

# NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the fourth issue of our newsletter, covering activities and highlights from August to November. This edition features event updates and workshop recaps.

## KEY EVENT

The Pradhan Mantri – Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission (PM-ABHIM) workshop was organized by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India. It brought together representatives from all States to discuss critical infrastructure gaps, strengthen disease surveillance, and enhance public health preparedness, while fostering cross-learning and inter-programme convergence. The NDMC was invited to participate in the event, where Prof. Sarika Mehra, PI-NDMC, delivered a presentation highlighting NDMC's objectives, ongoing research, and key initiatives.

## National Workshop on Strengthening Public Health Infrastructure under PM-ABHIM, August 28–29, 2025



## Workshop on Core Modeling Frameworks and Open-Source Tools, September 23–24, 2025

The workshop focused on the latest advances in disease modelling, AI applications, and public health strategies through expert talks and a collaborative panel discussion. The Institute for Disease Modelling (IDM) team led hands-on training, including software case studies, AI in health, and in-depth exploration of IDM's modelling frameworks and the Starsim tool. The workshop fostered practical learning, active discussion, and knowledge exchange, with participants praising both the technical content and real-world applications in public health modelling.

## NDMC Talk Series



October 17, 2025:  
**Dr. Rakesh Aggarwal**, Professor, Sanjay Gandhi Postgraduate Institute of Medical Sciences, on

**“Innumerate physicians and bio-blind mathematicians: Disease modelling needs the two to tango”.**



August 01, 2025: **Prof. Kaja Abbas**, Associate Professor, London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, on **“Vaccine value assessment”**.

November 13, 2025: **Dr. Niket Thakkar**, Principal Research Scientist, Institute for Disease Modeling, on **“Time and space correlations in measles surveillance systems”**.



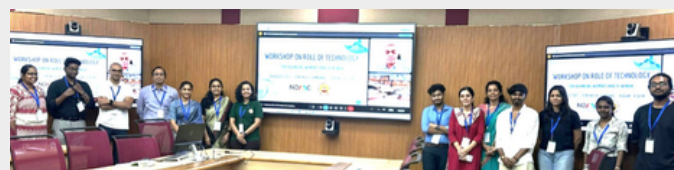
## 2nd Tuberculosis India – Modelling Interest Group (TB-MIG) Workshop, September 17–19, 2025



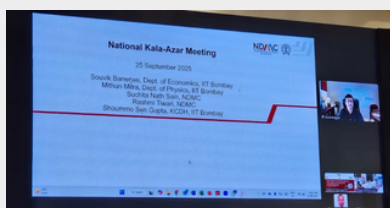
The workshop was organized by the TB Secretariat under the leadership of Prof. Sarika Mehra and Prof. Mithun Mitra, IIT-Bombay, in collaboration with Prof. Nimalan Arinaminpathy, Team Lead, WHO. Dr. Sandip Mandal, John Snow India, presented his work on estimating TB burden in India, followed by Dr. Vineet Chadha, Public Health Expert and TB Epidemiologist, who shared key epidemiological insights and programmatic perspectives.

The workshop also highlighted technological advances in active case finding, with Dr. Shamim Mannan and Mr. Manoj Singh, Clinton Foundation, demonstrating the use of ultra-portable X-rays with Computer-Aided Diagnosis. Prof. Saket Choudhary, IITB, conducted a practical session on GitHub. The participants also engaged in group updates and practical skill-building sessions.

## Regional stakeholder meeting: Role of Technology for Advancing Women's Health in India, August 26, 2025



Prof. Nirav Bhatt, IIT-Madras, organised a workshop on "The role of technology for advancing women's health in India" as part of a series of workshops spearheaded by NDMC in collaboration with Women's Collective Forum on the overarching theme of "Technology in Healthcare- India's mantra for Universal Health Coverage".



## National Kala-Azar review meeting: ToT on Dossier Preparation & Case Management, September 25–26, 2025

Prof. Souvik Banerjee, IITB, was invited by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare to deliver a talk "Kala-Azar: predictive modelling" at the National Kala-Azar review meeting.

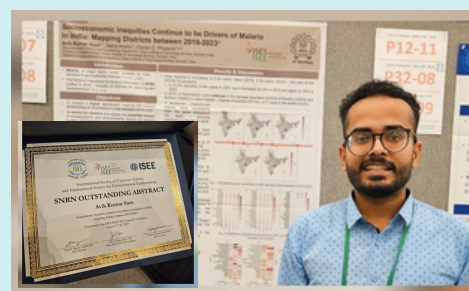
### ACHIEVEMENTS

#### >>PUBLICATIONS

- COMET-LF: a compartmental model of dynamics of infection, disease, and elimination strategies for lymphatic filariasis. *BMC Infect Dis*, 1514 (2025) by Dr. Indrajit Ghosh, Dr. Suchita Nath-Sain, Mr. Shoummo Sen Gupta, Prof. Souvik Banerjee and Prof. Mithun K. Mitra
- Determinants of malaria transmission in Indian districts in 2018: insights from ensemble models. *Malar J*. vol. 24(1):336 (2025) by Mr. Avik Kumar Sam, Ms. Alisha Khatoon and Prof. Phuleria HC.

#### >>CONFERENCE PRESENTATION

**Avik Kumar Sam** was **awarded the SNRN Outstanding Abstract and the SNRN Poster Award** for "Socioeconomic Inequities Continue to be Drivers of Malaria in India: Mapping Districts between 2019–2023" at the International Society of Exposure Science–International Society for Environmental Epidemiology (ISES – ISEE) Conference 2025, Atlanta, USA.



**Prof. Mithun Mitra** and **Dr. Yashi Raj**, Senior Research Scientist, attended **The Union World Conference on Lung Health 2025** in Copenhagen, Denmark. Dr. Raj delivered a presentation on "Modelling the epidemiological impact of strengthening intensified TB case-finding in health facilities in India".