



GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE

# NIPHTR Newsletter

Issue 2, October 2021-March 2022



*I Hope the roots of the tree grow deeper, work and researches carried out by the institution keep getting better, benefitting the society at large.*

*- Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya jee,  
Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare  
MOHFW, GOI,*

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## From the Directors Desk...

Dear friends / Colleagues,  
It gives me immense pleasure to present the biennial newsletter of the National Institute of Public Health Training and Research, Mumbai.



The institute has carved itself a premier position in the field of Public Health Training & Research, I am indeed proud to take up the responsibility as the Director and take this excellence way ahead.

My journey started with the auspicious visit by the Health Minister and the Minister of State to review the developments and achievements of the institute in the past few years as a National institute.

The institute conducted all its training programmes on an online platform since the pandemic times. Now its time to gear up, new programmes and initiatives, public health challenges and to restart the new academic years back to the normalcy. Looking forward to a team effort from each of my experienced Faculty.

The Rural Health Training Centre has started its field & clinical activities with an excellent team of staff. The GIS mapping has been prepared for the RHTC Ajivali area. The institute has started the ANC care and consultation services by our clinic staff & a gynaecologist on every Monday at NIPHTR Clinic, New Panvel Campus and on every 3rd Monday at Ajivali. The Sai Sanjeevani Trust is actively participating in these activity.

The institute taking all initiative to start its second centre for Yellow Fever Vaccination at NIPHTR, Panvel campus. It will be the first of its kind at the New Mumbai Municipal Corporation. Looking forward to your constructive feedback.

Best wishes to each of you for a glorious 2022.

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## A- Visit of Health and Family Welfare Minister

**Visit by the Hon. Health Minister Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya and Minister of State Dr. Bharati Pawar at NIPHTR New Panvel**



The Union Health Minister for Health and Family Welfare, Honourable Dr. Mansukhji Mandaviya, and Minister of State Dr. Bharati Pawar, visited National Institute of Public Health Training and Research, New Panvel Campus on 22nd February 2022. NIPHTR extended a warm welcome to Dr. Mansukhji Mandaviya and Dr. Bharati Pawar with floral bouquet.

The dignitaries visited various departments, its functioning and infrastructure. They appreciated the excellent infrastructure and state of art facilities provided by the institute for public health training activities. Later director made a detailed presentation of the various activities & training programmes taken up by the institute. Various challenges like staff up gradation and recruiting of new staff and others were also discussed during this meet.

The ministers acknowledged the team for the various development taken place in the organization and extended their support to carry out researches and academic activities in the field of the Public Health.

Dr. Sunil Gitte Director, NIPHTR, Dr. Deepak Raut, Director Professor, Dr Suparna Khara, CMO (SAG) Dr. Sudhir Wanje, Joint Director, and other officers, faculty members and Staff members were present for his occasion.



### **Tree Plantation at NIPHTR Panvel.**

The Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare Dr. Mansukhji Mandaviya planted the medicinal plant of Amla in the premises of National Institute of Health and family Welfare during his visit. Honarable Minister of state Dr. Bharati Pawar also planted the Adulasa Plant in the campus.

## B- Academic Activities

### Inaguration of First Batch of Master of Public Health

The First batch of Master of Public Health Program (AY-2021-23) was Inaugurated by the Union Health Secretary, Shri Rajesh Bhushan ji as Chief Guest and Dr Mandeep Bhandari as the Guest of Honour on 5th October 2021. Dr. Deepak Raut Director, NIPHTR Chaired the session.

In his address Dr Deepak Raut expressed that, there is a significant demand for public health professionals in India and abroad in the various field like epidemiology, bio-statistics, surveillance, environmental health management, program planning and evaluation. He further pointed out, The National Health Policy – 2017 has also recommended for creation of a dedicated Public Health Cadre in the country. In this regard NIPHTR has designed and developed a Master of Public Health Curriculum.

Dr Dhaval Thorat, Deputy Commissioner, NIPHTR, briefed about the activities of the institute and curriculum of the Master's program. The two-year course is recognised and approved by Maharashtra University of Health Sciences.

