



Report on the Observance of “World Rabies Day 2025”

(Act Now-You, Me, Community)

&

**Symposium on “Strengthening Rabies Elimination Efforts Zero by 30:
Global Insights and Way Forward for India”**

held on 29th September 2025 at NCDC, Delhi



The banner is for World Rabies Day 2025, featuring logos of the NCDC, MoHFW, and NRCP. It includes the text: "WORLD RABIES DAY 2025", "Act Now – You, Me, Community", "Symposium on Strengthening Rabies Elimination Efforts: Zero by Thirty Global Insights and Way Forward for India", "Date: 29-9-2025", "Time: 10 AM to 5 PM", "Venue: NCDC Auditorium", "Let's unite under National Rabies Control Program (NRCP)", and "Centre for One Health National Centre for Disease Control Directorate General of Health Services Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government Of India". It also features two circular icons: "VACCINATE TO STOP TRANSMISSION" with a dog and "VACCINATE TO SAVE LIVES" with a person.



Organized by
Centre for One Health
National Centre for Disease Control,
Directorate General of Health Services,
Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MoHFW)



Background:

Rabies is a vaccine-preventable, zoonotic viral disease that affects the central nervous system. In up to 99% of human rabies cases, dogs are responsible for virus transmission. Rabies infects all mammals, including dogs, cats, livestock, and wildlife. The disease spreads to humans and animals through saliva, usually via bites, scratches, or direct contact with mucous membranes (such as the eyes, mouth, or open wounds). Once clinical symptoms appear, rabies is almost invariably fatal.

Rabies is classified as a Neglected Tropical Disease (NTD) and predominantly affects marginalized and vulnerable populations. Although effective human vaccines and immunoglobulins are available, they often remain inaccessible or unaffordable for those most at risk.

World Rabies Day, observed annually on September 28, serves as a crucial global initiative aimed at raising awareness about rabies prevention and control. World Rabies Day, first observed in **2007**, was created by the **Global Alliance for Rabies Control (GARC)** to raise awareness about the prevention and control of rabies. The date, **September 28**, commemorates the anniversary of the death of **Louis Pasteur**, who, along with his colleagues, developed the first successful rabies vaccine in **1885**. Pasteur's contribution laid the foundation for modern rabies prevention.

Key Historical Milestones:

1. **Pre-20th Century:** Rabies has been a known disease for thousands of years, with cases documented as far back as 2300 BC in Mesopotamia. It was often feared due to its violent symptoms and inevitable death once clinical signs appeared.
2. **1885 – Pasteur's Breakthrough:** The turning point in rabies history came when Louis Pasteur successfully treated a young boy, **Joseph Meister**, who had been bitten by a rabid dog. Pasteur's groundbreaking rabies vaccine became the cornerstone of modern rabies prevention and sparked further advancements in immunology.
3. **Early 20th Century:** Rabies vaccination for animals, particularly dogs, became more widespread in many countries, leading to a significant reduction in human rabies cases, particularly in developed nations.
4. **Formation of GARC (2007):** *Global Alliance for Rabies Control (GARC)* launched World Rabies Day to address rabies in the **developing world**, where the disease remains a major public health problem. The goal was to raise awareness, promote prevention efforts, and support the World Health Organization (WHO) and other global organizations in their rabies elimination efforts.
5. **Global Goals:** In 2015, the WHO, in collaboration with GARC, the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE), and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), set the



target of **eliminating dog-mediated human rabies by 2030**. World Rabies Day is a key platform for promoting the global strategy to achieve this goal through **dog vaccination** and **human post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP)**.

Significance of World Rabies Day:

The significance of World Rabies Day lies in its multifaceted approach to combating rabies:

1. **Awareness Raising:** The day aims to educate the public about the dangers of rabies, its transmission, and the importance of preventive measures, particularly vaccination for pets and humans.
2. **Promotion of Vaccination:** World Rabies Day emphasizes the critical role of vaccinating pets, especially dogs, to prevent the spread of rabies to humans. Vaccination is a key strategy in controlling and eliminating the disease.
3. **Community Engagement:** The observance encourages local communities to participate in rabies prevention efforts through educational programs, vaccination drives, and outreach initiatives, fostering a sense of responsibility and action.
4. **Collaboration:** World Rabies Day promotes partnerships among governments, non-governmental organizations, veterinary services, and communities to enhance rabies control measures and share best practices.
5. **Global Commitment:** The day reinforces the global commitment to eliminate rabies by 2030, as outlined in the WHO's "Zero by 30" strategy, which aims to achieve zero human deaths from dog-mediated rabies.

Theme of 'World Rabies Day' for 2025- "Act Now: You, Me, Community"

The theme for **World Rabies Day 2025 — "Act Now: You, Me, Community"** — emphasizes the urgent need for collective action to eliminate rabies. It calls upon individuals, communities, health professionals, veterinarians, and policymakers to take shared responsibility in preventing the disease. The theme highlights that rabies elimination is achievable only through community participation, mass dog vaccination, responsible pet ownership, **and** timely access to post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) for those exposed to animal bites. "Act Now" is a reminder that every person has a role to play from vaccinating pets and reporting stray or suspected rabid animals, to spreading awareness and supporting One Health initiatives that unite the human and animal health sectors. This proactive approach reflects the global goal of achieving "Zero human deaths from dog-mediated rabies by 2030" and reinforces that ending rabies is not the task of a few, but a shared responsibility of all.



Observance on World Rabies Day 2025

World Rabies Day 2025 was observed at both national and state levels with active participation from health departments and partner organizations.

