



Hon'ble Union Agriculture Minister Reviewed and Appreciated ICAR- NIVEDI Initiatives

Dr. B. R. Gulati, Director, ICAR-NIVEDI, met the Hon'ble Union Minister of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan Ji, on 27.12.2025 and briefed him on the key initiatives of ICAR-NIVEDI. Dr. Gulati highlighted the institute's *efforts* in livestock disease risk forecasting at the district level and the future plan to extend these services up to the village level.

He also shared ICAR-NIVEDI's vision for certified disease-free milk and meat production to enhance India's access to premium global export markets. The Hon'ble Minister reviewed and appreciated the initiatives undertaken by ICAR-NIVEDI and assured his full support for strengthening livestock health management and export-oriented growth in the sector.



Field Veterinary Epidemiology Training for Odisha Veterinary Officers

A five-day training programme on Field Veterinary Epidemiology for Veterinary *Officers* of Odisha was successfully conducted at ICAR-NIVEDI, Bengaluru, from 1st to 5th December 2025. The programme was attended by 16 Veterinary *Officers* from the Odisha State Animal Husbandry Department. The training programme was graced by Dr. Pallab Chaudhuri, Joint Director, ICAR-IVRI, Bengaluru Campus, in the presence of Dr. Rajeswari Shome, In-charge Director, ICAR-NIVEDI, and Dr. S. S. Patil, Nodal *Officer*, NADEN.

The programme was led by Dr. Shivasharanappa N, Course Director, and *effectively* coordinated by Dr. Chethan Kumar H.B. and Dr. (Mrs.) Siju Susan Jacob. The training emphasized a strong hands-on and field-oriented approach, enabling participants to gain practical exposure to core epidemiological tools and techniques.

Key topics covered during the training included outbreak investigation procedures, laboratory confirmation, descriptive epidemiology, GIS-based disease mapping, questionnaire design, data analysis using Epi-Info, hypothesis development, field data collection, and implementation of disease control measures.

The programme concluded with a valedictory session and certificate distribution. Participants expressed their appreciation for the comprehensive and practical nature of the training, noting that it significantly enhanced their epidemiological skills and preparedness for *effective* disease surveillance and outbreak response in the field.



Promoting Awareness on Zoonotic Diseases through Health Camp for Scheduled Caste Farmers

ICAR–NIVEDI organized an awareness programme on zoonotic diseases and a health camp for Scheduled Caste dairy farmers at Budughavahalli village, Shidlagatta Taluk, Chikkaballapura District, on 2n December 2025, under the SCSP of ICAR–AINP on One Health. The programme focused on educating farmers about the transmission, prevention, and control of zoonotic diseases such as brucellosis, leptospirosis, rabies, anthrax, and antimicrobial resistance. Dr. Rajeswari Shome, Principal Scientist, highlighted the importance of vaccination, hygiene, and safe milking practices to protect human and animal health. Dr. Venkatesh Murthy, Taluk Health

Officer, Sidlaghatta, shared insights on local zoonotic disease risks and emphasized vector and rodent control measures, while Dr. Srinivasa Gowda A. C., Managing Director, CHIMUL, stressed the need for collaborative efforts for farmer welfare. A medical health camp, conducted with the support of MVJ Medical College, Hoskote, included health screening, sample collection for zoonotic disease testing, and consultations. Fifty farmers participated in the programme, during which milk buckets, sanitizers, and phenol were distributed to promote hygiene. The programme reinforced the One Health approach, enhancing awareness on zoonotic diseases and preventive practices among farmers.

