



ICAR-National institute on foot and Mouth Disease
Organizes Workshop on
**“Harmonization of r3AB3 NSP Indirect ELISA
for FMD Vaccine Purity Assessment”**
23rd -25th June, 2026



ICAR–National Institute on Foot-and-Mouth Disease (ICAR-NIFMD), Bhubaneswar, organized a three-day Workshop on **“Harmonization of Recombinant 3AB3 NSP-Based Indirect ELISA (r3AB3-PUR iELISA) for Foot-and-Mouth Disease (FMD) Vaccine Purity Assessment”** from 23–25 June 2026 at its campus. The workshop was organized on the request of the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying (DAHD), Government of India, to harmonize the testing protocol and interpretation of NSP-based vaccine purity testing among vaccine manufacturers and designated testing laboratories.

The inaugural session was presided over by Dr. Rabindra Prasad Singh, Director, ICAR-NIFMD, and attended virtually by senior officials of DAHD and representatives of participating vaccine manufacturers. The technical programme commenced with a lecture by Dr. J.K. Mohapatra, Principal Scientist, ICAR-NIFMD, on the scientific basis and applications of the recombinant 3AB3 NSP-based indirect ELISA for DIVA surveillance and vaccine purity assessment. This was followed by an address by Dr. R.P. Singh, who highlighted the importance of harmonized NSP-based vaccine purity testing under the national FMD control programme.

This workshop brought together 15 scientists and technical officers from four FMD vaccine manufacturers viz: Indian Immunologicals Limited (IIL), Biovet Pvt. Ltd., Brilliant Bio Pharma Ltd., and Reliance Life Sciences—and three testing laboratories, namely CCS NIAH, Baghpat, ICAR-IVRI, Bengaluru, and ICAR-NIFMD, Bhubaneswar. Participants were divided into four groups for demonstration of the assay on Day 1,

followed by testing of manufacturer samples and cross-testing by participating groups on Days 2 and 3. The assay demonstrated excellent repeatability and reproducibility, while the introduction of Weak Positive and Borderline Controls further strengthened assay stringency and harmonization of test results across laboratories. The workshop successfully achieved its objective of promoting harmonized implementation of the “r3AB3-PUR iELISA” among participating organizations.

The valedictory session was graced virtually by Shri Rama Shankar Sinha, Additional Secretary (Livestock Health), DAHD, Dr. Aniket Sanyal, Director, ICAR-NIHSAD, Dr. Diwakar Himadri, ADG (Animal Health), ICAR, senior officials of DAHD, and senior officials of participating vaccine manufacturing organizations. The dignitaries appreciated the initiative of ICAR-NIFMD in organizing the harmonization workshop and emphasized the importance of standardized NSP-based vaccine purity testing for ensuring uniformity and quality assurance of FMD vaccines under the national disease control programme. The workshop concluded with distribution of certificates to the participants and a vote of thanks, and with the request from Industries that such exercises are of immense value.