Activities at the National Level:

- A symposium on “Strengthening Rabies Elimination Efforts – Zero by 30: Global Insights and Way Forward for India” was held on 29th September 2025 at NCDC, Delhi. (Detailed report mentioned below).
- Community outreach and awareness activities on rabies were conducted in selected districts of Delhi and Rajasthan.
- Awareness drives on rabies prevention and dog bite management were organized for school children in Delhi Government schools.
- Advisories were issued to all States and UTs for observance of “World Rabies Day 2025”.
- Communications were sent to the Delhi Government Education Department for issuing advisories to schools to promote awareness on animal bite prevention and control.
- Communications were also sent to the Veterinary Council of India (VCI) for issuing advisories to all veterinarians regarding administration of Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) for rabies prevention.
- Relevant stakeholder Ministries and Departments were requested to observe World Rabies Day 2025 within their respective domains.

Activities at the State Level:

- All States and Union Territories organized awareness activities at the State and District levels on rabies and animal bite prevention and control, in collaboration with concerned stakeholder departments. The observance was carried out as “**World Rabies Week**” from **22nd to 28th September 2025**. Activities done by states are enclosed as **annexure-1**



Report on

Symposium on “Strengthening Rabies Elimination Efforts Zero by 30: Global Insights and Way Forward for India” held on 29th September 2025 at NCDC, Delhi

RATIONALE FOR THE SYMPOSIUM:

It was aimed to leverage global experiences and innovations in rabies prevention, control and elimination. By bringing together policymakers, health professionals, veterinarians, development partners and international experts, the event provided a platform to share best practices, review India's progress under the National Action Plan for Rabies Elimination (NAPRE) and strengthen cross-sectoral and cross-country learning.

VISION:

Through this workshop, NCDC reaffirms its vision to align India's rabies elimination roadmap with the global “Zero by 30” strategy, by acting now- You, Me and Community, the collective goal of rabies-free India and rabies-free world by 2030 can be realized.

OBJECTIVES:

- To share global best practices and innovations in rabies control from SEARO countries and beyond.
- To strengthen One Health collaborations between human health, veterinary, environment and local governance sectors.
- To deliberate on challenges, gaps and opportunities for scaling up interventions in India.
- To reaffirm commitment towards achieving “zero human deaths from dog mediated rabies by 2030”.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES:

- Enhanced knowledge of global models and country specific strategies for rabies elimination
- Identification of priority actions and innovative approaches for scaling up in India
- Strengthened inter-sectoral and inter-country collaboration for rabies control
- Launch of key guidelines, toolkits and State Action Plans for Rabies Elimination (SAPRE) to support programme implementation

PARTICIPANTS:

Representatives from:

- MoHFW, MoFAHD, MoEFCC, MoPR, MoHUA, NHM, DGHS and State/UT governments
- National and international development partners (WHO, WOA, FAO, UNDP, GARC, SEARO)
- Experts from medical colleges, veterinary institutes and anti-rabies clinics
- International representatives from SEARO countries (by Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Philippines, Vietnam, Ghana, Myanmar, Bhutan).



AGENDA HIGHLIGHTS:

10 AM to 11.30 AM

- Inaugural session; Special address by MoHFW, MoFAHD, DGHS and international partners
- Launch of Guidelines and SAPRE under NRCPP

11.20 AM to 3.00 PM

- Technical session: Global experiences in rabies elimination- (Virtual) by Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Philippines, Vietnam, Ghana, Myanmar, Bhutan
- Panel discussion: Challenges and way forward for rabies elimination in India by 2030

INAUGURAL SESSION

The International Symposium on “**Strengthening Rabies Elimination Efforts Zero by 30: Global Insights and Way Forward for India**” on the occasion of World Rabies Day 2025 was organized on 29th September 2025, both in-person and virtual mode by the Centre for One Health, NCDC at NCDC Auditorium.

The key dignitaries and participants include representatives from MoHFW, MoFAHD, MoEFCC, MoPR, MoHUA, NHM, DGHS and state/UT governments, national and international development partners (WHO, WOA, FAO, UNDP, GARC, SEARO), experts from medical colleges, veterinary institutes and anti-rabies clinics, international representatives from SEARO countries (by Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Philippines, Vietnam, Ghana, Myanmar, Bhutan).

At the outset, **Dr. Arti Behl**, Addl. Director, NCDC delivered the welcome address and highlighted the significance of observation of World Rabies Day.



Dr. Simmi Tiwari, Joint Director and Head, Centre for One Health, NCDC welcomed the dignitaries and highlighted the milestones of the National Rabies Control Program (NRCPP) and provided an overview of the COH's commitment to rabies prevention and control. She also elaborated on digital innovations adopted to tackle the disease and technical guidance documents developed by the Centre for One Health in collaboration with all the stakeholders including Development Partners.



Dr. Praveen Mallick, Animal Husbandry Commissioner, DAHD, MoFAHD highlighted the importance of Rabies Day to bring on the commitment and improve the programmatic implementation. He emphasized the need to bring action plans into the system with vaccination, responsible ownership and regular health keeping. He highlighted that dogs are currently not covered under any business allocation of any department and care of dogs goes beyond municipal corporations. The need for sufficient production and supply of vaccines for dogs along with a cold chain on the animal health side and vaccine quality checks within the system was also emphasized by him. He also reiterated engaging the communities in a way to reduce the impact of disease, working together throughout the federal system of the country and customization of global success stories to Indian context, raise awareness, provide structured training, and ensure proper implementation. He recalled recent incidents involving dog attacks. He stressed the development of a vaccine for dogs, its availability, maintaining a cold chain, community engagement, and preserving vaccine quality across the country. He pointed out the need to identify gaps in executing the action plan. Additionally, he suggested learning from other countries' experiences for better implementation.