Shri Rajesh Bhushan ji in his address congratulated the NIPHTR Team for starting the MPH program at the National level institute. He assured that the ministry will ensure all support for the mobilization of resources for the various courses started by the institute, and work towards up gradation of the institute.

The inaugural programme was conducted on a Hybrid Mode. Mrs Rosy Joseph, Sr.PHNO coordinated the programme on the day. MPH students, Officers & Faculty Members and guests from UNICEF were present for the programme in person.



Union Health Secretary, Shri Rajesh Bhushan ji , Joint Secretary Dr Mandeep Bhandari and Dr. Deepak Raut, Director of NIPHTR on the Occasion of Inauguration of First batch of Masters of Public Health



## Presentation of Certificates and Medals to DHPE Students



The Diploma in Health Promotion Education and Post Graduate Diploma In Community Health Student of year 2020-21 visited the National Institute of Public Health Training and Research. The 9 Students from Odisha visited on 17 February 2022 where as 12 students from Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Maharashtra visited on 22 February 2022.

On 17 February 2022, Dr. Sunil Gitte Director, NIPHTR distributed the certificates for completion of DHPE. Mrs. Rajlakshmi Sahoo, Received the Gold Medal for securing First Rank in Diploma In Health Promotion Education. On 22 February 2022 The DHPE Students received certificates for completion of DHPE at the hands of Dr. Sunil Gitte Director, NIPHTR. .

Mrs. Vandana Patle, was awarded the Silver Medal for securing second rank in the Diploma in Health Promotion Course. On this occasion Dr. Gitte, appealed the students to apply the knowledge and skills gained during the field work in their respective states. Dr. Suparna Khara, CMO (SAG), Dr. Sudhir Wanje, Joint Director, Dr. Amol Ade, Medical Officer and DHPE Course Coordinator, Dr. Krishnaja Medical Officer, and other Faculty Members were present on this occasion.



## Presentation of Certificates and Medals to PGDCHC Students



The five student of Post Graduate Diploma In Community Health Student of year 2020-21 visited the National Institute of Public Health Training and Research. The students received certificates at the hands of Dr. Sunil Gitte. He also presented the Gold Medal to Mrs. Tarannum Parveen for achieving first rank in Post Graduate Diploma in Community Health Care in 2020-21. Dr. Sunil Gitte congratulated all the students for their success.

Dr. Gitte, motivated the students to utilize the knowledge and skills gained during the field work and develop their subcentres as gyani villages in their respective states. Dr. Suparna Khara, CMO (SAG), Dr. Sudhir Wanje, Joint Director, Dr. Amol Ade, Medical Officer and DHPE Course Coordinator, Dr. Krishnaja Medical Officer, and other Faculty Members were present on this occasion.

## C- International Health Day

### World Aids Day Observed at Ajivali PHC and NIPHTR Campus



“World AIDS Day 2021 was observed on 1 st December 2021 at both the campuses of NIPHTR. The theme of World AIDS Day 2021 was “End inequalities. End AIDS”. With a special focus on reaching people left behind, highlighting the growing inequalities in access to essential HIV services.

Rural Health Training Centre (RHTC) at Ajivali PHC, Dist. Raigadh, Tal. Panvel.

Dr. Sunil Gitte, Director NIPHTR inaugurated the poster exhibition organized on HIV/ AIDS at RHTC, Ajivali.

During the inaugural address Dr. Sunil Gitte discussed the issues of inequalities in rendering the services to people living with HIV/AIDS, and the need of support and care from the community to the People living with HIV/AIDS.

He also said that education and motivation to community is the key for prevention of diseases.

Dr. Gitte, congratulated the ASHA workers on the occasion of “ASHA DAY”. In his speech he stressed on the history of initiation of the ASHA workers scheme and their importance in the health care delivery services especially in RCH and prevention of diseases in rural area.

### Urban Health Training Centre ( UHTC) at Girgaon Campus.

Dr. Deepak Raut, Director Professor inaugurated the poster exhibition organized on HIV/ AIDS at Girgaon campus.

