

Mini Science Newsletter

nature india



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Hello young scientists!

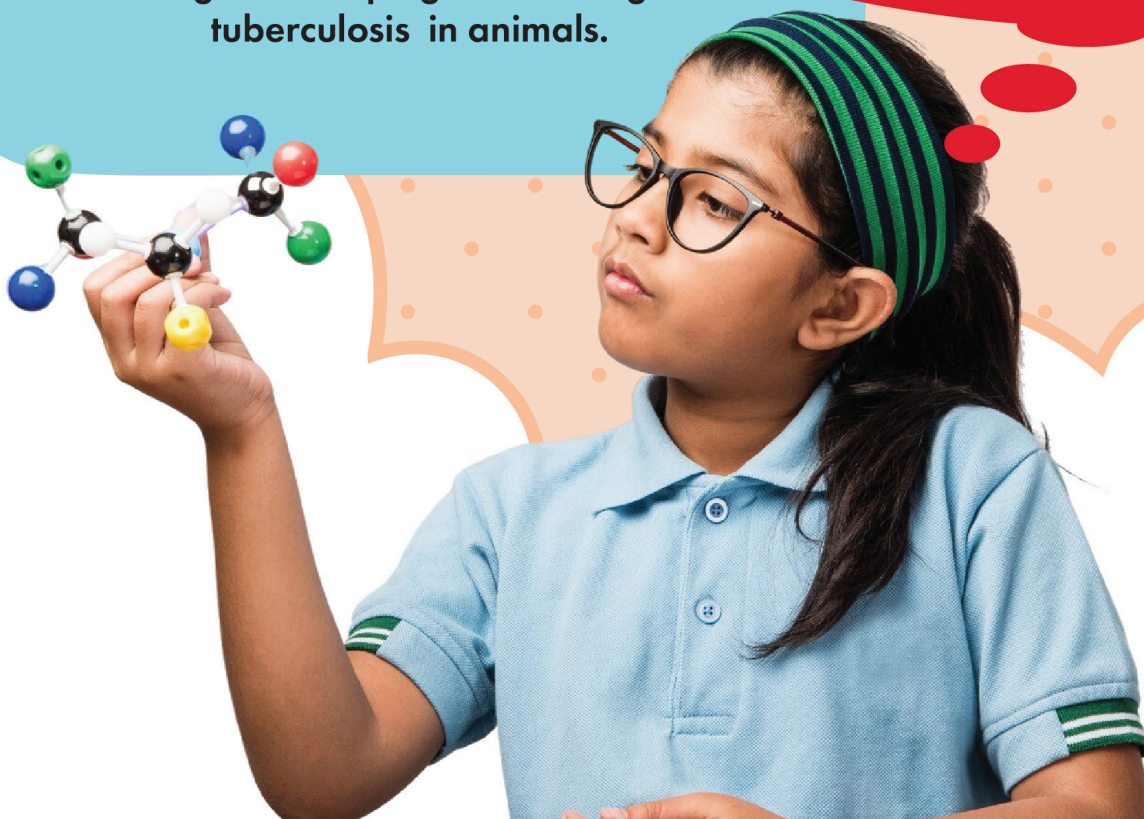
Welcome to the third MINI (that's a clever acronym for Macmillan Education India and Nature India) Science Newsletter!

Here, you'll find exciting discoveries happening right now in India's science. Think of this as a fun way to go beyond your school science books, which do a great job of teaching you the fundamentals.

But science is all around you, every day.

In this issue, we feature bugs that can seal bricks made of moon soil (or something similar), a leather jacket that you can flaunt in summer, and how lab-grown lungs are helping scientists fight tuberculosis in animals.

This newsletter will help you discover how Indian scientists are making new inventions, solving big problems, and exploring the world in ways that can change our future.



Microbial space travelers can produce food for astronauts

1

A microalgae from India is heading to space. It will spend 14 days on the International Space Station (ISS), where scientists will study how it grows. This algae can help clean water, capture carbon, produce oxygen and might even make nutritious food that astronauts can consume.