Dr Vandana Jain, Joint Secretary (PH) , MoHFW emphasized the focus on the quality of the vaccine and effective implementation of the NAPRE and achieving at least 70% of mass dog vaccination for preventing the transmission of Rabies.



Dr Rashmi Shukla, NPO (Leprosy, Rabies and Snakebite), WHO India provided an overview of the prioritisation of rabies among 21 neglected tropical diseases (NTDs) through a united multi-sectoral One Health approach. She shared that 13 million animal exposures and 27,700 deaths happen in SEARO annually and children under 15 years, under-served communities are more affected. The importance of World Rabies Day theme for mindful steps to bridge gaps in reporting, surveillance, access to vaccines and public awareness were highlighted.





The following strategic documents were formally unveiled by the esteemed dignitaries:

1. Toolkit on Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis for High-Risk Groups
2. Guidelines for the Role of Metropolitan Surveillance Units (MSUs) in Prevention and Control of Zoonoses
3. Standard Operating Procedure(SOP) for Joint Investigation of Suspected Human Rabies Death
4. Leveraging Community Platforms to Enhance Rabies Awareness
5. Launch of State Action Plan for Dog Mediated Rabies Elimination (SAPRE) Nagaland (joined virtually by MD NHM, Nagaland).





Ms. V. Hekali Zhimomi, Additional Secretary of the MoHFW, GoI, in her keynote address emphasized the significance of One Health through shared responsibilities, community ownership and multisectoral action to eliminate rabies by 2030. She highlighted that each death due to rabies is a preventable tragedy, and all departments have to work together to implement the action plan till the last mile through One Health and Whole of Society approach. Other key action points shared were creating awareness for taking immediate action to seek care after exposure and to complete vaccination schedule, availability of anti-rabies vaccine and rabies immunoglobulin for humans and animals, mass vaccination drives, allocation of resources, awareness drives and capacity building of all cadres. She concluded the address with a call for social responsibility for accelerated implementation through awareness, strengthened approach and collective action to achieve 'Zero by 2030' goal.



The inaugural session concluded with vote of thanks by Dr Ajit Shewale.

TECHNICAL SESSIONS:

Section 1: Global Insights for Rabies Elimination

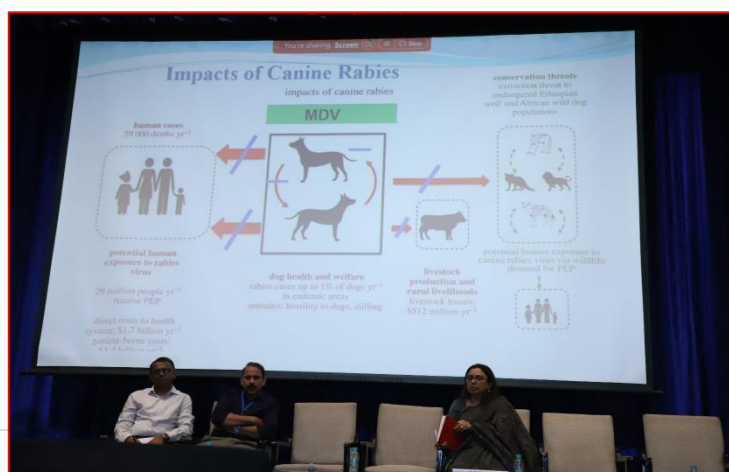
Chairperson: Dr. Ummer, Senior Consultant and HoD of Neurology, Baby Memorial Hospital, Kozhikode, Kerala

Co-chair: Dr. Rashmi Shukla, National Professional Officer (Leprosy, Rabies, Snakebite), WHO India

Moderator: Dr. Ajit Shewale, Joint Director, Centre for One Health, NCDC

1st Session: Eliminating Rabies at Its Source: Strategic Dog Vaccination and Dog Population Management for Zero by 2030—Insights from Successful Implementable Models Across the Globe: by WOA

Speaker: Dr. Kinzang Dukpa, Regional One Health Coordinator at WOA, delivered a presentation on Eliminating Rabies at Its Source: Strategic Dog Vaccination and Dog Population Management for Zero by 2030—Insights from successful global models. He elaborated on globally adopted models for rabies elimination from PAHO, Mexico, Namibia-Africa,





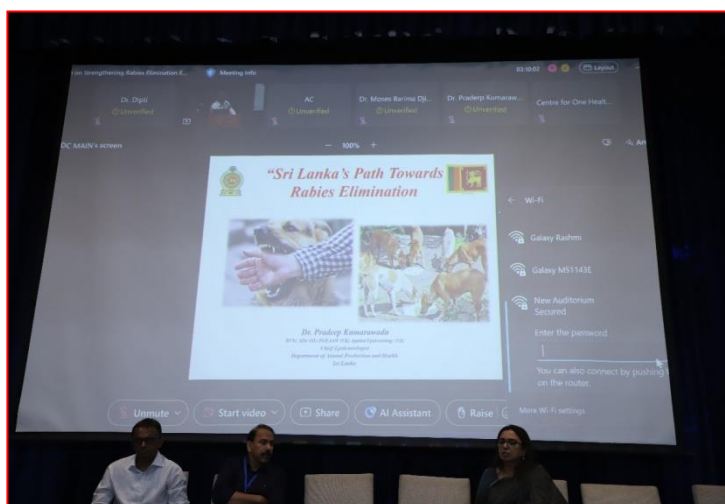
Bhutan and Goa-India. He discussed the challenges in rabies control like weak coordination, vaccine quality and accessibility, field level rabies surveillance and need for dedicated resources. Key components highlighted were surveillance and reporting, mass dog vaccination (MDV), dog population management (DPM) with public awareness and education campaigns and collaborations as a way forward.