Dr. Deepak Raut expressed the importance of awareness and education about HIV/AIDs and also stressed about the critical need to increase awareness of impact of HIV on people's lives, to end stigma & discrimination and to improve quality of life of people living with HIV. All the officers, Faculty, Staff members of NIPHTR and the community

at large took efforts to make the programme a success by sharing their views, clarifying doubts and their presence during the function at both campuses.





## National Webinar on Professional Social Work: Building Communities for New Nation.

National Institute of Public Health Training and Research, Mumbai organised a National Webinar on Professional Social Work: Building Communities for New Nation on 15th March 2022, World Social work Day.

The webinar was inaugurated by Dr. Sunil Gitte, Director, NIPHTR.



In his inaugural address he said that “the theme of the world social work day “building communities for new eco-social world: no one should be left behind' presents a vision and action plan to create new global values, policies and practices that develop trust, security and confidence for all people and the sustainability of the planet. In India the new sectors are opening up, where there is need of the social work to contribute and connect with the communities for taking the country ahead.”

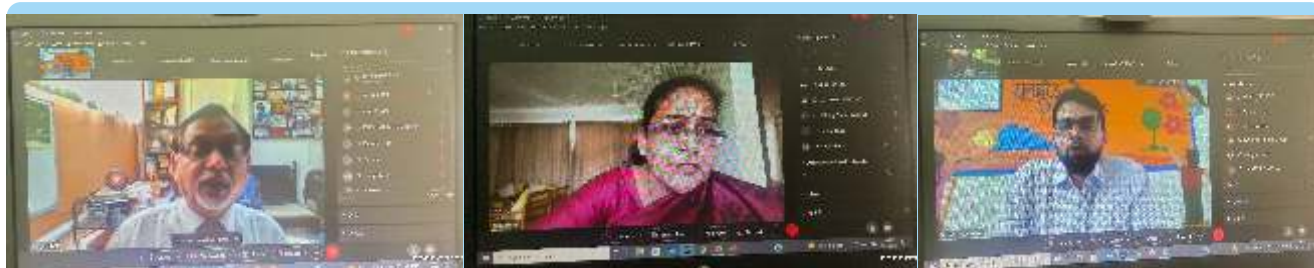
Prof. Dr. Sanjai Bhatt, Delhi School of Social Work, Delhi University, Dr. Nilangi Sardeshpande, Health researcher, Pune, Mrs. Shaila Band, Retired Senior HR Manager, Nashik, Mr. Sachin Golwalkar CEO, United Way Delhi, Dr. Durgesh Valvi, Assistant Professor, D. K. Shinde School of Social Work, Kolhapur and Ms. Amruta Joshi, Manspandan, Kolhapur were the panellist for the webinar.

The panelists did presentation on various dimensions and roles of social work in the field of Public Health, Industries, Social and Rural development, Adolescent Health and Corporate Social Responsibility.

174 Medical social Workers, NGOs Representatives, Academicians, Social Work Students and CSR professionals participated in the webinar along with the Officers & Faculty members of NIPHTR.

It was also transmitted live on You tube channel of NIPHTR, and the link was shared on NIPHTR Social Media Accounts on Facebook.

Mrs. Nakusha Saindane & Mr. Ganesh Chavan, Social Worker instructors and Mr. Sanjay Bhonge Social Worker organized and coordinated the National Webinar.



## Panelists

## D- Institute Activities

### Republic Day Celebration at New Panvel Campus of NIPHTR

The 73<sup>rd</sup> Republic Day of India was celebrated on 26<sup>th</sup> January 2022 at the New Panvel Campus of NIPHTR.

The National Flag Was Hoisted by Director of the institute Dr. Sunil Gitte.

Dr. Vivekanand Giri, Joint Director, Central TB Division, MoHFW, New Delhi graced this day by his presence as a Guest of Honour. He extended his wishes to all the staff members of the institute.

Dr. Sunil Gitte, being his first year as a Director, expressed his gratitude & pride to be a part of one of the pioneer institute & congratulated all the seniors & staff members for their hard work and efforts to reach such heights.