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Space mission to take algae, muscles, tardigrades to ISS

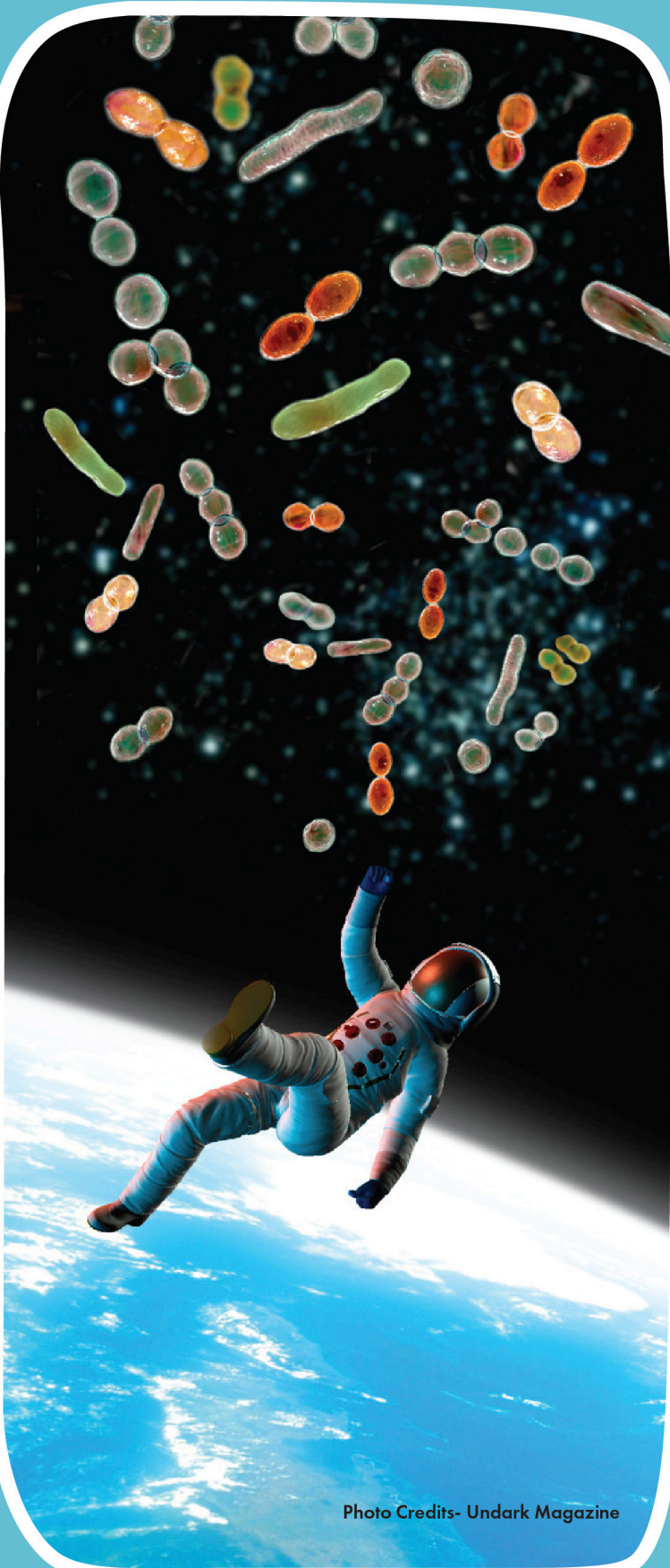


Photo Credits- Undark Magazine

Trash busters in Himachal landfills

2



Photo Credits- Rupsy Khurana

Scientists studying landfills in Himachal Pradesh have found plastic-eating microbes that can help clean up our planet. These tiny helpers can break down plastics, detoxify heavy metals, and digest organic waste, thanks to special genes and enzymes they carry. Understanding how these microbes work can help us keep our environment cleaner and healthier.

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**Himalayan landfills teem
with plastic-eating
microbes**

Super rice to the rescue

3

As climate change threatens global food production, developing crops that can withstand climate uncertainties is crucial. India now has two new rice varieties that are hardier, grow faster, require less water, and yield better harvests. Unlike genetically modified organisms (GMOs), which introduce genes from other species, these new varieties are developed using CRISPR gene editing technology, which simply edits the rice's own DNA — no foreign DNA involved.

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**India approves first
genome-edited rice
varieties**



Photo Credits- Undark Magazine

Kasturirangan's big space adventures

4



Photo Credits- Rupsy Khurana

Krishnaswamy Kasturirangan, who passed away on 25 April 2025, was a brilliant space scientist who helped launch India's space dreams. He led big missions like Earth-watching satellites and helped plan India's first moon mission, Chandrayaan-1. But more than rockets, he believed science should spark ideas. He didn't just reach for space—he brought space a little closer to everyone back on Earth.

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**Krishnaswamy Kasturirangan,
architect of India's space
dream, dies at 84**

Watch out for sneaky saltwater mosquitoes

5

As sea levels rise and mix with rivers and ponds, mosquitoes are finding new homes in salty water like lagoons and marshes. These tiny buzzers spread diseases like dengue, malaria, and Zika. Scientists in India and around the world are warning that we need to catch up fast. Mosquitoes are changing with the climate, and to stay safe, we need to change how we fight them too.

