

### SENIOR FELLOW QUOTE



**Dr. Pragati Hebbar**

Senior Fellow, Institute of Public Health, Bengaluru

It's been an exciting and packed quarter at IPH Bengaluru and we are happy to share some of the highlights with you through this newsletter. Our research portfolio and partnerships are expanding with the several ongoing projects and newly started research studies in the area of oral health, mental health and participatory health governance. A major milestone in our education domain is the launch of our flagship e-learning course on 'Public Health Management' (ePHM) on the SWAYAM NPTEL portal made available for free. Further we hosted over 25 interns in this quarter and organized two technical workshops on 'Data analysis and visualization' and 'Realist evaluation.' As part of our outreach activities we worked towards tobacco free educational institutes and supporting mobility and quality of life through 'Help a life walk' campaign. We are now gearing up to organize our flagship national conference 'Bringing Evidence into Public Health Policy (EPHP)' about which you will hear more in our next newsletter.

### KEY UPDATES

### STAFF SPOTLIGHT

#### Annual Day Oration Series 2024



**IPH BENGALURU**  
ANNUAL DAY ORATION SERIES-2024

**REFLECTIONS FROM MY JOURNEY IN RESEARCH & PUBLIC HEALTH**

Join us for a virtual oration that offers a three-part reflection on a journey in public health research. The talk will explore how research has been pivotal in understanding and addressing Tuberculosis, provide insights on the global COVID-19 response with a focus on equity and justice, and reflect on the gendered nature of public health and science leadership, highlighting the experiences of women from local to global levels.

**Orator**  
**Dr. Soumya Swaminathan**  
Chairperson, MS Swaminathan Research Foundation  
& Former Chief Scientist, World Health Organisation

Scan for Join Virtual Oration  
**JOIN LIVE**

20 08 24  
2:30pm-4:30pm

#iphindia www.iphindia.org

Annual Day Oration 2024

**20** **IPH** INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC HEALTH BENGALURU  
Strengthening health systems since 2005  
Recognised by the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (DSIR) as a Scientific and Industrial Research Organization (SIRO)

Continuing the Journey of Excellence in Public Health

This year marks a significant milestone as we celebrate 19 years of excellence and dedication in the field of public health. Every year on the occasion of our foundation day, as the Annual Day Oration Series, we invite experts and stalwarts in public health to deliver the annual oration. This year Dr. Soumya Swaminathan delivered the annual oration as well as unveiled our 20th year celebration logo. She shared her journey in research and public health.



**Dr. B R Rajeev**

*B R Rajeev has been selected for the Emerging Voices for Global Health Program, which will be held in Nagasaki, Japan in November 2024. He will also attend the Health Systems Global Conference where he will present a poster on "Governance and leadership for oral health in Karnataka". Rajeev is a DBT Wellcome Trust India Alliance Early Career Fellow and Assistant Professor at IPH. His work includes analysing the agenda-setting phase for oral health policies in India.*

### Innovative initiative creating a tobacco free institute with focus on water and Technology in schools (ICT FWT):



The CSR project aims to increase awareness of tobacco-free education, safe online behavior, and water conservation in 100 government and government-aided BBMP schools from June 2024 to March 2025. A compliance report will be produced at the end. Additionally, through the "Help Lives Walk" program, we are enhancing mobility support for physically challenged individuals from below-poverty-line families.

### **Equip HWC project team attends the workshop at ICMR-NIIRNCD Jodhpur**



Equitable, Quality Universal health coverage Implementation research Project for optimizing comprehensive primary health care through Health and Wellness Centres (EQUIP-HWCs) in Chamarajanagar district, Karnataka is an ICMR funded multi-centric project. The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) held a two-day workshop was attended by the EQUIP-HWC team, including Dr. Tanya, Dr. Yogish, Dr. Kaushik, and other members from IPH, Chamarajanagar. The event gathered teams from various states collaborating on the EQUIP-HWC project. A training session was conducted on using REDCap for household surveys, focusing on data collection and management skills. Dr. Yogish presented the survey strategy, emphasizing methodologies and timelines.

### **KAANU Launch**



Kaanu an initiative that is set up in at BR Hills and aims to serve as a knowledge center on south Indian Adivasi communities . It was inaugurated on 25th August. The center will host an annotated collection of works on/about/by south Indian Adivasi people and aims to become a vibrant space for scholarship, debate & dialogue on Adivasi issues.

### **PhD Staff Focus**



### **Dr. Shilpi Sikha Das**

*Shilpi Sikha Das successfully defended her PhD on 15th of July, 2024. The title of her PhD thesis was "Traditional Healing among the Tai Ahoms of Assam: Changing Dynamics and its Interaction with the Public Health System". It was submitted in the Centre of Social Medicine and Community Health (CSMCH), Jawaharlal Nehru University under the supervision of Prof. Rama V. Baru.*

*Currently she is a post doctoral fellow in the Centre for Training, Research and Innovation in Tribal Health (CTRITH) under the supervision of Dr. Upendra Bhojani.*

### **MOMENTS IN IPH**



*All the members of EQUIP-HWC team enjoying the flight to NIIRNCD-Jodhpur for a workshop.*

## PHC4UHC: Pathways in 2 Indian states



The PHC4UHC project seeks to explain the pathways through which reforms/programs in primary healthcare (PHC) contribute to Universal Health Coverage. Indian Institute of Management Bangalore is the lead institute and partnering institutes are - IPH Bengaluru, Ekjut, The George Institute for Global Health India. The project started in July 2023. In the last quarter, the IPH team contributed to a realist review being undertaken by the teams. The team screened articles for inclusion and extracted data.

## Education domain - Public Health Teaching Hub for Innovation, Networking and Knowledge (PH THINK) Lab

This quarter was buzzing with activity at IPH Bengaluru for our team starting from a delightful name change and logo. We held workshops, hosted interns from institutions across the country and facilitated exposure visits. Our flagship e-learning course on 'Public Health Management' (ePHM) was also launched on the SWAYAM NPTEL portal and is available for free.

- 22 participants joined the hands-on three day 'Data analysis and visualization workshop' and spent an entire weekend immersing themselves under the brilliant facilitation of Dr. Biju Soman (Professor, Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology), Dr. Arun Mitra (Faculty, All India Institute of Medical Sciences - Bibinagar) and Dr. Yogish C B(Faculty, IPH Bengaluru) with short pulses of lectures followed by practice.



- The Education team supported the execution of the blended workshop on 'Realist Evaluation' where 27 participants attended both online and offline formats. Dr. Prashanth N Srinivas and Dr. Pragati Hebbar facilitated this workshop under the banner of the REALISE project to enhance capacity building in realist evaluation methodologies in early to mid career public health professionals.
- IPH Bengaluru hosted about 25 internships under different projects during this quarter
- The PhD student group at IPH Bengaluru successfully completed the Annual PhD workshop, which is a networking and skill building initiative that they lead for early career researchers in the field of public health. About 20 participants joined these sessions and traversed topics ranging from grant writing, constructive supervision, project and time management, data governance and positionality, mental health and health communication.