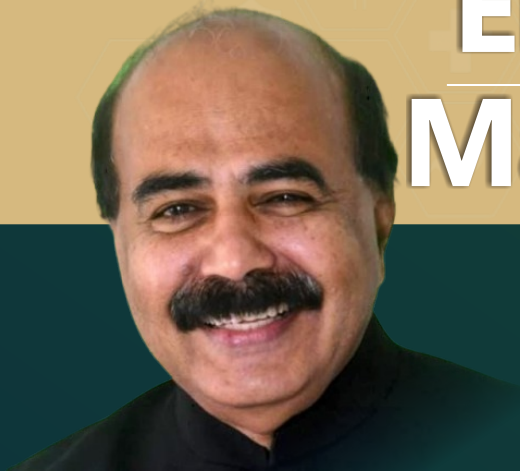




# Snakebite Envenoming Management



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Hon. Vice Chancellor, KUHS



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Calicut University



**Dr Kartik Sunagar**  
Associate Professor,  
DBT India Alliance  
Wellcome Fellow,  
Indian Institute of Science,  
Bangalore.



**Dr Nishigandha Naik**  
former Emeritus Scientist ICMR and  
former Director of Haffkine Institute  
(HITRI), Mumbai



Registration :

<https://forms.gle/PNuPTMMx49JyzFqf9>

DATE	DURATION	VENUE	EXPECTED COHORT
25 May 2026 (Monday)	Full Day (08:30 AM – 04:30 PM)	School of Public Health, KUHS	75 Participants

## ABOUT THE WORKSHOP

While Kerala has made significant strides in reducing snakebite mortality—achieving a notable decline in deaths through the active involvement of the Departments of Health and Forestry—the goal of **Zero Mortality** remains a challenge. National and State programs, supported by high public awareness and technological tools like the **SARPA app**, have laid a strong foundation.

However, recent data indicates that snakebite deaths continue to disproportionately affect children and young adults from socio-economically disadvantaged groups. These populations face unique vulnerabilities, including inadequate housing infrastructure, occupational hazards, and barriers to timely **"Golden Hour"** care.

Furthermore, a critical gap exists in our current therapeutic arsenal. While the standard polyvalent **Anti-Snake Venom (ASV)** effectively targets the "Big Four" (Cobra, Krait, Russell's Viper, and Saw-scaled Viper), a significant number of lesser grade bites in Kerala are attributed to snake species for which no specific ASV currently exists. To achieve absolute zero mortality, we must broaden our perspective to include emerging scientific solutions beyond traditional ASV, such as small-molecule inhibitors and synthetic monoclonal antibodies.

For the **Kerala University of Health Sciences** and its School of Public Health, addressing these systemic inequities and scientific gaps is essential to fulfil the state's vision. This programme aims to bridge the gap between herpetological surveillance, advanced venom research, and clinical excellence to protect the public.

### WHO CAN PARTICIPATE

- Primary Health Physicians and Medical Officers
- Post-graduate Medical/Nursing Students and Research Scholars
- Health Policy Makers and Public Health Administrators
- **Expected Participants: 75**

### REGISTRATION DETAILS

- Registration is **free but compulsory**.
- **IMPORTANT DEADLINE** Last date for registration: **On or before 22.05.2026**.
- Selected participants will be intimated through email.

### OBJECTIVES

- To update clinicians and students on the ecological behavior of venomous snakes and the role of the SARPA surveillance system.
- To identify clinical and systemic bottlenecks that prevent achieving zero mortality, particularly in pediatric and marginalized populations.
- To explore new scientific perspectives in venom research and non-ASV solutions.
- To strengthen the capacity of PHC physicians and residents in early management of snake bites.
- To inform evidence-based strategies for the "Zero Snakebite Death" policy of the State.

