



NISHAD Designated as Global Rinderpest Holding Facility

[Source: PIB](#)

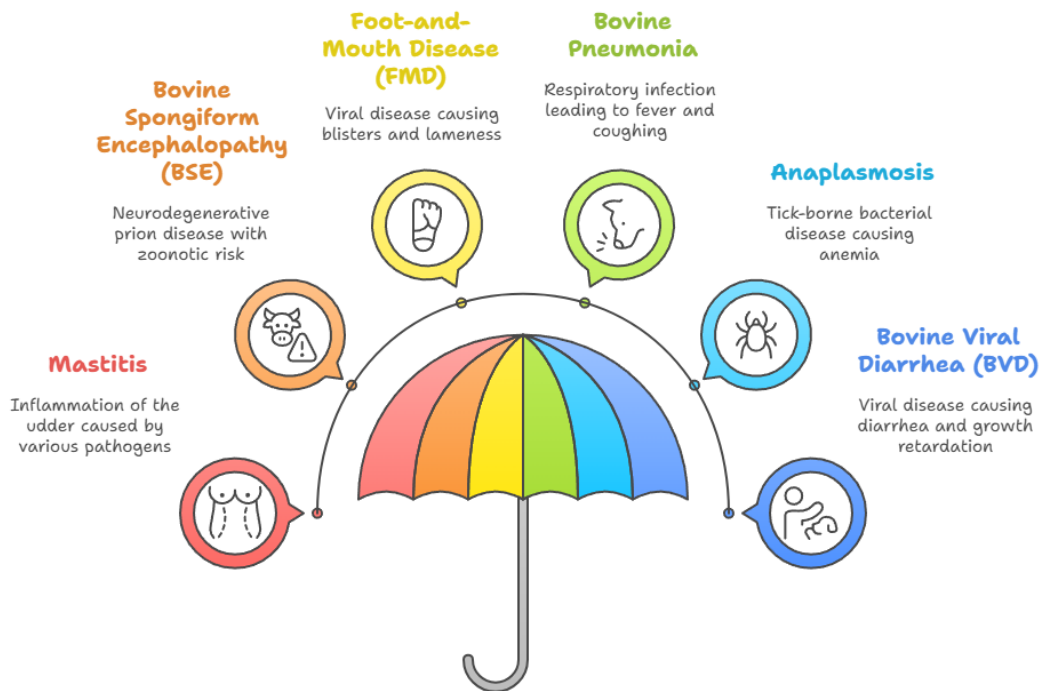
[ICAR-NIHSAD](#), Bhopal, has been designated a **Category A Rinderpest Holding Facility** by [World Organisation for Animal Health \(WOAH\)](#) and the [Food and Agriculture Organization \(FAO\)](#), making India one of 6 countries globally entrusted with **securely holding Rinderpest Virus-Containing Material**.

- **Rinderpest: [Rinderpest \(cattle plague\)](#)** was a highly contagious and deadly viral disease, globally eradicated in 2011, that affected **cattle, buffaloes, and some wild ruminants** caused by the ***Rinderpest virus* (a *Morbillivirus* related to measles)**.
 - It **spread via contact** with **infected secretions or contaminated feed/water**. Symptoms included **high fever, mouth ulcers, diarrhoea, and rapid death**.
 - It caused **massive livestock losses across Africa, Asia, and Europe**, leading to economic collapse and food insecurity.
- The **virus of this disease is still stored** in a **few high-security laboratories**, and any accidental or intentional release could lead to its re-emergence.
 - Therefore, **FAO and WOAH strictly regulate the storage and handling of Rinderpest Virus-Containing Material (RVCM)**.

NIHSAD (National Institute of High Security Animal Diseases)

- [NIHSAD](#) is India's premier **Biosafety Level-3 (BSL-3) facility** high-containment lab for research on **exotic and emerging animal pathogens**, disease diagnosis, and bio-containment of high-risk organisms.
 - Established in **1984** as **High Security Animal Disease Laboratory (HSADL)** and later renamed, it serves as a **reference lab for avian influenza, Newcastle disease**, and other **transboundary and zoonotic diseases** under the **One Health** framework.
- It functions under **Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare**.

Common Cattle Diseases



Read More: [Lumpy Skin Disease](#)

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