

## Health Ministry unveils National Action Plan for prevention and control of snakebite envenoming

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### An Initiative to half the snakebite deaths by 2030 through 'One Health' approach



Apurva Chandra, Union Health Secretary, has launched a National Action Plan for Prevention and Control of Snakebite Envenoming (NAP-SE) in India. With a vision to reduce snakebite deaths by half by 2030, NAPSE provides a broad framework for states to develop their own action plan for management, prevention and control of snakebites through the 'One Health' approach. The activities envisaged under human, wildlife, tribal and Animal health component will be undertaken by concerned stakeholders at all levels.

It was informed that a Snakebite Helpline no (15400), a vital resource that provides immediate assistance, guidance, and support to individuals and communities affected by snakebite incidents will be piloted in five States (Puducherry, Madhya Pradesh, Assam, Andhra Pradesh and Delhi). This initiative aims to ensure prompt access to medical care and information to general public.

A National Rabies Control Programme Website was also launched on the occasion. It is a comprehensive online platform dedicated to providing resources, updates, and insights on rabies. This website will serve as a digital platform for States/UT for entering information related to animal bite and rabies. This will also help the community to assess the nearest Anti Rabies Clinic and infectious disease hospital for management of animal bite and rabies cases. The website will also help in send the reminder SMS for vaccination follow up.