

Dissemination of NFHS-5 Key Findings for East Zone (Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Odisha & West Bengal), 27th July 2022, Bhubaneswar

The Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India, and the International Institute for Population Sciences (IIPS), Mumbai, organized a one-day **Regional Dissemination Workshop on National Family Health Survey (2019-21)** at the Hotel Hindustan International, Bhubaneswar, Odisha. Nearly 120 participants attended the Workshop, who were mainly health officials from the four state governments, and included other invitees and representatives from ICMR, XIM, UNFPA, UNICEF, AIIMS, NGOs, Media, etc.

The Inaugural Session of the Workshop started with the lighting of the ceremonial lamp by the dignitaries of the occasion, followed by a Welcome Address from Prof. Laxmi Kant Dwivedi, Coordinator, NFHS-5 for the Eastern Region, on behalf of the NFHS-5 team and IIPS. Prof. Laxmi Kant Dwivedi highlighted the main objective of the workshop and the findings of NFHS-5. Prof. K S James, Director, IIPS, welcomed everyone and gave an inspiring Introductory Remark emphasizing the importance of NFHS-5 findings in policy framing and program evaluation at the district, state, and national levels.



State reports released by Shri Nikunj Bihari Dhal, IAS, Principal Secretary, Health & Family Welfare Department, Govt. of Odisha & Ms. Shalini Pandit, IAS, Mission Director, NHM, Govt. of Odisha

Ms. Sandhya Krishnamurthy, Director General (Statistics), MoHFW, Govt. of India also welcomed the participants and delivered a Presidential Address and spoke about the coverage and content of the NFHS-5.

Ms. Shalini Pandit, IAS, Mission Director (NHM), Govt. of Odisha, conveyed enlightening Keynote address. Shri Nikunj Bihari Dhal, IAS, Principal Secretary, Health & Family Welfare Department delivered the Inaugural Address and underlined the achievements of Govt. of Odisha in various indicators and expressed sincere thanks to MoHFW, Govt. of India, and IIPS for choosing Odisha for the regional workshop. He and other dignitaries along with all the Principal Investigators from IIPS released the report for all five states in presence of officials from the respective states. Ms. Vaishali, Assistant Director, Statistics Division, MoHFW, Govt. of India wrapped the inaugural session with a "Vote of thanks".

In the first Technical session, "Importance of NFHS-5 findings for policy marking", by Ms. Sandhya Krishnamurthy, Director General (Stats), MoHFW. Prof.

S K Singh talked about issues emerging in the area of Maternal Health, Fertility, and Family Planning in the eastern states. Prof. Laxmi Kant Dwivedi presented NFHS-5 findings on Child Health & Nutrition in the region. The last presentation of this session was made by Dr. H. Lungdim on Adult Health, NCDs, Women empowerment & Domestic Violence showing challenges and situations in all five states.



Two panels were also organized during the post-lunch. The first one was chaired by Prof. K S James, Director, IIPS. This panel consists of, Mr. Sourav Bhattacharjee, UNICEF, Prof. Peppin Soosai, XIM, Dr. Priyamamadhava Behera, AIIMS, Bhubaneswar and Ms. Nikita Sisaudia, representative of UNICEF and they highlighted upon RMNCH+A programs given NFHS-5 results. They also spoke about contemporary issues in population, health, and development in the state of Odisha in particular and in the region in general, especially in the context of Sustainable Development Goals.

The second panel session was chaired by Mr. Keshvendra Kumar, SHS, Bihar, where two state-level officials from each state were called to the dais and asked to speak about the "Health Interventions to achieve SDGs". In the Concluding session, each of the state representatives gave brief comments and the challenges they faced in implementing the various health programmes and seek clarifications on certain data collection processes and definitions used for some indicators. Based on the NFHS-5 findings, state-specific policies have been discussed.

The workshop ended with a vote of thanks by Dr. Dinabandhu Sahoo, SHSRC, Government of Odisha.