IPH Connect

Jan-Mar 2025 Edition #18



ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER QUOTE



Mr. Manjunath H J
Administrative Officer

We are incredibly proud of the groundbreaking work being led by our team and partners in addressing some of the most pressing health challenges during this quarter. From pioneering doctoral research in sustainability and public health to advancing community-driven solutions, our collective efforts are creating lasting impacts. We celebrate the hard work and dedication of our scholars and staff, including Ms. Kranthi Vysyaraju's innovative research on waste and water management and Dr. Yogish C B's leadership in improving healthcare access for Adivasi communities. Our continued collaboration with Biocon Foundation exemplifies our commitment to strengthening healthcare services in underserved areas. Together, we are making a real difference, and we look forward to more successes in the coming months.

KEY UPDATES

STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Seminar on Global Discourse of Indigenous People



Dr. Aashish Xaxa, Assistant Professor of Sociology, Adivasi/Indigenous Peoples and Development Studies at IIT Gandhinagar, delivered a lecture at the Institute of Public Health, Bengaluru on the global discourses surrounding Indigenous peoples. He also visited the IPH Bengaluru field office at Chamarajanagar as part of his ongoing research on the Adivasi community.

Wipro Healthcare Partners' Forum

IPH Bengaluru Director and Senior Fellow, Dr. Prashanth NS, delivered a talk at the 2025 Wipro Healthcare Partners' Forum (Jan 23- Jan 25, 2025), making a case for re-imagining Primary Health Care (PHC) as the cornerstone for achieving Universal Health Coverage. Based on insights from the PHC4UHC initiative, funded by Alliance for Health Policy and Systems Research (HSPR), he highlighted the importance of investing in a robust, well-performing PHC system rather than relying solely on health insurance and private sector healthcare purchasing.



Dr. Yogish C B

Dr. Yogish C B, Assistant Professor and CRTP Fellow, focuses his PhD on the risk factors contributing to hypertension among Adivasi communities in Chamarajanagar district. He is playing a pivotal role in establishing the first Chiquru Adivasi birth cohort in Chamarajanagar. He leads the Chronic Condition Programme Unit at IPH Bengaluru. He received a scholarship from the Belgian government to attend the Qualitative and Mixed Methods course at the Institute of Tropical Medicine, Antwerp and the Global Minds Research Scholarship at University of Antwerp, Belgium.

PhD Scholar Focus



Rural Literacy and Health Programme Workshop



Dr. Lathadevi Chilgod and Dr. Kaushik S, Assistant Professors at IPH Bengaluru, engaged with over 80 Primary Health Care Officers (PHCOs) from Mysore in a workshop organized by the Rural Literacy and Health Programme (RLHP), an organization with more than 40 years of experience in health and education.

The workshop focused on effective strategies for reaching marginalized populations while providing care. A key theme was the importance of collaboration in healthcare delivery. Using a case-based, peer-learning approach, the session included group activities and interactive discussions to create an engaging and participatory learning experience.



Ms. Kranthi Vysyaraju

Ms. Kranthi Vysyaraju is a PhD fellow in the Sustainability Ambassadors Global Exchange Program - Clean Healthy Cities Consortium, which aims to identify sustainable solutions in One Health systems and infrastructure within India's urban context. She will apply a transdisciplinary lens to develop a toolkit for planning, implementing, assessing, and sustaining a citizens' forum to help communities mitigate vector-borne diseases like dengue in Bengaluru. She is finalising her research proposal and doing coursework at Vrije University Amsterdam, where she plans to register for her doctoral studies. Before this fellowship, Kranthi coordinated capacity-building initiatives for early to mid-career public health professionals and worked as a researcher in basic and clinical infectious disease research.

Medico Friend Circle 2025



Ms. Navya MS, Junior Research Associate at IPH Bengaluru and Dr. Aswathy Ram, Research Assistant at IPH Bengaluru, attended the 51st Medico Friend Circle (MFC) meeting in Bhopal from February 21-23, 2025, themed "From Wayanad to Bhopal: Climate Change, Disasters, and Health."

Day 1 focused on the Bhopal gas tragedy, discussing its long-term health impacts and the challenges survivors face in healthcare access and compensation. Day 2 addressed the 2024 Wayanad landslides, disaster management strategies, and workers' silicosis experiences. Day 3 shared disaster mitigation lessons from past emergencies, including the Kerala and Uttarakhand floods and Odisha cyclones. The meeting highlighted the urgent need for collaboration to tackle the public health

impacts of climate change, industrial disasters, and environmental hazards.

20 years of Biocon Foundation

Celebrating 20 Years of Biocon Foundation Celebrating Property Pr

IPH Bengaluru congratulates Biocon Foundation on completing 20 years of transforming lives through healthcare, education, and social initiatives! Their commitment to community well-being has been truly inspiring.

IPH Bengaluru values its partnership with Biocon Foundation in strengthening healthcare services for tribal communities in the Biligiri Ranganatha Swamy Temple(BRT) Tiger Reserve through the First-Mile Initiative.

As part of the 20th-anniversary celebration, Mr. Praveen Rao, Assistant Professor and Program Lead at IPH Bengaluru, presented insights from this collaborative work, highlighting the efforts made in early detection and care for Noncommunicable Diseases (NCD) among tribal populations.

Wishing Biocon Foundation many more years of impactful contributions to community health and well-being!

Moments in IPH





CTRITH Work Package 2 team conducted a capacity-building session on public health challenges in tribal communities, covering healthcare access, high maternal mortality ratio, education, substance use, and mental health. Held at IPH Chamrajnagar, it was attended by 50 participants

Global Conclave on Oral Health Innovation and Research

The Dental Health Access Research and Integration into Primary Healthcare (DHARANI) team at IPH Bengaluru, led by Dr. Lathadevi Chilgod, had an enriching experience at the Global Conclave on Oral Health Innovation and Research (GCOHIR) 2025 in Delhi.

Over two days (Feb 15-16, 2025), the team engaged in meaningful discussions on community-based oral healthcare and the challenges in oral health research. The conference also provided a valuable networking platform, connecting them with key stakeholders, including representatives from the Indian Dental Association, Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and leading researchers from across the region.



