

CSIR-NEERI organised a three-day capacity-building training program on ‘Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs)’ for newly joined Scientists of Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) during 11-13 December 2025. The program was organized under the ongoing GEF-UNEP funded project “National Implementation Plan Update for India” (GEF ID 10978).

Dr S Venkata Mohan, Director, CSIR-NEERI welcomed the participants. In his welcome address, Dr. Mohan recalled the long-standing association of CPCB and CSIR-NEERI in implementing various projects, developing guidelines, addressing regulatory matters, and working across multiple environmental domains. He highlighted that CSIR-NEERI, as the Stockholm Convention Regional Centre (SCRC-India) regularly organizes capacity building programs for regulators and encouraged the participants to make best use of the training to enhance their capabilities in the field of POPs and emerging contaminants. Dr A Ramesh Kumar, Principal Scientist gave an overview of the training programme. The programme was inaugurated by Er Bharat Kumar Sharma, Member Secretary, CPCB. He stressed the need for acquiring new knowledge, skills to address the new environmental challenges such as POPs. The training covered topics including the Chemical Inventory of India, National Implementation Plan (NIP) on POPs management, its linkages with SDGs, gender and chemical exposure, the cost of inaction, reduction of POPs emissions by adopting BAT/BEP in incinerators, environmentally sound management of PCBs, PFAS group of chemicals, POPs inventory development, among others. Er Anil Ranveer, Scientist-F, and In-charge, ETU, CPCB proposed the vote of thanks. The training was attended by about 80 scientists of CPCB.