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**Saltwater mosquitoes
are breeding a new
public health crisis**



Photo Credits- Nature India

Super plan for superbugs

6

COVID was one big and scary pandemic — but guess what? New microbes could pop up anytime causing new outbreaks. As the Earth gets hotter and forests disappear, disease causing organisms can evolve and spread faster. That's why scientists have come up with a super-speedy action plan to prevent future outbreaks before they grow big. How can India be ready in case there's another pandemic?

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**What will prepare
India for another
pandemic?**

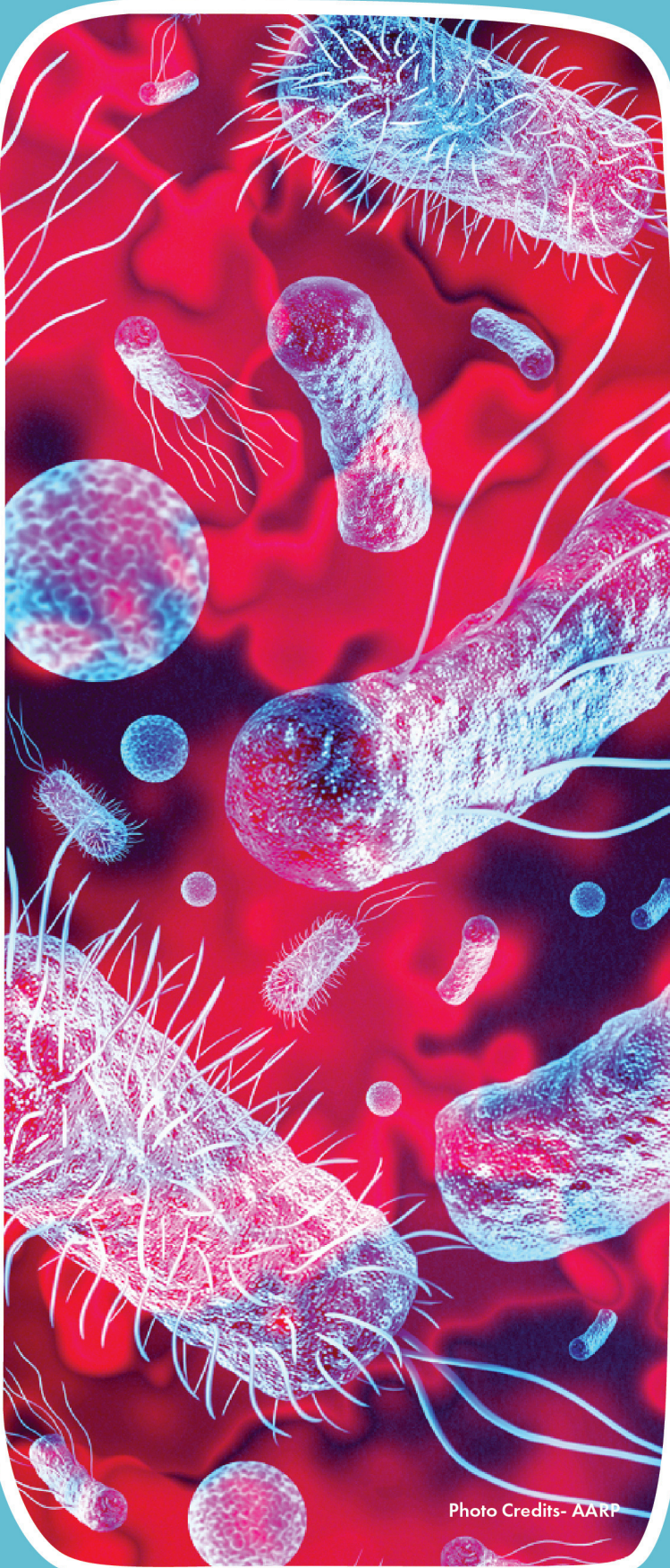


Photo Credits- AARP

With India's giant space ears scientists are ready to hear black holes boom

7

India is building a world-class gravitational wave observatory to listen to the universe. Named the Laser Interferometer Gravitational Wave Observatory-India (LIGO-India), it will catch gravitational waves created when black holes crash into each other or neutron stars go poof! It has to be really quiet — even wind can disrupt signals from space. With this new massive lab, India will help scientists all over the world discover more secrets of the universe.

