

Vishanu Sankraman Pratirodh Abhyas: Madhya Pradesh Hosts National Mock Drill to Strengthen Pandemic Preparedness

Multi-Sectoral Collaboration Anchors the One Health Response

Union Health Minister Shri J P Nadda Applauds the Exercise; Calls for Strengthened One Health Synergy

Posted On: 19 NOV 2025 6:01PM by PIB Delhi

Under the National One Health Mission (NOHM), a large-scale mock drill titled “Vishanu Sankraman Pratirodh Abhyas” was conducted in Khandwa District, Madhya Pradesh from November 2–5, 2025. The exercise aimed to assess India’s pandemic preparedness and intersectoral coordination in managing zoonotic disease outbreaks. Led by the National Joint Outbreak Response Team (NJORT), the drill simulated an outbreak of Crimean Congo Haemorrhagic Fever affecting both humans and animals, testing real-time investigation, pathogen identification, and containment strategies.



The mock drill brought together a wide array of stakeholders including the Office of the Principal Scientific Advisor to the Government of India, National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC), Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) along with National Institute of Virology (NIV), Pune, Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS), Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying

(DAHD), Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change (MoEF&CC), Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) along with High Security Animal Husbandry Laboratory at Bhopal (NIHSAD), Madhya Pradesh State and District Administration, State IDSP, State Veterinary and Forest Department, BSL-3 laboratory at AIIMS Bhopal (one of the 23 National BSL-3 Network Laboratories), Chief District Medical Officer and other relevant District Officers. Experts from human health, veterinary sciences, and wildlife sectors collaborated under NJORT's guidance. Independent observers from NOHM meticulously documented the response, noting prompt and appropriate actions while also identifying areas for improvement.



Union Health and Family Welfare Minister Shri J.P. Nadda lauded the successful execution of the drill, stating, “Vishanu Sankraman Pratirodh Abhyas’ has shown us that with preparedness, collaboration, and a One Health approach, we can effectively respond to pandemics.” He emphasized the need for continued synergy among all stakeholders to safeguard Bharat and the world from infectious disease threats. This marks the second such mock drill under NOHM, following the earlier Avian Influenza simulation in Rajasthan, reinforcing India’s commitment to proactive and integrated health security.

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HFW- Vishanu Sankraman Pratirodh /19th Nov 2025/1

(Release ID: 2191761) Visitor Counter : 475

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