

News & Views



From the director's desk

It gives me great pleasure to present the third edition of *News & Views*, reflecting a period of growth, collaboration, and field action for JH CreIndia Foundation.

A major milestone has been the launch of *Tracking Tails*, a multinational project led by the University of Bern and funded by the Swiss National Science Foundation. As the official partner for India, CreIndia joins institutions from Uganda, Chad, Indonesia, and Switzerland to examine how dog movement, ecology, human behaviour, and disease transmission interact within a One Health framework.

In Udalguri, these research questions are being translated into action through GPS collaring of selected free-roaming dogs, vaccination activities, community awareness campaigns, and district-wide surveys on the human and livestock impacts of dog bites. Together, these efforts aim to strengthen rabies surveillance, improve vaccination planning, and better understand the social and economic burden borne by affected families.

Our commitment to knowledge sharing has continued through participation in the World Veterinary Congress, contributions to doctoral education at the University of Bern, and the publication of our work on strengthening animal-rabies surveillance through public-private One Health collaboration in Assam.

We are also delighted to welcome Dr Ishani Gogoi to the CreIndia network and to share Dr Aishwarya Shetty's reflections on her internship in Assam. Their experiences remind us that institutions grow through people, partnerships, and shared purpose.

I thank our team, collaborators, supporters, and participating communities. We remain committed to translating One Health from principle into practical, community-centred action that protects people and animals.

Dr Harish Kumar Tiwari
Director, JH CreIndia Foundation

Tracking Trails Launched to Advance One Health Solutions for Rabies

CreIndia Foundation is proud to share that the multinational research project “**Tracking Trails**”, led by the University of Bern and funded by the Swiss National Science Foundation, has been officially launched in partnership with Makerere University.

CreIndia Foundation is pleased to be an official partner for India in this important global initiative. The launch event brought together distinguished representatives from Uganda, Chad, India, Indonesia, and Switzerland, reflecting a strong commitment to international collaboration under the One Health framework. This interdisciplinary project investigates the movement patterns of free-roaming dogs. It examines how ecological factors, genomics, veterinary science, epidemiology, and socio-cultural dynamics interact to influence rabies and other dog-mediated disease transmission. Significantly, it also explores how human behavior shapes dog mobility and disease risks across diverse settings.



Surveys for Estimating Economic Burden through Dog Bites in Udalguri



Our field teams are conducting community-based surveys to document human and livestock impacts of dog bites across the 11 developmental blocks of Udalguri District. Beyond data collection, this work captures the hidden public health and economic burden faced by affected families, including trauma, treatment costs, school disruption, and livestock losses. The findings will support stronger One Health strategies, rabies control planning, and targeted interventions to protect both people and animals.

Participation in World Veterinary Congress in Japan



At the World Veterinary Congress 2026, CreIndia Foundation founder Harish Tiwari presented research on dog-bite patterns and rabies prophylaxis adherence in Assam’s tea-estate communities. The study highlighted urgent gaps in rabies prevention, surveillance, timely Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP) access, and community-focused interventions to reduce preventable rabies deaths.

Theory to Practice: One Health Perspectives in Doctoral Education

The One Health course led by Luís Pedro Carmo and Elena Gómez-Sanz at the Public Health Science module for PhD students at the University of Bern where Dr Parimala Mohanty contributed as a course collaborator. She presented alongside Dr Laura da Silva, in sessions and discussions that integrate health systems perspectives and socio-cultural dimensions into One Health practice. Her focus was on helping students understand how One Health and contextual realities can inform sustainable, cross-sectoral health strategies for rabies eradication.



Spreading Awareness through Posters in Udalguri



At CreIndia Foundation our team has placed awareness posters across Udalguri town municipality area on hoardings, and key public locations to inform communities about the upcoming rabies vaccination and dog neck-collaring campaign. Public awareness and messaging helps communities stay informed, encourages participation in the campaign, and supports coordinated district-wide rabies prevention efforts. Strengthening community awareness is an important step toward improving animal and public health through a One Health approach.

GPS Collaring of Free-Roaming Dogs in Udalguri Town



The CreIndia Foundation team has started placing GPS Collars on selected dogs in Udalguri town as part of ongoing efforts to better understand dog movement patterns and support rabies control planning. Tracking free-roaming dog movement can provide valuable insights for improving vaccination strategies, surveillance activities, and evidence-based One Health interventions for rabies prevention. This initiative marks an important step toward strengthening data-driven approaches for animal and public health in the region.

Vaccination Camp in Jorpukhuri Village



The CreIndia Foundation field team along with Dr Harish Tiwari conducted an anti-rabies vaccination camp in Jorpukhuri village of Udalguri District as part of ongoing community-based rabies prevention efforts. The initiative focused on increasing vaccination coverage among free-roaming dogs to reduce the risk of dog-mediated rabies transmission and strengthen local public health protection. Through coordinated field action and community participation, the campaign contributes to building safer and rabies-resilient communities.

Home Away from Home – My Assam Journey

By **Dr. Aishwarya Shetty, Intern, JH CreIndia Foundation**

The phrase “Home Away from Home” truly found meaning during my journey in Assam. Assam is a place that has left an everlasting imprint on my heart and mind. What began as a two-month internship soon became one of the most enriching experiences of my life, filled with learning, growth, and unforgettable memories. I am Dr. Aishwarya Shetty, from Mangalore, one of the southernmost cities of Karnataka. As part of my Master’s in Public Health, I joined the CreIndia team as an intern for two months. It was my first visit to Northeast India. Until then, Assam was simply a place that seemed geographically distant from where I lived. Little did I know that it would soon become a place so close to my heart. I arrived with great enthusiasm to learn, contribute, and engage in the One Health Project. That enthusiasm only grew stronger when I became a part of the CreIndia family. Dr. Harish has built an exceptional team whose dedication, warmth, and commitment to public health are truly inspiring. The internship provided me with invaluable opportunities to enhance my communication skills, strengthen my field research abilities, and broaden my understanding of public health and community engagement. However, the experience went far beyond academics and professional learning. The people I met in the rural villages of Assam, their resilience, kindness, and hospitality, added immense value to my personal journey and offered lessons that no classroom could teach. I had the privilege of being involved in rabies prevention surveys, contributing to an important public health initiative. Dr. Harish’s visionary approach towards creating sustainable community impact through the One Health framework is commendable, and I feel grateful to have contributed, even in a small way, towards this meaningful mission. From the beautiful landscapes and vibrant culture to the warmth of the communities and colleagues I worked with, every moment of this journey has been special. The friendships formed, the experiences shared, and the lessons learned will remain cherished memories for years to come. As I conclude this chapter, I carry with me not only professional knowledge but also a deep sense of gratitude. Assam may have once sounded far from home, but today, it truly feels like a home away from home.



Our latest publication

Parimala Mohanty, Balaji Chandrasekhar, Dinesh Kumar Gupta, Ganesh Daimary, Harish Kumar Tiwari, Strengthening animal rabies surveillance through a public-private One Health collaboration: Insights from a field veterinarian workshop in Assam, India, One Health, Volume 22, 2026, 101462, ISSN 2352-7714, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.onehlt.2026.101462>.

Welcoming our new member

We are delighted to welcome our newest member to JH CreIndia, Dr. Ishani Gogoi. As part of this growing network, you are active contributors to the work we do and the difference we strive to make. Together, we look forward to creating lasting, positive change.

Important Details



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