2nd Session: Eliminating Rabies Through Mass Dog Vaccination and Community Engagement: The Bangladesh Experience

Dr Md Sohel Rana, Senior Scientific Officer, Department of Livestock Services, Bangladesh, presented on the topic “Eliminating Rabies Through Mass Dog Vaccination and Community Engagement: The Bangladesh Experience”

He briefed about the demographic details and burden of the dog bite cases and strategic activities like advocacy, communication and social mobilisation (ACSM), dog bite management, mass dog vaccination, rabies surveillance and research, dog population management, laboratory strengthening and One Health approach after National Strategic Plan 2016 in Bangladesh with infrastructure scale up of Modern Animal Bite Management (ABM) through Rabies Prevention and Control Centres- 66 at district and 409 at sub-district level. Strategies for mass dog vaccination were discussed, along with the financial challenges of vaccinating all dogs within one year. Their goal was to cover 70% in the first year and 30% in the following year.

He further elaborated upon the annual mass dog vaccination campaigns and the micro planning to complete mass dog vaccination in 7 to 10 days. He highlighted the impact of MDV, awareness, ARV, and the reduction in rabies incidences from 2012 to 2024. They also predicted using the SARIMA model that Bangladesh could eliminate dog-mediated human rabies cases by 2030. He also highlighted the challenges in achieving elimination which include large number of stray dog population, inadequate awareness and social stigma, lack of laboratory facility for human rabies diagnosis, underreporting of animal and human rabies cases, lack of pet animal registration and vaccination, Poor surveillance & data collection, limited enforcement of animal welfare act, lack of quality vaccine (human and animal) and immunoglobulin, lack of Dog population management, Inadequate funding of dog vaccination programs and lack of cross border control programs.



3rd Session: Sri Lanka's Path Towards Rabies Elimination

Dr Pradeep Kumarawadu, Chief Epidemiologist, Department of Animal Production and Health, Sri Lanka presented “Sri Lanka's Path Towards Rabies Elimination”. He shared the burden of animal bite cases to be ~3,00,000 cases annually and rabies has been identified as contagious disease according to the Animal Disease Act. No. 59, 1992. He further elaborated



on public private partnership models adopted, key performance indicators and key strategies like vaccination of dogs/cats, dog population management, surveillance, awareness and education, census and dog ownership. He shared details of the established Anuradhapura rabies control model.

Dr. Darshanie Dissanayke (Acting Director), Public Health Veterinary Services, Ministry of Health, Sri Lanka, shared the two years of experience in Rabies Elimination Strategies (2023-2025) in Sri Lanka. She elaborated on the progress and challenges in Catch-Neuter-Vaccinate-Release (CNVR) programs. Other approaches like post exposure prophylaxis (PEP) strengthening, electronic stock monitoring through Swatha System, One Health joint surveillance, One Health rabies task force, enhancing surveillance and monitoring, strengthened laboratory confirmation, pilot of digital reporting systems, government funding and collaborative partnerships were discussed. She emphasised the collaborative approach among stakeholders as key and the importance of investing in vaccination and management. Despite progress in rabies elimination efforts in Sri Lanka, significant challenges persist. Vaccination coverage remains inadequate, particularly in remote and rural regions, while urban and estate areas face high densities of free-roaming dogs.



Addressing these issues will require sustained funding and improved coordination across various sectors to ensure successful outcomes in rabies control and elimination. Inadequate vaccination coverage was highlighted as one of the challenges and investing in vaccination and management with engagement of communities were suggested as a way forward.

4th Session: Rabies Surveillance and Response in Rural and Urban Settings- Vietnam's Efforts Towards Rabies Elimination

Dr. PT Long, Department of Animal Health and Livestock, Hai Phong Province, **Vietnam**, "Rabies Surveillance and Response in Rural and Urban Settings" / "Vietnam". he briefed on the demographics and situation of rabies, including outbreaks in Vietnam. He shared the strategies for Integrated Bite Case Management (IBCM) through One Health approach and way forward through mass/supplementary vaccination, IT strengthening, monitoring and detection of rabies in animals, implementing and enhancing quarantine, and improving veterinary services.

5th Session: One Health Approach and Community Based Programs to Eliminate Dog Mediated Rabies by 2030- by Ghana

Dr. Moses Barima Djimatey, Public Health Physician Specialist, Deputy Director (Public Health), Ghana presented "One Health" approach and community-based programs, to



eliminate dog mediated rabies by 2030. He shared the experience of IBCM with drone delivery of human rabies vaccine in the Northeast region and establishment of United Against Rabies Alliance. He also highlighted approaches adopted for rabies elimination through case-based form for animal bite cases, surveillance of animal bites, bite victims and dogs, post exposure prophylaxis for bite victims, testing of suspected rabies dogs/deaths and training/orientation of the involved staff. He concluded with a way forward for mass dog vaccination, packaging of human rabies vaccines for intradermal route use and enhanced collaboration.

6th Session: Nationwide Accelerated Dog Population Management and Rabies Control Program in Bhutan

Dr. Lungten Offg., Program Director of NCAH in Serbithang, Bhutan discussed the Nationwide Accelerated Dog Population Management and Rabies Control Program in Bhutan. He provided an overview of rabies prevention measures from 1985 to 2020. He further shared advisories and core group members for 100% sterilisation of free roaming dogs. He mentioned the objectives and strategies of NADPM & RCP viz. procurement and distribution, human resource capacity building, Digital Identification and Traceability System (DITS) and nationwide survey. From 2018 to 2020, the government planned a high-volume, low-cost Catch-Neuter-Vaccinate-Release programme for dog population management. He also outlined the program phases and timeline, which include pet dog registration, field visits for monitoring, self-declaration application-assessment and endorsement, mass dog vaccination and advocacy, establishment of conservation centres and dog shelters. He also highlighted their exit strategy as a programme sustenance modality, for achieving "zero-free roaming dogs by 2030" and "promoting 100% responsible pet ownership," as well as eliminating "dog-mediated human rabies by 2030" in Bhutan. Strategies like survey of all susceptible livestock, sterilisation and vaccination of pets, pet ownership with microchipping and registration, catching and sheltering of free roaming dogs, susceptible species vaccination and training of animal control unit staff were discussed.