One-Day Awareness Session on NABL Accreditation

ICAR–NIVEDI, Bengaluru, in collaboration with the National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories (NABL), Bengaluru, conducted a one-day awareness session on NABL accreditation on 16December 2025 at NIVEDI, Bengaluru. The programme was attended by 24 scientists from ICAR institutes and Subject Matter Specialists from Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs) of UAS, Bengaluru. Dr. S. S. Patil, Principal Scientist and Quality Manager, welcomed the participants and highlighted the importance of NABL accreditation. Dr. B. R. Gulati, Director, ICAR–NIVEDI,

shared experiences on achieving NABL accreditation and subsequent WOAH recognition. *Officials* from NABL, including Mr. Krishnaraj, Mr. Abhishek, and Mr. Santosh, explained the QCI/NABL framework and accreditation process. Dr. (Mrs.) Soudamini Mohapatra, NABL Assessor, briefed participants on NABL formats and fee structure. The session concluded with an interactive discussion and a vote of thanks by Dr. S. S. Patil.





Continuing Epidemiology Education (CEE) Lecture on H5N1

ICAR-NIVEDI, Bengaluru, organized a Continuing Epidemiology Education (CEE) lecture on 16 December 2025 on the topic "Unusual Epidemiology of H5N1 Clade 2.3.4.4b Viruses and Their Public Health Implications." The lecture was delivered by Dr. Suresh V. Kuchipudi, Professor and Chair, Department of Infectious Diseases and Microbiology, University of Pittsburgh. The programme witnessed active participation from scientists, faculty members, students, and other professionals, followed by an engaging interactive discussion. The lecture significantly enhanced awareness and preparedness while promoting scientific dialogue on emerging threats posed by avian influenza.



SWACHHATA PAKHWADA- Cleanliness and Awareness Drive

ICAR-NIVEDI, Bengaluru successfully concluded a 16-day cleanliness and awareness drive from 16 to 31 December 2025, in line with the directives of the Government of India and the ICAR. The initiative aimed to institutionalize cleanliness, hygiene, sanitation, and sustainable waste-management practices within the institute and surrounding communities.

The programme began with the Swachhta Pledge and mass awareness activities, followed by seminars, workshops, and demonstrations on "waste to wealth" and safe waste disposal. Key institutional measures included the review and weeding of obsolete records, disposal of scrap, and strengthening of e-office and digital record management systems.

Cleanliness and sanitation drives were conducted across the campus, residential colonies, and nearby public spaces. Awareness programmes on wastewater recycling, rainwater harvesting, and kitchen gardening highlighted sustainable resource utilization. Community outreach activities, including Shramdaan and signature campaigns, were organized in residential areas, schools, and anganwadis to encourage public participation.



A special focus was placed on farmer engagement through Kisan Diwas celebrations, featuring interactive workshops on cleanliness, biosecurity, and hygienic practices in agriculture and livestock systems. Creative competitions, Swachhata runs, plogging events, rallies, and walkathons further promoted the Swachh Bharat message, supported by extensive social and electronic media coverage.

Speaking on the occasion, the Director of ICAR-NIVEDI emphasized that cleanliness is a collective responsibility and a crucial component of public health, animal health, and environmental sustainability. He *reaffirmed* the institute's commitment to sustain cleanliness initiatives beyond the Pakhwada period, integrating them into routine institutional and outreach activities.

Kisan Diwas Celebration to Empower Scheduled Caste Livestock Farmers

ICAR-NIVEDI, Bengaluru, celebrated National Farmers' Day (Kisan Diwas) on 23 December 2025 under Swachhata Pakhwada-2025, focusing on hygiene, animal health, and livelihood enhancement of Scheduled Caste (SC) livestock farmers. The programme was attended by 103 SC farmers from Pemmadevarahalli village, Koratagere taluk, Tumakuru district. An interactive workshop sensitised farmers on cleanliness, biosecurity, disease prevention, and best practices in animal husbandry. To promote livelihood and nutrition security, Kaveri chicks were distributed to encourage backyard poultry rearing.

