: Targeting Conserved Virus-Host Interactions for Broad-Spectrum Antiviral Intervention		12:30 pm-12:45 pm
Invited Talk 29	Dr Rajesh Kumar , IIT Roorkee Title: Novel High-Throughput Platform Technologies for Developing Antivirals		12:45 pm-01:00 pm
Discussion			01:00 pm-01:10 pm
Lunch Break			01:10 pm-02:00 pm
Panel Discussion 2	Treat Now or Test First? The Clinical Dilemma During Acute Viral Outbreaks		02:00 pm-02:40 pm
Sponsor Talk			02:40 pm-03:10 pm
NABL Talk on Sample Biobanking			03:10 pm-03:20 pm
Tea Break			03:20 pm-03:35 pm

Parallel Sessions					
Venue: Luminaire Hall, Fortune Inn Valley View, Manipal			Venue: Utsav Hall, Fortune Inn Valley View, Manipal		
Session		Time	Session		Time
Session 7	One Health: Human-Animal Interface and Environmental Perspectives	03:35 pm-05:00 pm	Session 8	Computational Biology and its Potential Use in Virology	03:35 pm-05:00 pm
Invited Talk 30	Dr Pragya Yadav , NIOH Nagpur Title: One Health Perspective of Nipah	03:35 pm-03:50 pm	Invited Talk 35	Dr Sarah S Cherian , ICMR-NIV Pune Title: Establishment of a High Performance Computing (HPC) Cluster for Applications in Virology Research	03:35 pm-03:50 pm

Invited Talk 31	Dr Simmi Tiwari , NCDC New Delhi Title: Collaborative Surveillance by Leveraging Community Engagement – Breaking the Silos for One Health	03:50 pm- 04:05 pm	Invited Talk 36	Dr Sinosh Skariyachan , St. Pius X College Kasargod Title: Precision Antiviral Design in the Era of Artificial Intelligence: Integrating Computational Modeling and Cheminformatics Against Emerging and Re-Emerging Viruses	03:50 pm- 04:05 pm
Invited Talk 32	Dr Suresh V Kuchipudi , University of Pittsburgh USA Title: Spillback From the Past: Diverged Ancestral SARS-CoV-2 in Animals and Public Health Risk	04:05 pm- 04:20 pm	Invited Talk 37	Dr Bobby Paul , MSLS MAHE Title: Genome Mining Algorithm to Enhance DNA Based Diagnostic Assays	04:05 pm- 04:20 pm
Invited Talk 33	Dr Victoria Brookes , University of Sydney Australia Title: From Viral Detection to One Health Action: What Epidemiology Can Do for You	04:20 pm- 04:35 pm	Invited Talk 38	Dr Rajas M Rao , Yenepoya University Mangaluru Title: Design of A Multi Strain Dengue Virus Antigen using Insilico Methodologies	04:20 pm- 04:35 pm
Invited Talk 34	Dr Shailesh D Pawar , ICMR-NIV Pune Title: Tracing the Possible Origins of the Clade 2.3.4.4b Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza H5n1 Viruses From India	04:35 pm- 04:50 pm	Invited Talk 39	Dr Budheswar Dehury , MSLS MAHE Title: Harnessing Artificial Intelligence to Target Viral Machinery for the Discovery of Novel Antivirals against SARS-CoV-2 and Mpox	04:35 pm- 04:50 pm
Discussion		04:50 pm- 05:00 pm	Discussion		04:50 pm- 05:00 pm
Valedictory Ceremony: Felicitation & Award Distribution					05:00 pm- 05:30 pm