

NIMR scientist receives ICMR award

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Biomedical scientist Manoj Kumar Das, posted as deputy director, scientist-cum officer-in-charge of National Institute of Malaria Research (NIMR) at Itki in Ranchi, has bagged the prestigious Dr MOT Iyengar Memorial Award from the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), New Delhi.

Das got the award recently for the year 2015 for his path-breaking research in vector control in underdeveloped areas. The ICMR gives this award every alternate year.

Some of his most important works include research in Plasmodium knowlesi (primate malaria parasite) from Andaman and Nicobar Islands and evaluation of long-lasting insecticide treated nets and durable linings attached to walls of homes in Jharkhand.

Studies on monitoring antimalarial drug resistance undertaken at chosen sites in Jharkhand has revealed Artesunate and SP (ACT- Artemisinin based combination therapy) were useful to treat P. falciparum malaria.

Das has also mapped filariasis in Jharkhand, where microfilaria rate ranges from 2.27 per cent to 12.16 per cent.

He has worked in malarial research in remote tribal areas such as Car Nicobar and the Andamans for 16 years.

He also has to his credit over 78 scientific articles published in reputable journals and books across the world.