

 **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

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Lighting of the Ceremonial Lamp

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Welcome Address

**Dr Chiranjay Mukhopadhyay**, Director, Manipal Institute of Virology

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Overview of VIROGLOBAL 2026

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

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Address by

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

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Inaugural Address by the Chief Guest

**Shri Dinesh Gundu Rao**, Hon'ble Minister

Health & Family Welfare Department, Government of Karnataka

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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

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Felicitation of Chief Guest & Guest of Honour

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Vote of Thanks

# DAY 1 16 April 2026

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

Invited Talk 8	<b>Dr M Senthil Kumar</b> , DPH Tamilnadu <b>Topic:</b> 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	<b>Dr Jeromie Wesley Vivian</b> , NIE Chennai <b>Title:</b> 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	<b>Preparing for the Next Pandemic: India's Readiness, Resilience, and Response</b>	02:00 pm-02:40 pm
Plenary Talk 2	<b>Dr Shrikrishna Isloor</b> , Veterinary College Bengaluru <b>Title:</b> 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	<b>Viral Diagnostics and Technological Innovations</b>	03:15 pm-04:35 pm	Session 4	<b>Molecular Virology and Evolution</b>	03:15 pm-04:35 pm
Invited Talk 10	<b>Dr Sreekumar E</b> , IAV Thiruvananthapuram <b>Title:</b> Antiviral Approaches Against Chikungunya: Targeting Host Cellular Pathways	03:15 pm-03:30 pm	Invited Talk 15	<b>Dr Varsha Potdar</b> , ICMR-NIV Pune <b>Title:</b> Implementing Next Generation Sequencing (NGS) for Genetic Characterization of Influenza Viruses for Pandemic Preparedness	03:15 pm-03:30 pm
Invited Talk 11	<b>Dr Stalin Raj</b> , IISER Thiruvananthapuram <b>Title:</b> Establishing Cellular Immune Assays and Cytokine Reagents for Studying Viral Immunity in Ferrets	03:30 pm-03:45 pm	Invited Talk 16	<b>Dr Rajendra Pilankatta</b> , Central University of Kerala Kasargod <b>Title:</b> Molecular Architecture and Antiviral Strategies Targeting Dengue Virus Replication Complex	03:30 pm-03:45 pm
Invited Talk 12	<b>Dr Deepa Sharma</b> , WHO India <b>Title:</b> Molecular Detections of Viruses of Public Health Significance with Special Emphasis on Polio and Measles	03:45 pm-04:00 pm	Invited Talk 17	<b>Dr Sanjeev Kumar</b> , ICGB New Delhi <b>Title:</b> Structural Basis of Antibody Escape and Broad Neutralization in Evolving SARS-CoV-2 Variants	03:45 pm-04:00 pm

Invited Talk 13	<b>Dr Rahul Dhodapkar</b> , JIPMER Puducherry <b>Title:</b> Advances in Serologic Diagnosis of Infectious Diseases	04:00 pm- 04:15 pm	Invited Talk 18	<b>Dr Anup Mazumder</b> , BRIC- NIBMG Kalyani <b>Title:</b> Acetylation Dependent Modulation of Antiviral Immune Response by RNA Virus Proteases	04:00 pm- 04:15 pm
Invited Talk 14	<b>Dr Atul Garg</b> , SGPGI Lucknow <b>Title:</b> CMV Reactivation in Critically ill ICU Patients	04:15 pm- 04:25 pm	Invited Talk 19	<b>Dr Vikas Sharma</b> , ICMR- NIV Pune <b>Title:</b> 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
<b>A Curated Cultural Evening &amp; Gala Dinner</b>					<b>07:00 pm onwards</b>

# 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	<b>Dr Kar Muthumani</b> , Bharat Biotech, Hyderabad <b>Title:</b> Advancing Nucleic Acid Vaccines and Antibody Therapies to Address Global Viral Threats	09:30 am-09:50 am
Session 5	<b>Virus-Host Interactions: Pathogenesis, Immunology and Transmission</b>	09:50 am-11:10 am
Invited Talk 20	<b>Dr Naveen Kumar</b> , ICMR-NIV Pune <b>Title:</b> Host Metabolism Shapes RNA Virus Evolution, Fidelity, and Antiviral Vulnerability	09:50 am-10:05 am
Invited Talk 21	<b>Dr Sujatha Sunil</b> , ICGBE New Delhi <b>Title:</b> From Entry to Inflammation: Post Translational Check Points in Chikungunya Virus Infections	10:05 am-10:20 am
Invited Talk 22	<b>Dr Anuradha Tripathy</b> , ICMR-NIV Pune <b>Title:</b> 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	<b>Dr Alok Kumar Chakrabarti</b> , ICMR-NIRBI Kolkata <b>Title:</b> 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	<b>Dr Arindam Mondal</b> , IIT Kharagpur <b>Title:</b> 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	<b>Dr Shridhar Narayanan</b> , FNDR Bengaluru <b>Title:</b> Discovery and Development of a Novel Anti-Viral Agent	11:25 am-11:45 am

