

TEC in collaboration with CDDL-CADRAD, IVRI organised a one-day Interface Meet with WRDDL, SDDLs and RDILs on Strengthening Animal Disease Diagnostics at Pune on 25th February 2026

A one-day Interface Meet with the scientists of CDDL-CADRAD IVRI Izatnagar and TEC-IVRI Pune along with the officials of Western Region Disease Diagnostic Laboratory (WRDDL), State Disease Diagnostic Laboratories (SDDLs) and Regional Disease Investigation Laboratories (RDILs) was successfully organized at the Bharatratna Atal Bihari Vajpayee Western Region Disease Diagnosis Laboratory, Aundh, Pune on 25th February 2026. The programme aimed at fostering technical collaboration, networking, and capacity building among animal disease diagnostic laboratories across the country. Around 20 officials from WRDDL participated physically, while more than 20 experts from the SDDLs and RDILs including Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Goa, and Gujarat have joined virtually.

The meet was chaired by Dr. Sohini Dey, Joint Director CADRAD and In-charge of Central Disease Diagnostic Laboratory (CDDL), who highlighted the strategic importance of integrating the national diagnostic networks. Dr. Kiran Bhilegaonkar, Station In-charge, TEC Pune, welcomed all the participants, and provided an overview of the objectives and significance of the interface platform in strengthening diagnostic and consistent collaboration and coordination. Dr. YA Pathan, Joint Commissioner and In-charge of Western Region Disease Diagnostic Laboratory, Pune, expressed his sincere appreciation for organizing the interface meet.



Dr Sohini Dey, JD(CADRAD) and In-charge CDDL, Izatnagar interacting with officials

During the technical session, Dr. Sohini Dey elaborated on the activities and advanced diagnostic capacities available at CADRAD, IVRI, Izatnagar. She emphasized on the need for stronger collaboration with WRDDL, SDDLs, and RDILs across the Western Region of the country, and introduced the participants to the state-of-the-art infrastructure, technical expertise, and diagnostic facilities available at CDDL-IVRI. She also expressed her views on the utilization of these resources jointly, which can significantly enhance the disease surveillance and response mechanisms.

Dr. Sunil Lahane, Deputy Commissioner of Animal Husbandry, presented a comprehensive overview of WRDDL Pune, detailing the range of diseases covered, number of samples tested, and diagnostic assets available at the laboratory. This was followed by the presentations from various SDDLs,

including those from Gujarat, Chhattisgarh, Goa, and Madhya Pradesh, who shared their work reports, challenges, and field experiences.

The interactive discussion session brought forward several critical operational challenges and policy-level concerns, including shortage of skilled manpower in diagnostic laboratories, the need for standardized SOPs covering the entire chain from sample collection to reporting, the importance of prioritizing key diseases for focused diagnostic efforts instead of dispersing resources across too many diseases, the need for regular quarterly interface meetings for continuous coordination and updates, and standardization of rate lists for diagnostic services, especially for private stakeholders.



(Participants of interface meet)

The meeting ended with the concluding remarks of Joint Director, CADRAD emphasizing on disease prioritization, collaborative diagnostic support, importance of regular interactions, strengthened networking, and continued knowledge exchange among all the laboratories.

Dr. Sanghratna Bahire, Scientist, TEC Pune and Dr. Shubhangi Gawhare, ACAH, DIS Pune coordinated the programme and Dr. Vaishali Wankhede, Assistant Commissioner of Animal Husbandry, DIS Pune compered the programme. The Interface Meet concluded on a positive note, setting a clear roadmap for enhanced cooperation and the use of standardized diagnostic practices to strengthen the disease diagnostic infrastructure in India.