7th Session: Rabies Elimination in Myanmar: One Health Perspective- Myanmar

Dr Toe Thiri Aung, Director, Central Epidemiology Unit, Myanmar, presented "Rabies Elimination in Myanmar: One Health Perspective. She gave the overview of the National Action Plan and the key interventions and achievements in the human and animal health sectors and the city development committee. Implementation of the programme through weekly and monthly reports, integrated rapid response, availability of vaccines at bite treatment centres and public hospitals and trainings was discussed. She also mentioned the challenges like funding, human resources, mass dog vaccination, laboratory facilities and infrastructure.

The way forward included strengthened collaboration, promoting community awareness- especially in schools, risk-based mass dog vaccination and dog population management, extension of dog bite treatment centres with pre and post-exposure prophylaxis.



Section 2: India Marching Towards Rabies Elimination by 2030

Session-1: Journey Towards Rabies Elimination in India: Paradigm Shifts and Innovations- by COH, NCDC, MoHFW

Dr Jitesh Kuwatada, Asst. Director, Centre for One Health, NCDC, MoHFW, Govt of India gave an overview of the journey towards rabies elimination in India: Paradigm Shifts and Innovations. He briefed about the burden of rabies in India and the milestones in considering it a neglected tropical disease to a priority disease. He discussed the background of the development of the National Action Plan for Dog Mediated Rabies Elimination and its progress.

He discussed the roles and responsibilities of various stakeholders, including international organizations. Additionally, he emphasized capacity building and the importance of strengthening surveillance, including laboratory surveillance. He also highlighted digital innovations such as the NRCP website, Zoo-Win APP, NRCP mobile application, and portal.



Session-2: Success stories: Rabies Free City Initiative (Bhopal, Mumbai)-PATH

Dr Tikesh Bisen, Public Health Specialist at PATH, shared Success stories: Rabies-Free City Initiatives (Mumbai, Bhopal). He mentioned the rationale for the rabies-free city initiative. He provided a detailed overview of the strategies for the Rabies prevention, including both the human health component and the animal component. He shared the success examples of Mumbai and Bhopal. He discussed various activities carried out and the mechanisms for implementation, such as awareness generation. He highlighted the importance of the role of community-based structures.





Session-3: Community Engagement for Rabies Elimination- the role of Resident Welfare Association (RWA) in MDV and DPM- by CA&RD, NCDC, MoHFW

Dr Monil Singhai, Joint Director, CA&RD, NCDC, MoHFW, GoI, provided an overview of Community engagement for Rabies Elimination - the role of RWA in MDV and DPM. She briefed about the various activities involved, from policy to community actions. She discussed multiple initiatives through RWA based on awareness drives, census, dog population management and mass dog vaccination. She emphasised the challenges faced, and actions taken with appropriate community engagement.



Session-4: State's Progress Towards Rabies Prevention and Control

Dr. Nyanthung Kikon, SSO-IDSP, and State Nodal Officer for National Rabies Control Programme-Nagaland shared his experience, mentioning that 90 percent of the issues were caused by pet dogs. They ensured capacity building by training the medical officers. He also provided an overview of rabies cases in Nagaland, including the Intersectoral coordination mechanism between the human and veterinary departments through joint awareness and coordination committees.



The actions included registering pet dogs and vaccinating them, maintaining the cold chain for anti-rabies vaccines and serum and resolution of data discrepancy between physical records and Integrated Health Information Platform (IHIP).

At the end of the session, Chair and co-chair concluded the session with felicitation of the Delhi State team for the first position in the poster competition. The speakers were also felicitated.

The sessions ended with remarks and a vote of thanks from Dr. Simmi Tiwari, Joint Director & Head, Centre for One Health, NCDC, MoHFW.







AGENDA



Symposium on
“Strengthening Rabies Elimination Efforts Zero by 30: Global Insights and way forward for India”.
on the occasion of World Rabies Day 2025
(Theme: Act Now – You, Me, Community)

Inaugural Agenda

Date: 29th September 2025

Time: 9:30 AM – 11:30 PM

Venue: NCDC Auditorium, Civil Line, Delhi

Organize by: Centre for One Health, NCDC, MoHFW

Time	Topic	Facilitator
9.30 am	Registration	
Inaugural Session 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM		
10.00 AM – 10:03 AM	Welcome Address & Objective of the Workshop	Dr Arti Bahl, Additional Director, NCDC, MoHFW, GoI
10.03 AM – 10:10 AM	Preventing Bites, Protecting Lives: A Call to Reframe Rabies Control in India	Dr Simmi Tiwari, Joint Director, Centre for One Health, NCDC, MoHFW, GoI
10.10 AM – 10:13 AM	Address	Dr Badri Thapa Team Lead CDS, WHO India WHO Representative
10.13 AM – 10:16 AM	Address	Dr Muthukumarasamy, JS, MoFAHD
10.16 AM – 10:20 AM	Address	Dr Praveen Mallik, Animal Husbandry Commissioner (AHC), DAHD, MoFAHD, GoI
10.20 AM	Address	Ms. V. Hekali Zhimomi, Additional Secretary, MoHFW, GoI
10.30 AM – 10:45 AM	- Launch of Guidelines under NRCP: 1- Toolkit on Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis for high-risk groups 2- Guidelines for the Role of Metropolitan Surveillance Units (MSUs) in Prevention and Control of Zoonoses 3- SOP for Joint Investigation for Suspected Human Rabies Death 4- Leveraging Community Platforms for Enhancing Rabies Awareness, 5- Launch of SAPRE for the states	All Dignitaries & Concerned States
10.45 AM – 10:50 AM	Vote of Thanks	Centre for One Health, NCDC, MoHFW, GoI
10:50 AM – 11:30 AM	High tea	



