'Harit Path' Application Launched by NHAI

UNION Minister for Road Transport and Highways, Shri Nitin Gadkari inaugurated the "Harit Path" mobile application, developed by the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI). The app is designed to monitor and observe location, growth, species details, along with the maintenance activities, targets and achievements of each of the field units of NHAI for all plant under its plantation projects. The application will also facilitate the tracking of growth and health of the plants. The photographs of the plants captured by the app along with the relevant data of the plants will be uploaded every three months on NHAI's AI-powered platform – Data Lake. Subsequent to launch of the app, NHAI has swiftly started working and has created user ids of over 150 ROs/PDs/Horticulture experts and about 7800 plants have been geo-tagged.

Source: https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseIframePage.aspx?PRID=1647625

Image Credits: https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseIframePage.aspx?PRID=1647625

Painless Drug Delivery and Vaccination Device

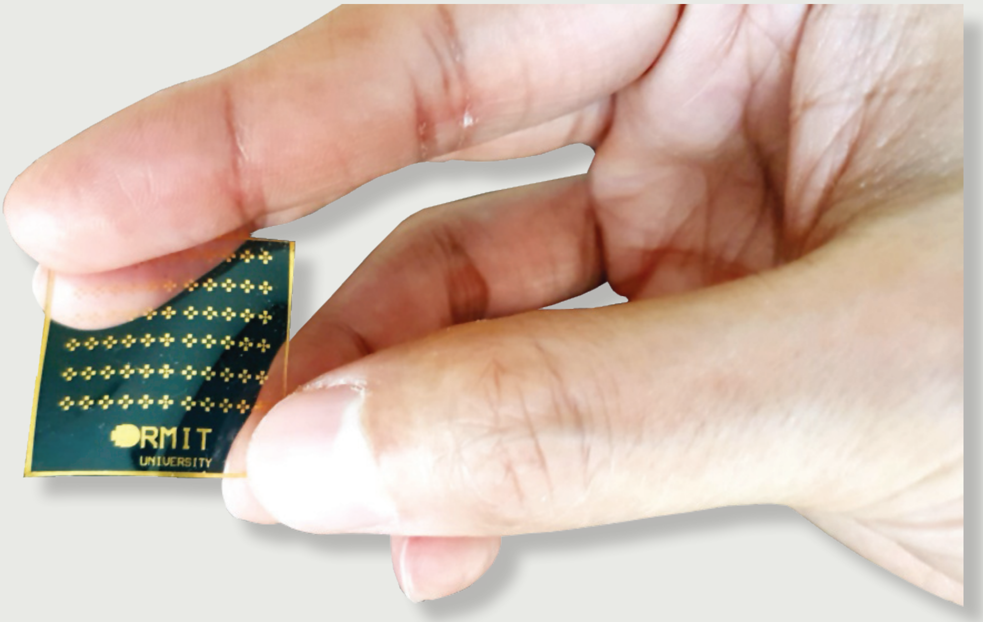
DEPARTMENT of Electronics & Electrical Communication Engineering at IIT Kharagpur has developed a painless transdermal controlled drug delivery and vaccination device. The researchers have developed a micropump and microneedle which are integral parts of transdermal drug delivery systems and can administer large and viscous drug molecules painlessly. The innovation will further enable the transdermal application of COVID-19 vaccine. Says lead researcher Prof. Tarun Kanti Bhattacharyya, "We have fabricated high strength glassy carbon microneedles which can withstand the skin resistive forces. Added to this is our designing of the ionic polymer-metal composite membrane based micropump which increases the flow rate of the drug molecules in a controlled and precise manner. We have further integrated this microneedle and micropump to achieve controlled drug delivery."

Source: https://kgpchronicle.iitkgp.ac.in/

Scientists Develop Artificial Electronic Skin

SCIENTISTS of RMIT have created electronic artificial skin. It reacts to pain in a similar way to real skin. This prototype opens the way for enhanced prosthetics, smarter robotics and non-invasive alternatives to skin grafts. The device works by mimicking the body's near-instant feedback response. It reacts to painful sensations with lightning speed similar to nerve signals that travel to the brain. According to RMIT, Lead researcher Professor Madhu Bhaskaran, "It's a critical step forward in the future development of the sophisticated feedback systems that we need to deliver truly smart prosthetics and intelligent robotics." The research team has also developed pressure and temperature sensing devices with stretchable electronics. The related research is published in the journal *Advanced Intelligent Systems*.

Source:https://www.rmit.edu.au/news/all-news/2020/sep/electronic-skin



The skin-like device developed by RMIT team.
Image Credits: https://www.rmit.edu.au/news/allnews/2020/sep/electronic-skin

EnglishPro App Launched by Union Education Minister

UNION Minister of Education Dr Ramesh Pokhriyal launched a mobile application 'EnglishPro' developed by the English and Foreign Languages University (EFLU), Hyderabad. It is a free learning app suitable for learning English pronunciation. It is developed under USR (University Social Responsibility) initiative of EFL University and can be used by any person who has studied English as a curricular subject in five years of school education. The application teaches the user about general English pronunciation in the unique Bharatiya way – as it allows the organic transitioning of beginner-level English users from their mother tongue to English. It relates English sounds with related sounds in Indian languages. It also promotes the use of Standard Indian English.

Source: https://www.efluniversity.ac.in/EnglishPro.php

Image Credits: https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.glt.eflu&hl=en