



112th Annual Day of National Centre for Disease Control

Why in News

Recently, the Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare presided over the **112th Annual Day celebrations of [National Centre for Disease Control \(NCDC\)](#).**

Key Points

▪ Initiatives Launched at the Event:

◦ Genome Lab:

- The **Whole Genome Sequencing (WGS) National Reference Laboratory** for [Antimicrobial Resistance \(AMR\)](#) was inaugurated.
- WGS is a **comprehensive method for analyzing entire genomes**. Genomic information **has been instrumental in identifying inherited disorders, characterizing the mutations** that drive cancer progression, and tracking disease outbreaks.
 - Rapidly **dropping sequencing costs and the ability to produce large volumes of data** with today's sequencers **make whole-genome sequencing a powerful tool for genomics research**.
- AMR is the resistance acquired by any microorganism (bacteria, viruses, fungi, parasite, etc.) against antimicrobial drugs (such as antibiotics, antifungals, antivirals, antimalarials, and anthelmintics) that are used to treat infections.
- The application of WGS for global surveillance can provide information on the early emergence and spread of AMR and further inform timely policy development on AMR control.

◦ Adaptation Plans under NPCCHH:

- The **National Health Adaptation Plan on Air Pollution** and **National Health Adaptation Plan on Heat Related Illness** were launched under the "**National Programme on Climate Change and Human Health (NPCCHH)**".
- The **plan suggests setting up of a committee on [air pollution](#)** and health in the hospital, to preferably involve health officials from the departments of medicine, respiratory, medicine, paediatrics, cardiology, neurology, endocrinology etc, including emergency and nursing department.
- It also **highlights the need for preparations for logistics, drugs and equipment** that may be required to address such health problems, particularly respiratory and cardiovascular emergencies.
- It also **highlights the need for identification of vulnerable areas**, selection of air pollution hotspots as per [Air Quality Index \(AQI\)](#) levels, vulnerable population covering people less than five years of age, adolescents, pregnant women and the elderly.

◦ Information, Education & Communication (IEC) Materials:

- Under the "National One health Programme for prevention and Control of Zoonoses" IEC materials on 7 priority [zoonotic diseases](#) has been created namely:
 - [Rabies](#), Scrub Typhus, [Brucellosis](#), [Anthrax](#), Crimean-Congo haemorrhagic fever (CCHF) , [Nipah](#), [Kysanur Forest Disease](#) in India.

Objectives of NPCCHH

- To **create awareness among the general population (vulnerable community)**, health-care providers and Policy makers regarding impacts of climate change on human health.
 - To **strengthen the capacity of the healthcare system** to reduce illnesses/ diseases due to variability in climate.
 - To **strengthen health preparedness and response** by performing situational analysis at national/ state/ district/ below district levels.
 - To **develop partnerships** and create synchrony/ synergy with other missions and ensure that health is adequately represented in the climate change agenda in the country.
 - To **strengthen research capacity** to fill the evidence gap on climate change impact on human health.
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- **National Centre for Disease Control:**
 - **About:**
 - The National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC), formerly **National Institute of Communicable Diseases (NICD)**, had its origin as the Central Malaria Bureau, **established at Kasauli (Himachal Pradesh) in 1909.**
 - **NICD was transformed into the NCDC** with a larger mandate of controlling emerging and re-emerging diseases in **2009.**
 - It functions as the **nodal agency in the country for disease** surveillance facilitating prevention and control of communicable diseases.
 - It is also a **national level institute for training specialized manpower for public health, laboratory sciences and entomological services** and is involved in various applied research activities.
 - **Control & Headquarter:**
 - The Institute is under administrative control of the **Director General of Health Services, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.**
 - The Institute has its headquarters in Delhi.
 - **Functions:**
 - Undertakes **investigations of disease outbreaks** all over the country.
 - Provides referral **diagnostic services to individuals**, community, medical colleges, research institutions and state health directorates.
 - Engaged in **generation and dissemination of knowledge** in various areas like Epidemiology, Surveillance, and Laboratories etc.
 - Applied integrated **research in various aspects of communicable as well as some aspects of [non-communicable diseases](#)** has been one of the prime functions of the Institute.

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