Symposium on
“Strengthening Rabies Elimination Efforts Zero by 30: Global Insights and way forward for India”.
on the occasion of World Rabies Day 2025
(Theme: Act Now – You, Me, Community)

Technical Agenda

Date: 29th September 2025

Time: 11:30 AM – 3:00 PM

Venue: NCDC Auditorium, Civil Line, Delhi,

Organize by: Centre for One Health, NCDC, MoHFW

Time	Topic	Facilitator
Session -1 (Global Insights for Rabies Elimination)		
Chair: Co-Chairs:		
11.30 AM – 11:40 AM	Eliminating Rabies at Its Source: Strategic Dog Vaccination and Dog Population Management for Zero by 2030-Insights from successful implementable models across the Globe	Dr Kinzang Dukpa, Regional One Health Coordinator, WOA
11.40 AM – 11:50 AM	“Eliminating Rabies Through Mass Dog Vaccination and Community Engagement: The Bangladesh Experience”	Dr Md Sohel Rana, Senior Scientific Officer, Department of Livestock Services, Bangladesh
11.50 AM – 12:00 PM	“Sri Lanka’s Path Towards Rabies Elimination”	Dr Pradeep Kumarawadu, Chief Epidemiologist, Department of Animal Production and Health, Sri Lanka
12:00 PM – 12:10 PM	Sri Lanka: 2 Year experience in Rabies Elimination strategy 2023-2025	Dr Darshanik Dissanayake, Acting Director, Public Health Veterinary Services, MoH, Sri Lanka
12:10 PM – 12:20 PM	“Rabies Surveillance and Response in Rural and Urban Settings” / “Vietnam’s Efforts Towards Rabies Elimination”	Dr PT Long, Department of Animal Health and Livestock, Hai Phong province, Vietnam
12:20 PM – 12:30 PM	“One Health” approach and community-based programs, to eliminate dog-mediated rabies by 2030	Dr. Moses Barima Djimatey, Public Health Physician Specialist Deputy Director (Public Health), Ghana
12:30 PM – 12:40 PM	Bhutan: Nationwide Accelerated Dog Population Management & Rabies Control Program-	Dr Lungten, Offg. Program Director, National Centre for Animal Health, MoA & Forest, Bhutan
Session -2 (India marching toward Rabies Elimination by 2030)		
Chair: Co-Chairs:		
12:40 PM – 12:50 PM	Journey Towards Rabies Elimination in India: Paradigm Shifts and Innovations	Dr Jitesh Kuwatada, Asst. Director, Centre for One Health, NCDC, MoHFW, Govt of India
12:50 PM – 01:00 PM	Success stories: Rabies Free City Initiatives (Mumbai, Bhopal)	Dr Tikes Bisen, Public Health Specialist, PATH
01:00 PM – 01:10 PM	Community engagement for Rabies Elimination - Role of RWA in MDV and DPM	Dr. Monil Singhai, Joint Director, CA&RD, NCDC, MoHFW, GoI
01:10 PM – 01:20 PM	Animal Welfare and Rabies Prevention: A balanced approach	Representative from DAHD/AWBI, MoFAHD
01:20 PM – 02:00 PM	States Progress toward Rabies Prevention and Control	State Nodal Officers-NRCP
2:00 PM – 02:15 PM	Valedictory	Dr Ajit D. Shewale, Joint Director, Centre for One Health, NCDC, MoHFW, Govt of India
2:15 PM		Lunch



LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

S.NO	Name	Designation	Organization	State
1	Dr. Anurag Agarwal	Prof. Paed	MAMC	Delhi
2	Dr.Reetesh Ranjan	Nodal AR Chair	DHAS, Delhi Govt.	Delhi
3	Dr.Amrender Kumar	CMO	MCD	Delhi
4	Mr. Raveen	Sr.Consultant	MoHFW	Delhi
5	Dr.Iaselang	SNo	DHS (MoHFW)	Delhi
6	Dr.A .Ravimou	CMO	MCD	Delhi
7	Dr.Valeria	SSI, IDSP, Meghalya	IDSP	Delhi
8	Dr.Thami	AP	ACMS	Delhi
9	Dr.PN Fathima Beevi	Asst. MS	HAMC Hospital	Delhi
10	Dr.K.Lakshami	Nodal-PM-ABHIM	DHS	Delhi
11	Dr.Purbhash Basu	JD	NCDC	Delhi
12	Ms Sarswawali	Technician	NCCD	Delhi
13	Ms Sharda Singh	Research Assistant	NCDC	Delhi
14	Dr.Tikesh	Public Health Specialist	PATH	Delhi
15	Dr.Farla Yasmin	Advisor	Jhpiego	Delhi
16	Dr.Vinas Yadav	Public Health	U.P Health Department	Uttar Pradesh
17	Dr Vikas Sheemar	Public Health Expert	PH Division, MoHFW	Delhi
18	Dr.Runa	Program Officer	CDC	Delhi
19	Mr.Amit Moun	Junior Microbiologist	NCCD	Delhi
20	Dr.S.S.Tripathy	Sr. Microbiologist	NCDC	Delhi
21	Dr.Avtesh Verma	EIS	NCCD	Delhi
22	Mr Sumit Rana	Env Expert	NCDC	Delhi
23	Dr.Sagar Borker	Professor Community Medicine	Delhi	Delhi
24	Dr. Bhavin	Assistant Director	Jhpiego	Delhi
25	Dr.Anisha Sinha	CMO	ESI Disp. Sarojni Nagar	Delhi
26	Dr.Sowntappan B	EISO	NCDC	Delhi
27	Dr.Ritu Tadav	SNO-NRCP Delhi	DGHS, GNCTD	Delhi
28	Dr.Pranav	Senior Resident	AIIMS Delhi	Delhi
29	Dr.Nyan Kikon	SNO Nagaland	Nagaland	Nagaland
30	Dr.Ramesh	JD	NCDC	Delhi
31	Dr.Suneet	JD	NCDC	Delhi
32	Dr.P.Prvtvi Raj	PO	Telangana	Telangana
33	Dr.Premlata	Medical Officer	DHS-Jammu	J & K
34	Dr.Ruchita	Microbiologist	DHS-Jammu	J & K
35	Dr.Umar Anayat	Epidemiologist	CMO Officer DODA	J & K
36	Dr.Naveen	MO	Delhi	Delhi
37	Dr.Mrinal Sharma	PHS	NCDC	Delhi
38	Mr Santosh Kumar	Deputy Director	MOPR	Delhi