Dr. P. S. Mahesh, Joint Commissioner & Director, CEAH, Bengaluru, emphasised the role of hygiene and backyard poultry in improving rural livelihoods and nutrition, along with scientific dairy and small ruminant farming. Dr. Sandip Khurana, former Principal Scientist, ICAR-CIRB, highlighted scientific livestock and poultry management. Dr. Baldev R. Gulati, Director, ICAR-NIVEDI, briefed



farmers on Government initiatives for income enhancement and stressed livestock-based interventions for sustainable rural growth. The programme included expert talks, felicitation of Swachhata Champion Farmers, and prize distribution for the Swachhata painting competition, and was coordinated by Dr. Narayanan G., Senior Scientist.

One-Day Workshop on ASF Biosecurity Held at Kannur, Kerala

ICAR-NIVEDI in collaboration with the Animal Husbandry Department, Government of Kerala, conducted a one-day workshop on "Risk-Based Farm Level Biosecurity Practices to Prevent African Swine Fever (ASF) and Risk Analysis" at Kannur on 30 December 2025. Technical sessions by Dr. Jagadish Hiremath, Dr. Siju Susan Jacob, and Dr. C. S. Sathish Gowda focused on practical biosecurity measures, risk assessment, and ASF prevention. Informational pamphlets in the local language were distributed to farmers. The programme saw active participation from veterinarians, farmers, and state officials and received coverage in Malayalam print media, highlighting its grassroots impact.



NaaViC Activities Highlights

Team NaaViC undertook multiple outreach and incubation activities during December 2025. On 2 December, the team met Ms. Apoorva, KAS, General Manager (Biotechnology), Dept. of IT, BT & S&T, Government of Karnataka, and briefed her on NaaViC initiatives while extending an invitation to the NASE Expo organised by Krishik R-ABI, UAS Dharwad.

NaaViC conducted a two-day Agripreneurship Development Programme on "Entrepreneurship in Dairy Farming" on 3–4 December in collaboration with Hebbal Veterinary College, benefiting over 50 farmers through expert lectures and field visits. On 4 December, Dr. S. L. Hoti, former ICMR-VCRC Emeritus Scientist, and Dr. Raman, MD, Serial Entrepreneur, visited NaaViC and appreciated its incubation and startup support model.

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Team NaaViC participated in the National Agri Startup Expo (NASE 2025) at UAS Dharwad on 5–6 December, where NaaViC-incubated startups showcased their innovations. Dr. Yashwanth, Scientist, IH&VB, visited NaaViC on 11 December to understand its incubation activities.

NaaViC also served as an Associate Partner for KrishiVitta 2025 organised by BioNEST–AIC, UAS Bengaluru, on 12 December, and organised a quiz competition for ICAR–NIVEDI staff as part of Kannada Rajyotsava celebrations.

On 24 December 2025, Dr. Jagveer Rawat, MD, BIRD Co-operative Forum, and Mr. Rajeev Sapra, Retd. IES, New Delhi, visited NaaViC Agri-Business Incubation Centre, ICAR–NIVEDI. They explored the RKVY-RAFTAAR ecosystem, discussing challenges, government limitations, and potential stakeholder collaborations. The visit included interactions with Dr. Sathish B. Shivachandra, PI-CEO, and the NaaViC team to understand incubation operations, startup cohorts, scaling challenges, and possible interventions to support emerging agri-entrepreneurs.

On 23 December 2025, Team NaaViC visited the College of Horticulture, Kolar, and met Dr. Anjanappa, Dean (In-charge). The discussion focused on promoting NaaViC activities, fostering entrepreneurship among students, and exploring future collaborations to strengthen engagement and nurture entrepreneurial skills. Further, Team NaaViC, in collaboration with KMF Kolar, conducted an Agripreneurship Awareness Program to empower farmers with knowledge on veterinary business ventures, grant-in-aid facilities, and cutting-edge technologies benefiting the farming community. Experts, including Dr. Ashwak Ahmed and KMF officials, provided guidance on animal health, feed management, and improving milk production, successfully creating lasting awareness among the participants.

Kannada Rajyotsava Celebration

ICAR–NIVEDI, Bengaluru, celebrated Kannada Rajyotsava 2025 with enthusiasm and cultural fervour on 12 December 2025. The event showcased the rich heritage and traditions of Karnataka, with staff and students participating in various cultural programs. As part of the celebrations, Team NaaViC organized a quiz competition for ICAR–NIVEDI staff, promoting knowledge about Karnataka's history, language, and culture.



