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University of Hyderabad team develops medicine to kill deadly malaria parasite

What in news:

• A research team from the University of Hyderabad has developed a medicine that efficiently kills the plasmodium falciparum parasite that causes malaria.

About news:

- A release from the varsity said that the polymer-based Nano medicine was developed by a research group led by Pradip Paik, Associate Professor of the School of Engineering Sciences and Technology at the University of Hyderabad here.
- Prof Paik said that the new formulation was efficient in killing plasmodium falciparum infection in red blood cells and added that the medicine could now be used for animal trials.
- Prof Paik is currently on assignment as Associate Professor of the School of Biomedical Engineering at the Indian Institute of Technology (BHU), Varanasi.

University of Hyderabad:

- The University of Hyderabad is an Indian Public Research University located in Hyderabad, Telangana, India.
- Founded in 1974, this mostly residential campus has more than 5,000 students and 400 faculty, from several disciplines.
- The university was established along the lines of the Six-Point Formula of 1973.
- The first Vice-Chancellor of the University was Banaras Hindu University organic chemist Gurbaksh Singh, from 1974 to 1979. Shri B D Jatti was the first Chancellor of the University.

Malaria:

- A disease caused by a plasmodium parasite, transmitted by the bite of infected mosquitoes.
- Symptoms are chills, fever and sweating, usually occurring a few weeks after being bitten.

Treatment consists of anti-parasitics

- People travelling to areas where malaria is common typically take protective drugs before, during and after their trip.
- Treatment includes antimalarial drugs.
- The World Health Organisation estimates that malaria, one of the deadliest scourges of mankind, afflicts about 212 million people every year and causes 4,29,000 deaths annually.

Expected prelims question

Consider the following statements about Malaria

- 1. It is caused by plasmodium parasite.
- 2. University of Hyderabad has developed a medicine that efficiently kills the plasmodium falciparum

Which of the above statements are/is correct?

- a) Only 1
- b) Only 2
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) None of above

Expected mains question

Recently University of Hyderabad has developed a medicine that efficiently kills parasite that causes malaria. Discuss the status of malaria in India andglobally, add a note of its impact on society.