On this occasion he conveyed to each one saying, when the country is celebrating the 75<sup>th</sup> year of the freedom movement, each and every employee of the institute must work hard and put all efforts for the betterment of the institute and the country.

Dr. Sudhir Wanje Joint Director, NIPHTR, expressed a few words on the importance of Swatch Bharat Abhiyaan and all of us to be a part of it by holding hands together in this campaign and strive to keep our campus clean, green and beautiful.

The institute campus was beautifully decorated on this occasion. Shri Ganesh Chavan and Shri Shrinivas Mehetre took efforts to make it done. All the officers, Faculty and staff gave their valuable presence and made this day a memorable one.





## Observation of Communal Harmony Week at NIPHTR



The institute observed communal harmony week during the 21st to 25th November 2021. The concluding day function was organized on 25th Nov at Khetwadi campus in the presence of Director Dr. Sunil Gitte along with the faculty and staff.

Dr. Gitte rendered the oath of Communal Harmony to the officers, faculties and staff members of institute. Further in his speech said that communal Harmony is an important factor for an institute and a nation to grow constantly. Communal harmony exists only when people live with peace and harmony.

Thus every member of the institute must strive to keep harmonious environment. Dr. Sudhir Wanje Joint Director, NIPHTR, Dr. Suparna Khera, CMO (SAG) also expressed their thoughts about communal harmony which means Love, affection and fraternity among communities.

## Awareness Program on Sexual Harassment at Workplace

A program was organized on 9th Dec. 2021 to bring awareness regarding sexual harassment of women at workplace. The program was started by an introductory speech by Dr. Suparna Khera. She gave orientation about the purpose of the program and need of the sexual harassment complaint committee.

Mrs. Asha Khandagale, Sr PHNO and Mrs. Nakusha Saindane, Social work Instructor made presentation on Sexual harassment at workplace, its consequences and prevention.

They also discussed the detail guidelines issued by the government of India. The program was organised on a hybrid mode, Faculty & staff from both campuses attended the programme.



The institute has established internal complaint committee for sexual harassment against women at workplace on 25th November 2021 at NIPHTR.



## E- Newer Initiatives

### Inauguration of MCH Clinic at New Panvel Campus of NIPHTR

Mother and child Health clinic was Inaugurated in the gracious presence of Panvel Municipal Corporation Member Mr. Manohar Mhatre and Dr. Deepak Raut, Director NIPHTR on 11th October 2021. This clinic has been started in collaboration with Shri Satya Sai Sanjivani Centre, Kharghar.

On this occasion, Shri Manohar Mhatre, expressed his gratitude for starting this clinic as it will be the first of its kind which can provide free check ups to the pregnant women in the neighbouring Villages.

Dr. Deepak Raut in his address mentioned that there is a rapid development of Panvel city and surrounding premises. It is important that pregnant women get health facilities close to their homes and NIPHTR clinic will definitely serve this purpose.

The clinic is well equipped and has a full time Medical officer & team for patient care. In addition a Gynaecologist from the Satya Sai Sanjeevani will visit the clinic every Monday for ANC check ups. This clinic will provide free blood-urine tests, calcium, iron, folic acid pills and vaccination of women during pregnancy. Counselling will also be given on family planning, contraception & Nutrition to the women.



### Orientation Training on E-office for the Staff of NIPHTR



The E-office training was conducted for the officer's, faculty and administrative staff of the National Institute of Public Health Training and Research. Mr. Chandrashekhar Deshmukh the technical consultant from National Informatics Centre, made presentation on how to use the eoffice software. In his presentation he explained about the creation of file, creating notesheet creating draft, submitting the file through e office etc.

All officers, faculty and administrative staff attended the training at both campuses.



## F- Students Corner

### COVID-19 – A Different Way to See

**Dr Swati,  
MPH (21-23) NIPHTR**



In December 2019 when we read about the virus we thought it will not reach India especially to the places where we live, a month later in January 2020 there was the first case in India in Kerala that allowed us to think what will happen if it spreads to our cities too. On 11 March 2020 COVID -19 was declared as Pandemic by WHO and it eventually led to a nationwide lockdown.