The programme fostered team spirit, engagement, and pride in the state's legacy, making the celebration both educational and enjoyable for all participants. The interactive competition enlightened the fellow audience in understanding more about the culture, region and its overall contribution to State and its subjects.

Scientists and Research Scholars Received Prestigious Awards

ICAR-NIVEDI's scientists and research scholars were felicitated with prestigious awards at various national and international scientific conferences in recognition of their exceptional contributions to research excellence, innovation, and their achievements in the veterinary and One Health domains.



VIROCON-2025

At VIROCON-2025, the international conference on “*Changing Landscapes in Human, Animal and Plant Viruses: Bridging Basic Science, Innovation and Public Health*”, organized by the National Institute of Virology (NIV) and held at Conrad Hotel, Pune, Maharashtra, from 8–10 December 2025, Dr. V. Balamurugan, Principal Scientist, ICAR-NIVEDI, was conferred with the prestigious Kameshwar Sahai Bhargava Oration Award–2025. This honour was bestowed in recognition of his distinguished contributions to the field of Veterinary Virology, highlighting his exemplary scientific leadership, impactful research, and sustained efforts in strengthening national capacities in virology and infectious disease research.

From the Pig Disease Research Team, Dr. Raghavesh A. N., Project Research Scientist-I, received the Best Poster Presentation Award for his presentation entitled “*Standardized Workflow for Establishing Porcine Spleen-Derived Organoids Using Transwell Culture for Immunological Research*” under the Basic Virology theme. Dr. Ramamoorthy R.,

Junior Research Fellow, was awarded the Best Oral Presentation Award for his presentation entitled

“*First Evidence of Porcine Epidemic Diarrhoea Virus and African Swine Fever Virus Natural Co-Infection in Pigs from Karnataka, India: An Epidemiological Investigation*” under the One Health and Pandemic Preparedness theme

IAVPHS-2025

At the XXIst Indian Association of Veterinary Public Health Specialists (IAVPHS) Conference 2025, held on 11–12 December 2025 at the Centre for One Health, Guru Angad Dev Veterinary and Animal Sciences University (GADVASU), Ludhiana, Punjab, Dr. Z.B. Dubal, Principal Scientist, has been conferred the “FELLOW” award of the Indian Association of Veterinary Public Health Specialists.



Dr. M. Nagalingam from the Tuberculosis Research Team received the Best Oral Presentation Award for his presentation entitled “*Molecular Identification of Mycobacterium orygis and Epidemiological Assessment of Bovine Tuberculosis in Goa*” under the theme “One Health and Zoonoses: Bridging Animal–Human–Environment Interfaces”.

From the Leptospirosis Research Team, Ms. Prajakta Prashant Bokade received the Best Oral Presentation Award for her presentation entitled “*Pathogenicity Study of a Virulent Leptospira Isolate from Bandicoot Rat in a Golden Syrian Hamster Model: Toward Identification of Diagnostic and Immunogenic Biomarkers*” under the theme “*Environment and Wildlife Health: Understanding the Ecological Drivers of Disease*.” Additionally, Dr. Arun Y. P. was awarded the Best Poster Presentation Award for his presentation entitled “*Molecular Detection and Phylogenetic Characterization of Pathogenic and Intermediate Leptospira Species from Febrile Illness Human Cases in Dakshina Kannada, India*” under the theme “*One Health and Zoonoses: Bridging Animal–Human–Environment Interfaces*.”

NAVS Convention -2025

Dr. V. Balamurugan, Principal Scientist received National Academy of Veterinary Sciences (NAVS) Fellowship and Dr. K. K. Baxi Outstanding Scientist award for Veterinary Science 2024 at the NAVS XXIII Convocation held at Bihar Animal Sciences University, Patna, during 22-23 December 2025.