## PROGRAMME SCHEDULE

Inaugural program		
08:30 – 09:00	<b>Registration</b>	Organizing Committee
<b>09:00 – 10:00</b>	<b>Inaugural Function</b>	
09:00 – 09:05	Welcome Address	<b>Dr. Thomas Mathew</b> , Professor, SPH
09:05 – 09:15	Presidential Address	<b>Prof (Dr) C. P. Vijayan</b> , Pro-VC, KUHS
09:15 – 09:30	Inaugural Address	<b>Prof (Dr.) Mohanan Kunnummal</b> Hon. Vice Chancellor, KUHS
09:30 – 09:38	Keynote address	<b>Dr K.V. Viswanathan</b> , DME, Govt of Kerala
09:38 – 09:44	Special Address	<b>Prof (Dr) S. Gopakumar</b> , Registrar, KUHS
09:44 – 09:48	Felicitation	<b>Dr. Bindu Mohan</b> , DMO, Thiruvananthapuram
09:48 – 09:52	Felicitation	<b>Dr. P. K. Jabbar</b> , Principal, Government Medical College, Thiruvananthapuram
09:52 – 09:56	Felicitation	<b>Prof (Dr). Swapna K. G</b> , Principal in Charge, Government Nursing College, Thiruvananthapuram
09:56 – 10:00	Vote of Thanks	<b>Dr. Athirarani M R</b> , Associate Professor, SPH, KUHS
TIME	SESSION / TOPIC	RESOURCE PERSONS / DIGNITARIES
<b>10:00 – 10:45</b>	<b>Lecture 1: Ecological behavior of venomous snakes and the role of the SARPA surveillance system</b>	<b>Dr. Sandeep Das</b> , DBT Research Associate, Calicut University  <i>Chair: Prof (Dr). S. Gopakumar and Prof (Dr). K. Rajamohan (Professor, Emeritus SPH, KUHS)</i>
10:45 – 11:15	<b>Tea Break</b>	—
<b>11:15 – 12:00</b>	<b>Lecture 2: A Key to the Puzzle of Cobra Venom Variation</b>	<b>Dr. Nishigandha Naik</b> , Adjunct Professor, Institute of Chemical Technology and GN Khalsa College, Mumbai. Former Emeritus Scientist ICMR and Director of Haffkine Institute.  <i>Chair: Prof (Dr). C. P. Vijayan and Prof (Dr). Indu PS, Principal GMC Thrissur</i>

TIME	SESSION / TOPIC	RESOURCE PERSONS / DIGNITARIES
12:00 – 01:15	<b>Panel Discussion 1: Challenges in Achieving Zero Snake Bite Deaths (Clinical Perspectives)</b>	<p><b>Moderator: Prof (Dr) T. K. Suma, Emeritus Scientist (ICMR) and Professor Emeritus, SPH, KUHS</b></p> <p><b>Panellists:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Dr. P. M. Jayaraj, Consultant Nephrologist, Mother Hospital, Thrissur</li> <li>▪ Prof (Dr) S. Srikantan, Professor and Head, Department of Internal Medicine, GMC, TVM</li> <li>▪ Dr. E. T. Arun Thomas, Professor of Nephrology, Believers Church Medical College, Thiruvalla</li> <li>▪ Dr. Sheeja Sugunan, Professor (CAP), Department of Pediatrics, GMC TVM</li> <li>▪ Dr. Anil Sathyadas, Associate Professor, Department of Critical Care, GMC TVM</li> </ul>
01:15 - 02:00	<b>Lunch</b>	—
02:00 – 03:15	<b>Panel Discussion 2: How to achieve Zero Snake Bite Deaths (Policy Perspectives)</b>	<p><b>Moderator: Prof (Dr) Anuja U, Joint DME, Thiruvananthapuram</b></p> <p><b>Panellists:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Dr. Nishigandha Naik, Emeritus Scientist ICMR and former Director of Haffkine Institute (HITRI), Mumbai</li> <li>▪ Dr. Zinia T Nujm, Professor and Head, Department of Community Medicine, GMC, Kollam</li> <li>▪ Dr. Anish T S, Associate Professor, SPH, KUHS</li> <li>▪ Dr. Ajan M J, Assistant Director (DHS) and nodal officer, National Programme for Prevention and Control of Snake Venom Envenoming</li> <li>▪ Dr. Sandeep Das, DBT Research Associate, Calicut University</li> </ul>
03:15 - 04:00	<b>Lecture 3 (Online): Evolutionary Ecology Guided Next Generation Snakebite Therapeutics</b>	<p><b>Dr. Kartik Sunagar, Associate Professor, DBT India Alliance Wellcome Fellow, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore.</b></p> <p><i>Chair: Prof (Dr). Unnikrishnan V V, Director, Academic Staff College</i></p> <p><i>Dr. Geetha M Govindaraj, Professor, SFHS, KUHS</i></p>
04:00 - 04:15	<b>Concluding remarks</b>	<b>Dr. Thomas Mathew, Professor, SPH, KUHS</b>
04:15	<b>Tea break</b>	—

FOR ANY QUERIES, PLEASE CONTACT

**Dr. Anish T S**

 : 9946039211

**Dr. Athirarani M R**

 : 9446536435