Overnight lockdown made it hectic to inform patients regarding the postpone of their appointments and to give them a proper counselling regarding COVID-19 about which we all were trying to learn or know about. It affected everyone personally, physically, economically and mentally too. As its symptoms were similar to flu it was difficult to make people understand that it can be fatal until we had the Mortality (death) ratio rise because of pandemic. Handwash, wearing mask, use of sanitizer were also not that much easy tasks to follow although they were to keep us safe while we found them bothersome. Not having cure, lack of oxygen, not having proper measures to be safe, watching different opinionated news instilled a fear among us because we believed what we saw.

The most difficult time during pandemic was the time when government gave us vaccine. It was supposed to be 100% effective still than after people got infected with COVID -19 and died too. At that time it was kind of impossible to convince even family members to get vaccinated rather than patients.

This pandemic lead to some impossible personal events for us. Nowadays everyone lives apart because of higher education and their jobs but it allowed everyone in family to live together. We got to develop different hobbies, skills and interests because of lockdown. We lost some important family members too and got some new ones too. We all have our own share of experiences in this pandemic some have bad someone can have good or maybe of both but in last both taught us better ways to move forward and to be active and informed about public health issues.

Wishing everyone healthy and safe future. Be safe and keep safe.

#### साथी संभल जाना...

फैला कोरोना चारों तरफ है  
साथी संभल जाना...  
ओरे भैयाजी अरे बहना जी  
जरा मास्क लगा जाना...  
मास्क लगाके दुरी बनाके  
हाथो को धोते जाना...  
शासन ने जो नीयम बताये  
उसपर ही चलते जाना...  
हम जीतेगे सब मलिकर  
जरा टुका लगवा जाना  
फैला कोरोना चारों तरफ है  
साथी संभल जाना...



**Mrs. Anita Jha, ANM  
PGDCHC, Trainee**

## COVID 19- A Journey From Devastating Pandemic To Learning Opportunity

Dr Gauri Umakant Tilak  
MPH Student ,NIPHTR.



"COVID -19 ... A global public health crisis! It has been the most significant event of our life. It was around end of January 2020, when we had first heard about COVID-19 virus. Most of us have thought it was going to be as similar as other outbreaks like H1N1, Ebola virus etc. which wouldn't affect our lives that much.

There were News about the rising cases across the globe, and India too had its first positive case; It was then we realized the severity of the issue. It was on 24 th March,2020 midnight ...India had announced lockdown. We all were paused! paused by a single, nano sized virus, which was not even visible to the human eye. Wasn't that more like a scene from a sci-fi movie! that completely changed the way things used to be.

It wouldn't go wrong if I say that there was another wave of cooking everything at home initially in the lockdown; from pizza base to biscuit cakes! and posting various trends on social media; we all surfed on that wave and had our share of happiness! jokes apart but that was necessary for mental peace. After a point sitting at home, doing nothing started hitting everyone's nerves. I started extensive reading and I came across one fact...

***When written in the Chinese, the word 'crisis' is composed of two characters. One represents danger and other represents opportunity.***

And decided to make use of this Chinese philosophy to deal with "Chinese virus!" I started making efficient use of free time; worked on my CV and prepared for PG entrances. there might be a reason behind this pandemic...maybe to we all needed that much deserved pause, maybe to teach us a lesson ...May be!

Being a great fan of Albert Einstein, I always believed his saying, In the midst of every crisis, lies great opportunity! And COVID pandemic was the reason why I decided to pursue my post-graduation in the field of public health. This pandemic was a learning opportunity for public health aspirants.

Situations like the one we were living bring out the worst and the best of human interactions. Nature has benefited from a decline in actions that hurt our environment. This experience has also taught us to enjoy the little things in life that we take for granted. We all learned that adapting is the best form of survival. We came long way, facing three waves already. We must appreciate Indian government for such commendable work in the pandemic. Human spirit is capable of creating positive change and learn from the crisis and we will surely overcome any kind of such pandemics in future as well."