



मनोज झालानी
Manoj Jhalani

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Additional Secretary & Mission Director (NHM)



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निर्माण भवन, नई दिल्ली - 110011
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE
NIRMAN BHAVAN, NEW DELHI - 110011

DO NO. T - 11011/ 04/ 2018 - Lep.
Dated 30th August, 2018

Dear colleague,

As you are aware, the Ministry of Health & Family welfare has taken various focused initiatives such as the Leprosy Case Detection Campaigns (LCDC), Focused Leprosy Campaigns (FLC) and Sparsh Leprosy Awareness Campaigns, during the last 2 years towards eradication of Leprosy as a public health problem. These efforts have yielded a desired result which is evident from the fact that approximately 65000 new leprosy cases have been detected annually, during the LCDCs in the last 2 years. Also, with these efforts, we have been able to reverse the trend of increase in Grade II Disability (G2D) cases as the number of G2D cases per million population has declined by more than 25%, from 4.48 in 2014-15 to 3.34 in 2017-18.

I wish to compliment the state teams for their hard work and commitment towards implementation of the National Leprosy Eradication Program. However, you would agree that the task is still unfinished & we need to give a final push for elimination of Leprosy in the country. You are aware that the Nation shall commemorate 150th Birth Anniversary of Father of the Nation, Mahatma Gandhi, on October 2nd, 2019. Leprosy elimination was a subject probably closest to the heart of Mahatma Gandhi. Hence, elimination of Leprosy by October 2nd, 2019, would be a fitting tribute and true homage to the Father of the Nation.

Inspired by the success of our recent efforts, the Ministry has devised a special campaign titled the "Sparsh Leprosy Elimination Campaign (SLEC)". The object of this campaign is to bring about reduction in the incidence of annual new G2D cases to less than 1 case per million population, at the national level, by October 2nd, 2019. Following activities are to be undertaken under the SLEC:

1. At least 2 rounds, and a third round if required, of LCDCs in identified districts, with -
 - 1st LCDC in the period starting from September 2018 and ending on October 2nd, 2018 or States may start on 2nd October 2018.
 - 2nd LCDC in the period starting from January 2019 and ending on February 28th, 2019.
 - 3rd LCDC in June, 2019 (if required)

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It may be noted that LCDCs under the SLEC are envisaged for Districts, where the proportion of G2D cases out of total new cases was more than 3% and the absolute number of G2D cases was more than 2, in 2016-17. A list of such districts is attached for ready reference (Annexure I).

2. Focused Leprosy Campaigns (FLC) in all such villages and urban wards in non-LCDC districts where a case of G2D was found in 2016-17 or after.
3. Intensive Sparsh Leprosy Awareness Campaign in January 2019 wherein it is envisaged that Gram\Ward Sabhas shall be organized in all villages\urban wards in the State\UT.

I request you to plan for the 1st LCDC in the identified districts of your States\UT, as per the Revised Operational Guidelines for Leprosy Case Detection Campaign. These Guidelines can be accessed at the following link - http://www.nlep.nic.in/pdf/R_OG_LCDC_2016_Aug.pdf.

The funds approved for NLEP, under the NHM for the year 2018-19 (PIP FMR code G1.1), may be utilised for the purpose, as per financial norms for LCDCs annexed at Annexure II. Shortfall, if any, may be met from the budget head Health System funds under NHM Mission Flexipool.

I am confident that under your leadership, the Sparsh Leprosy Elimination Campaign shall be successfully implemented for achieving the desired objective.

With regards,

Yours Sincerely,


(Manoj Jhalani)

Additional Chief Secretary/ Principle Secretary/ Secretary
Department of Health & Family Welfare (as per list)