39	Dr.S.K.Agarwal	CMO	SRHC, Hospital	Delhi
40	Mr Abhishek Chandra	Consultant	NCCD	Delhi
41	Dr.Vikas Yadav	PGI	NCDC	Delhi
42	Dr.Shirish .K	PGI	VMMC & SJH	Delhi
43	Dr.Harender Verma	GDMO	Sanjay Gandhi Hospital	Delhi
44	Dr.Anupam	AD	NCDC	Delhi
45	Mr Prakash Doval	AD (Admin)	NCCD	Delhi
46	Dr.Sourabh	NPO	WHO	Delhi
47	Dr.Ashwani Yadav	ESIO	NCDC	Delhi
48	Ms Sunita Dabas	Nursing Officer	MCD	Delhi
49	Dr.Apila	MO	CMO Officer Gurugram	Haryana
50	Dr.Vikash	MO	Hindu Rao Hospital	Delhi
51	Dr.Vipin kr.Verma	SVO	DGMH. LKO	Uttar Pradesh
52	Dr.Gurdev Singh	CMO	CGHS	Delhi
53	Dr.Ummer	Neurologist Expert	Kozikode	Kerala
54	Mr Puranmal Jangir	NSG Officer	DHAS	Delhi
55	Dr.Richa Mitra	Assistant Professor	SJH	Delhi
56	Ms Deepika	Nursing	MCD	Delhi
57	Dr.Deepak	DNO-SW district	DGHS	Delhi
58	Dr.Sanjeew saini	SS expert	World Bank	Delhi
59	Dr.Gokhale	CMO	MVID	Delhi
60	Dr.Ravinder Pal Singh	PHS-OH	CCD	Delhi
61	Dr.Niyat	Consultant	CDC	Delhi
62	Dr Hardeep Singh	Public Health	NCCD	Delhi
63	Dr.Rahuldeep Singh	EISO	NCCD	Delhi
64	Dr.Abhijit Bhawal	Scientist E	Delhi zoo/CZA	Delhi
65	Dr.Amrita	Medical Officer	CDMO-East	Delhi
66	Dr.Hemalat Lall	JD	NCCD	Delhi
67	Dr.Anubhav	PGI	VMMC	Delhi
68	Dr Santosh	EIS	NCCD	Delhi
69	Dr Madan Lal	IC	NCDC	Delhi
70	Dr.Khan Maroof	Professor	UCMC	Delhi
71	Ms Monika	MTS	CAZD, NCCD	Delhi
72	Mr Jeena Pradeep	DADG	Ministry of Health and Family Welfare	Delhi
73	Dr. Sarita Sakpal	ADG	Dte. GHS	Delhi
74	Dr Mihir Raj	MPH	NCDC	Delhi
75	Mr Rohan Mathur	Consultant	ADB	Delhi
76	Dr. Musheera	Communication Officer	Centre for One Health, NCDC	Delhi
77	Dr. Akhilesh	EIS Officer	NA	Delhi



