

Secretary, DAHD and Additional Secretary, DAHD Visit ICAR–National Institute on Foot and Mouth Disease, Bhubaneswar

Bhubaneswar, 9th July, 2026: Shri Naresh Pal Gangwar, Secretary, Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying (DAHD), Government of India, along with Ms. Varsha Joshi, Additional Secretary (Cattle & Dairy Development), DAHD, visited the ICAR–National Institute on Foot and Mouth Disease (ICAR–NIFMD), Bhubaneswar on 09.07.2026. The basic purpose was to visit State of the Art Laboratories and to Interact with scientists of the Institute.



The distinguished visitors were received by Dr. R. P. Singh, Director, ICAR–NIFMD, with the scientists of the Institute. During the visit, the dignitaries toured the Institute's laboratory facilities, including the display area, Biosafety Level-2 (BSL-2) laboratories, and the peripheral and interstitial areas of the Biosafety Level-3 (BSL-3) facility. The laboratory visit was coordinated by Dr. R. P. Singh and Dr. Rajeev Ranjan, who briefed the visitors on the Institute's state-of-the-art infrastructure, diagnostic capabilities, biosafety practices, and ongoing research initiatives.

An interactive session with scientists was subsequently held in the Committee Room. Following a brief self-introduction by the participants, The visit also included an open interaction with the Secretary and the Additional Secretary, during which discussions focused on the future roadmap for strengthening research, disease surveillance, advanced diagnostics, preparedness against emerging and transboundary animal diseases, and enhanced collaboration to support national livestock health programmes. The dignitaries appreciated the Institute's scientific contributions towards safeguarding animal health and strengthening India's preparedness against economically important livestock diseases with special reference to FMD.

The programme ended with plantation. The dignitaries departed after expressing their appreciation for the dedication and scientific excellence demonstrated by the Institute's Scientists and other staff.