<b>Session 6</b>	<b>One Health: Human-Animal Interface and Environmental Perspectives</b>	<b>11:45 am-01:10 pm</b>
Invited Talk 25	<b>Dr Pragya Yadav</b> , NIOH Nagpur <b>Title:</b> One Health Perspective of Nipah	11:45 am-12:00 pm
Invited Talk 26	<b>Dr Simmi Tiwari</b> , NCDC New Delhi <b>Title:</b> Collaborative Surveillance by Leveraging Community Engagement – Breaking the Silos for One Health	12:00 pm-12:15 pm
Invited Talk 27	<b>Dr Suresh V Kuchipudi</b> , University of Pittsburgh USA <b>Title:</b> Spillback From the Past: Diverged Ancestral SARS-CoV-2 in Animals and Public Health Risk	12:15 pm-12:30 pm
Invited Talk 28	<b>Dr Victoria Brookes</b> , University of Sydney Australia <b>Title:</b> From Viral Detection to One Health Action: What Epidemiology Can Do for You	12:30 pm-12:45 pm
Invited Talk 29	<b>Dr Shailesh D Pawar</b> , ICMR-NIV Pune <b>Title:</b> Tracing the Possible Origins of the Clade 2.3.4.4b Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza H5n1 Viruses From India	12:45 pm-01:00 pm
Discussion		01:00 pm-01:10 pm
<b>Lunch Break</b>		01:10 pm-02:00 pm
<b>Panel Discussion 2</b>	<b>Treat Now or Test First? The Clinical Dilemma During Acute Viral Outbreaks</b>	02:00 pm-02:40 pm
<b>Sponsor Talk</b>		02:40 pm-03:10 pm
<b>NABL Talk on Sample Biobanking</b>		03:10 pm-03:20 pm
<b>Tea Break</b>		03:20 pm-03:35 pm

<b>Parallel Sessions</b>					
<b>Venue: Luminaire Hall, Fortune Inn Valley View, Manipal</b>			<b>Venue: Utsav Hall, Fortune Inn Valley View, Manipal</b>		
<b>Session</b>		<b>Time</b>	<b>Session</b>		<b>Time</b>
<b>Session 7</b>	<b>Antiviral Therapeutics and Vaccine development</b>	<b>03:35 pm-05:00 pm</b>	<b>Session 8</b>	<b>Computational Biology and its Potential Use in Virology</b>	<b>03:35 pm-05:00 pm</b>
Invited Talk 30	<b>Dr Soumya Chatterjee</b> , Merck USA <b>Title:</b> Dengue Vaccine Development: What We've Learned– and What Comes Next	03:35 pm-03:50 pm	Invited Talk 35	<b>Dr Sarah S Cherian</b> , ICMR-NIV Pune <b>Title:</b> Establishment of a High Performance Computing (HPC) Cluster for Applications in Virology Research	03:35 pm-03:50 pm

Invited Talk 31	<b>Dr Soma Chattopadhyay,</b> ILS Bhubaneswar <b>Title:</b> Design & Development of Antiviral Molecules for RNA Viruses	03:50 pm- 04:05 pm	Invited Talk 36	<b>Dr Sinosh Skariyachan,</b> St. Pius X College Kasargod <b>Title:</b> 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	<b>Dr Madhu Chhanda Mohanty,</b> ICMR-NIV Pune <b>Title:</b> Implementation of iVDPV Surveillance in India: Addressing Vaccine-Derived Polio Viruses in Children with Primary Immunodeficiency	04:05 pm- 04:20 pm	Invited Talk 37	<b>Dr Bobby Paul,</b> MSLS MAHE <b>Title:</b> Genome Mining Algorithm to Enhance DNA Based Diagnostic Assays	04:05 pm- 04:20 pm
Invited Talk 33	<b>Dr Shashank Tripathi,</b> IISc Bengaluru <b>Title:</b> Targeting Conserved Virus-Host Interactions for Broad- Spectrum Antiviral Intervention	04:20 pm- 04:35 pm	Invited Talk 38	<b>Dr Rajas M Rao,</b> Yenepoya University Mangaluru <b>Title:</b> Design of A Multi Strain Dengue Virus Antigen using Insilico Methodologies	04:20 pm- 04:35 pm
Invited Talk 34	<b>Dr Rajesh Kumar,</b> IIT Roorkee <b>Title:</b> Novel High- Throughput Platform Technologies for Developing Antivirals	04:35 pm- 04:50 pm	Invited Talk 39	<b>Dr Budheswar Dehury,</b> MSLS MAHE <b>Title:</b> 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
<b>Valedictory Ceremony: Felicitation &amp; Award Distribution</b>					<b>05:00 pm- 05:30 pm</b>