78	Mr Sunil Nandal	Consultant	NCDC	Delhi
79	Dr. G. Siva Prasad	AD	NCDC	Delhi
80	Dr. Raghavendra	AD	NCDC	Delhi
81	Mr Bhanu Kumar	Technical Officer	NCDC	Delhi
82	Dr. Sayan Roy	Epidemiologist	NCDC	Delhi
83	Dr. Niraj Roy	SNO	CDMO West	Delhi
84	Mr Iyyappon V	DAD	NCDC	Delhi
85	Dr. Pradip Jana	EIS Officer	NCDC	Delhi
86	Dr. Aathira V Dev	PAD (SNTD)	NCDC	Delhi
87	Dr. Somya Sharma	Technician	NCDC	Delhi
88	Mr Vijayananth	RA, DPP	NCDC	Delhi
89	Mr Shivam Tiwari	DEO, DPD	NCDC	Delhi
90	Mr Anand Sujl	Tech	NCDC	Delhi
91	Dr. Kumud Tomar	EIS Officer	NCDC	Delhi
92	Dr. Simrita Singh	Additional Director	NCDC	Delhi
93	Mr Deepak	Student	TISS	Delhi
94	Dr. Heeralal Prasad	Specialist Medicine	JPCN	Delhi
95	Dr. Sankarmani R.M.	Health Officer, Tamil Nadu	DPH & PM	Tamil Nadu
96	Dr. Ashna	NCDC, Delhi	DPD	Delhi
97	Ms Kanchan Bhadury	NCDC, Delhi	DPD	Delhi
98	Ms Shalu Bhakari	PH-IV	NA	Delhi
99	Dr. Vikram Khan	SNO, UT of DNH	SNO	DNH & DD
100	Dr. Shweta Sharma	Entamologist	Technician	Delhi
101	Mr Anand V	Entamologist	I/C	Delhi
102	Ms Prya Digl	Entamologist	Tech	Delhi
103	Mr Ashok Kumar	Entamologist	Lab Asstt	Delhi
104	Mr Laxminarayan Bins	CMF & VM	Lab Asstt	Delhi
105	Mr Manish Kumar	State Data Manager	PH-IV IDSP	Delhi
106	Dr. Atul Anand	UNDP	NA	Delhi
107	Dr. Pooja	DAD (Ent)	NCDC	Delhi
108	Dr. Prabhakar Jha	Consultant (Vet)	CSU-IDSP, NCDC	Delhi
109	Mr Sumit Yadav	TISS Mumbai	Mumbai	Maharashtra
110	Mr Prakhar	TISS Mumbai	Mumbai	Maharashtra
111	Mr Mukesh Saxena	Finance consultant	NCDC	Delhi
112	Dr. Kavitha	Asst. Director	CAZD	Delhi
113	Mr Varun K. K.	Admin Assistant	PHP-NCD	Delhi
114	Mr Vinod Kumar	CAZD	NA	Delhi
115	Mr Deepak Kumar	CAZD	NA	Delhi
116	Dr. Kanika Siyh	DNO, MCD	NA	Delhi
117	Ms Aanchal Saxena	Data Manager & Operations	COH, NCDC	Delhi
118	Ms Isha Gupta	Grant Manager	COH, NCDC	Delhi
119	Dr Annuranfani	Junior Microbiologist	NCDC	Delhi
120	Dr. Vinita Gupta	Epidemiologist	NCDC	Delhi
121	Dr. Shubhra Joshi	EIS Officer	NCDC	Delhi
122	Dr. Bharat Kant	Consultant	MOPR	Delhi



123	Dr. Abhay Sharma	Entomology	NCDC	Delhi
124	Dr. Ramkesh Choudhary	EIS Officer	NCDC	Delhi
125	Dr. Pankaj K. Tailor	EIS Officer	NCDC	Delhi
126	Mr K. Aswini	Entomology, DAD	NCDC	Delhi
127	Mr Vetrivel. B	Entomologist	COH, NCDC	Delhi
128	Mr Vinod Kumar	Tech	NA	Delhi
129	Mr R K Meena	ARO, DPD	DPD	Delhi
130	Dr. Aarti Tewari	JD, CAZD	NCDC	Delhi
131	Ms Priya Sharma	Tech, CAZD	NCDC	Delhi
132	Mr Ujjwal Rathee	Admin Assistant	NCDC	Delhi
133	Dr. V S Rawal	statician	NCDC	Delhi
134	Ms Geetika	Tech. Consultant	COH, NCDC	Delhi
135	Dr. Rekha	ARO	CAZD	Delhi
136	Ms. Yosman	ARO	CAZD	Delhi
137	Ms. Priyanka	Tech	CAZD	Delhi
138	Ms Genesia Giang	U.S. HHJ	US embassy	Delhi
139	Dr. Sugam Gupta	PO-NRCP	O/O CDMO SD	Delhi
140	Dr. Iqra Arif	COH, Epidemiologist	COH, NCDC	Delhi
141	Dr. Arvind Srivastava	SPHS-COH	COH, NCDC	Delhi



Annexure-1

State level activities on World Rabies Day 2025

State - Assam



Pictures on - World Rabies Day
Date - 26 September 2025
Target audience –Community & Health Facilities

State - Nagaland



Pictures on - World Rabies Day
Date - 26 September 2025
Target audience – Students, Community & Health Facilities

State - Gujarat



Pictures on - World Rabies Day
Date - 24 September 2025
Target audience – Schools, Community & Health Facilities

State - Goa



Pictures on - World Rabies Day
Date - 28 September 2025
Target audience – Schools, Community & Health Facilities

State - Uttarakhand



Pictures on - World Rabies Day
Date - 28 September 2025
Target audience – Schools, Community & Health Facilities

State - Meghalaya



Pictures on - World Rabies Day
Date - 26 September 2025
Target audience – Schools, Community & Health Facilities

State - Rajasthan



Pictures on - World Rabies Day
Date – 28 September 2025
Target audience – Schools, Community & Health Facilities

World Rabies Day across Institutions



Anti Rabies Awareness program at SNMC, Agra



South Dum Dum Municipality, Kolkata



Hi-Tech Medical College, Rourkela



Sanjay Gandhi Memorial Hospital, Mangolpuri, Delhi

The collage consists of nine photographs arranged in a 3x3 grid. The top row shows students in a classroom holding up posters. The middle row shows a student working on a poster, a group of students holding up posters, and a student working on a poster. The bottom row shows a group of students holding up posters, a student working on a poster, and a group of students holding up posters. The posters are colorful and feature illustrations of dogs and text in Hindi.

Target audience - Students, Teachers & Other Staff

Centre for One Health, National Centre for Disease Control, MoHFW



Pictures on - World Rabies Day
Target audience – Community

Centre for One Health, National Centre for Disease Control, MoHFW



Pictures on - World Rabies Day- Awareness activities in the Delhi Govt schools
Date - 25 September 2025
Target audience – Students, Teachers & Other Staff

National Centre for Disease Control, MoHFW



Nukkad Natak
Pictures on - World Rabies Day
Date – 27 September 2025
Target audience –Staff Members