



भाकृअनुष-राष्ट्रीय पशुरोग जानपदिक एवं सूचना विज्ञान संस्थान
ICAR–National Institute of Veterinary Epidemiology and Disease Informatics

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Press Release

Third Annual Review Meeting of NADEN Highlights National Commitment to Strengthening Livestock Disease Surveillance

Bengaluru, 22 July 2025: The third Annual Review Meeting of the National Animal Disease Epidemiology Network (NADEN) was held at ICAR-NIVEDI, Bengaluru, from 21–22 July 2025. The event brought together NADEN investigators from 27 states and 2 Union Territories, along with scientists from ICAR-NIVEDI.

The meeting was inaugurated in the august presence of Dr. Raghavendra Bhatta, Deputy Director General (Animal Science), ICAR, the Chief Guest, Dr. Divakar Hemadri, Assistant Director General (Animal Health), ICAR, and Dr. P. Srinivasu, Director, Department of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Services, Karnataka, both as Guest of Honours, who enriched the discussions with their expertise and vision.

Welcoming the dignitaries and participants, Dr. Baldev R. Gulati, Director, ICAR-NIVEDI, highlighted the crucial contributions of NADEN centres in generating high-quality disease surveillance data from the field. He emphasized NIVEDI's ongoing efforts in disseminating monthly disease alerts to farmers and field veterinarians through SMS, in addition to the institute's active technical support to Livestock Health and Disease Control Programme (LHDCP) activities across the country. Dr. Gulati announced that in the year 2025–26, ICAR-NIVEDI will initiate state-wide sentinel surveillance for select livestock diseases in partnership with NADEN centres.

Dr. S.S. Patil, Nodal Officer for NADEN, presented a comprehensive overview of the network's achievements during 2023–24, reflecting progress in outbreak reporting, data consolidation, risk communication, and partner coordination.

Addressing the gathering, Dr. P. Srinivasu highlighted the on-ground challenges faced by field veterinarians and stressed the importance of incorporating field-level perspectives into national disease control policies. He appreciated ICAR-NIVEDI's timely support in outbreak investigations and underlined the need for continued collaboration between research institutions and state departments. Dr. Divakar Hemadri emphasized the urgency of strengthening active surveillance. He particularly stressed the relevance of sentinel and environmental surveillance in building predictive capacities for disease control.

In his keynote address, Dr. Raghavendra Bhatta reaffirmed ICAR's commitment to supporting NIVEDI's initiatives and announced that a proposal for the AICRP on Animal Disease Surveillance will be tabled in the upcoming EFC. He urged all NADEN partners to ensure high-quality, validated data submissions to enhance the national livestock disease intelligence system. Importantly, he called for more concerted efforts from all stakeholders to achieve the national goal of controlling and eliminating major livestock diseases—such as FMD, PPR, Brucellosis, and Rabies—by the year 2030.

During inaugural session, three newly developed diagnostic kits by ICAR-NIVEDI were released by the dignitaries. These include *Capripox Detect*, a Sandwich ELISA kit for the detection of Sheep pox, Goat pox, and Lumpy Skin Disease; *FLUKEVEY*, an Indirect ELISA kit for the detection of bovine fasciolosis; and *CYSTISURE*, an Indirect ELISA kit for porcine cysticercosis. In addition, three key documents were released: the *NADEN Annual Report 2024–25*, the *Sampling Plan for Surveillance of Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD)*, and the *Sampling Plan for Population Immunity Assessment for PPR in Goats and Sheep*.

The two-day meeting witnessed intense technical discussions and presentations by NADEN investigators from across the country, who shared state-level updates on disease outbreaks, surveillance coverage, and challenges faced in implementation. These deliberations provided a comprehensive picture of the current epidemiological landscape and helped to finalize the activity milestones for each centre. The event concluded with a vote of thanks by Dr. Rajeswari Shome, Principal Scientist, ICAR-NIVEDI.

