

Serosurveillance for corona begins in TS

NIN launches 4-phase survey in Nalgonda, Kamareddy, Janagaon

HANS NEWS SERVICE

Hyderabad: To establish community-based district-level serosurveillance and to monitor the transmission of novel coronavirus infection among the general population, a nationwide survey has been initiated in 82 districts across the country by ICMR (Indian Council of Medical Research). The survey commenced in three districts of in Telangana (Nalgonda, Kamareddy and Janagaon) on Friday.

The objectives of the serosurveillance are to estimate and monitor the trend of sero-prevalence for novel coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2) infection in the general population and high burden cities, determine the socio-demographic risk factors for the virus infection and delineate the geographical spread of the infection in the gen-

eral population and hotspot cities.

The National Institute of Nutrition (NIN), which is under ICMR, is conducting the survey with the help of the state government.

NIN Director R Hemalatha stated that teams from NIN and local health staff will take up the survey in 30 villages across three districts. It will be carried out in 4 rounds in the same villages (repeat cross-sectional study).

This survey will go on for three days and teams will collect blood samples through ELISA kits. From these samples, serum would be separated and kept in storage facility in district hospitals concerned. The 1,200 samples (serum separated) will be sent to Chennai for analysis on Monday or Tuesday and it will take one week for results.

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