NCVP-2025

At the 34th National Congress of Veterinary Parasitology (NCVP) and National Symposium, held during 17–19 December 2025 at the College of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Udgir, Maharashtra, on the theme “*Parasitology in the Digital Era: Innovations for One Health and Farmers' Prosperity*”, the Parasitology Research Team of ICAR–NIVEDI achieved remarkable recognition by winning multiple awards for scientific excellence.

Dr. P. P. Sengupta was conferred the Best Oral Presentation Award for his work entitled “*Eco-epidemiological and Risk Factor Assessment of Bovine Theileriosis in Cattle in Chhattisgarh, India*.” Dr. Siju Susan Jacob received two Best Oral Presentation Awards in different sessions for the research presentations entitled



“*High-Level Deltamethrin and Ivermectin Resistance with Amitraz Susceptibility in Rhipicephalus microplus Ticks of Karnataka*” and “*Epidemiological Investigation and Clinicopathological Characterization of a Mixed Hemoprotozoan Outbreak in Sheep at a Government Breeding Farm in Karnataka, India*.” In addition, Mr. S. M. Maharana was awarded the Best Oral Presentation Award for his research titled “*A Molecular Exploration of Theileria orientalis in Karnataka: Climate Influence, Genotype Diversity, and Drug Target Mutations*.”

Global Livestock & Aquaculture Conclave at Cape Town, South Africa

Dr. Baldev Raj Gulati, Director, ICAR–NIVEDI, participated in the international conclave “*Livestock & Aquaculture Convening*” held at Cape Town, South Africa, from 2–4 December 2025, organised by the Gates Foundation, which brought together global experts, development partners, and grantees to deliberate on strategies for strengthening livestock and aquaculture systems worldwide. He delivered an invited presentation titled “*Status of Livestock Diseases in India for Modelling*,” highlighting India's progress in national livestock disease surveillance, epidemiology, and modelling under the INLEAD programme. Dr. Gulati also participated in thematic deep-dive sessions on poultry, aquaculture, dairy, and red meat sectors, contributing to discussions on disease risk assessment and investment priorities, and interacted with FAO and WOAH to explore future collaborations in disease modelling, biosecurity, and transboundary disease preparedness.

These accolades reflect the scientific excellence, interdisciplinary research strength, and national and international impact of ICAR–NIVEDI in advancing veterinary epidemiology, disease surveillance, and One Health research.

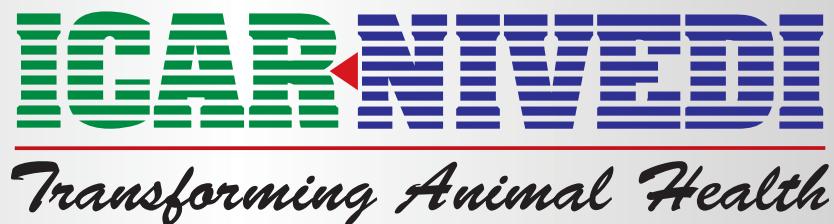




Celebration of New Year 2026

ICAR-NIVEDI, Bengaluru, celebrated New Year 2026 in a warm and cheerful gathering organised by the Institute Staff Welfare Club (SWC). Dr. S. S. Patil, Principal Scientist and Chairman, SWC, welcomed the gathering, while Dr. P. P. Sengupta and Dr. Rajeswari Shome, Principal Scientists, extended New Year greetings and encouraged the NIVEDI family to strive for excellence. Addressing the gathering, Dr. Baldev R. Gulati, Director, ICAR-NIVEDI, highlighted the Institute's major achievements in

2025, including national recognition of NADRES V2.0 with the National e-Governance Award, expansion of externally funded projects, and significant progress in disease intelligence, diagnostics, and One Health initiatives. He appreciated the collective *efforts* of scientists, *officers*, project *staff*, and students and urged the NIVEDI family to enter the New Year with renewed commitment to science-led surveillance, innovation, and service to the livestock sector.



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