

Telangana embarks on the journey of SectorConnect Field Epidemiology Program in One Health!

After successfully training multi-sectoral workforce in Gujarat, Karnataka and Jammu, SectorConnect Field Epidemiology Program in One Health (SectorConnect FEP OH) has commenced its journey in Telangana with the inaugural ceremony of the first cohort – Charminar Zone in Hyderabad, on 25 March 2025.

The inaugural ceremony was graced by Sri R. V. Karnan, IAS, Commissioner, Health and Family Welfare, and Dr. B. Ravinder Naik, Director, Public Health, Department of Health, Medical and Family Welfare, Government of Telangana. Their presence underscored the state's commitment to multi-sectoral public health initiatives. Joining them were Dr. Adhiraj Mishra, Assistant Commissioner, Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying (virtually) and Dr. Simmi Tiwari, Joint Director, National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC), Directorate General of Health Services, Government of India, emphasizing the national-level collaboration behind the initiative. Dr. Shaileja, Professor & Dean, Indian Institute of Public Health, Public Health Foundation of India, extended her best wishes to the state and the participants as they embark on this important journey.

The ceremony began with a welcome address by Dr. V. Sumitra Rani, Joint Director & State Nodal Officer, NPCCHH, One Health, CH&FW, Telangana, who highlighted the program's significance in building an integrated workforce for disease surveillance and outbreak response.

This cohort consists of 34 officers from 5 districts across the public health, veterinary, food safety, and wildlife departments, reflecting the interdisciplinary nature of the program. Over the next three months, they will receive mentorship from ten faculty members drawn from leading medical and veterinary institutions, including AIIMS Bibinagar. The training will focus on surveillance data analysis, outbreak investigations, risk communication, and multi-sectoral coordination, all aligned with India's efforts to strengthen pandemic preparedness and response. Following are some snippets from the ceremony.

To find out more about the programme, please visit - <https://ncdc.mohfw.gov.in/teaching-training/?tab=2>

