Spreading awareness among the public about the significance of the recent mutations in the corona virus reported from the UK

Recent reports of the new mutations in the COVID-causing virus from the UK has been causing concerns especially among the general public, given that this new strain appears to have the ability to spread faster. However, this growing alarm is often fueled by misinformation that could present an incorrect or incomplete picture of the current status, leading to unnecessary adverse consequences. To help mitigate this situation, and create awareness by presenting a balanced perspective based on the scientific knowledge available, Dr. Yogesh Shouche, Scientist Emeritus at the DBT’s National Centre for Cell Science (NCCS), Pune, participated in discussions titled, “बदललेल्या करोनावर लस प्रभावी ठरणार का?” (Will vaccines work on the mutated Corona virus?), organized by 'Marathi Vidnyan'.

The discussions included the significance of mutations in the COVID-causing virus, vis-à-vis the effectiveness of vaccines. Dr. Shouche provided scientific insights and answered questions about whether the mutations in the virus could be harmful to humans, whether the vaccines being developed would be effective against the new strains of the virus, and whether any changes have been observed in the corona virus found in India. Dr. Shouche also published an article in the Marathi newspaper, Maharashtra Times, titled, “करोना विषाणू, म्युटेशन आणि आपण” (The Corona virus, mutations, and you).

Link: https://www.nccs.res.in/

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