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**India to begin
construction of gravitational
wave project**

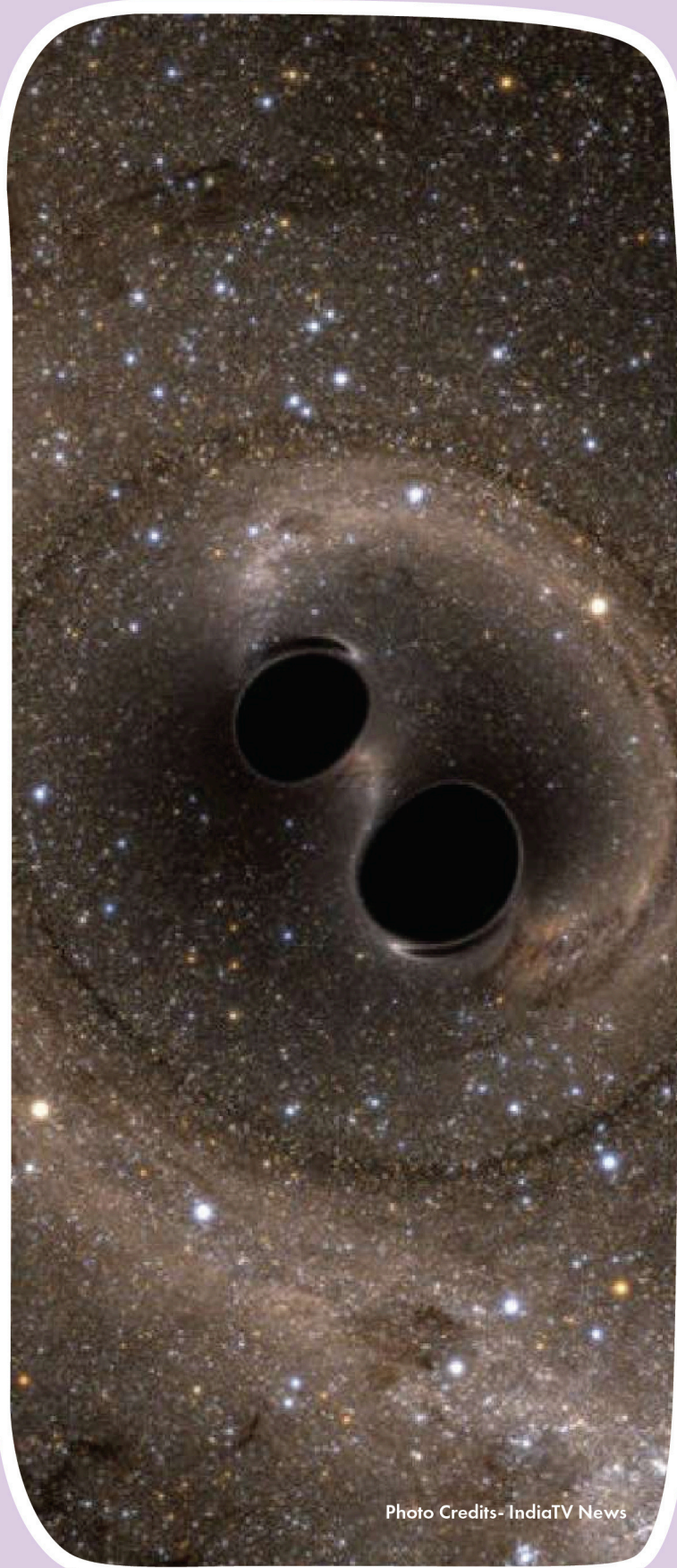


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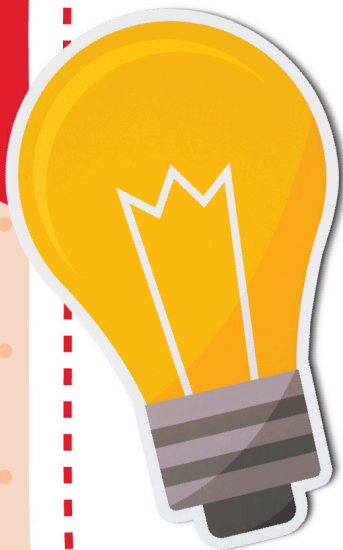
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Fun Fact

If you fall into a black hole, you would get spaghetti-fied. You read that right! The gravity near a black hole is so strong, it can stretch objects (even people) into long, thin spaghetti-like shapes. Scientists actually call this "spaghettification".

Content Credits- Rupsy Khurana



Know a fun fact or working on a cool science project?

Write to us at

macmillanmarketing@macmillaneducation.com

We want to hear from you!

Want to learn more?

If there is something you are curious about, ping us at

<https://macmillaneducation.in/>

We will try to include it in the next issue!

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