



स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण मंत्री  
भारत सरकार  
Minister of Health & Family Welfare  
Government of India

जगत प्रकाश नड्डा  
Jagat Prakash Nadda



DO. No. Z-28020/129/2015-CH-II  
(FTS No.120824)

January 4, 2017

Dear Shri Manik Sarkar ji,

Government of India recognises that the health of India's children drives the country's future. The Ministry of Health & Family Welfare aims to ensure that children receive health interventions that are critical at their tender ages in their schools and anganwadi centres.

2. Over 22 crore school going children in India are at the risk of Soil Transmitted Helminths (STH) infections. These infections can cause anemia, malnourishment, impaired mental and physical development and may cause a serious threat to children's health, education and productivity.

3. To combat the negative impact of these worms on children's health and education, my Ministry launched the National Deworming Day (NDD) Programme in 2015, wherein all children from 1-19 years of age group are administered albendazole tablets on a single day through the platform of schools and anganwadi centers.

4. NDD is implemented by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare in close collaboration with the Department of School Education & Literacy, Ministry of Human Resource Development, Ministry of Women and Child Development and Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation.

5. Within the two years of implementation, India has witnessed an unprecedented success in this public health intervention, wherein approx.. 40 crore children have been covered. To continue this endeavor, we are in the process of implementing NDD on 10<sup>th</sup> February, 2017 in every anganwadi centre, public and private schools across all States/UTs.

6. A comprehensive NDD toolkit containing operational framework, monitoring checklists, IEC materials, etc., has been shared with State Health Departments for facilitating the steps for implementation. Enthusiastic efforts of Hon'ble MPs, Hon'ble MLAs, Members of Panchayati Raj Institutions, Urban Local Bodies and civil society members are critical to the success of the National Deworming Day.

7. I shall be grateful for your support in the following key areas for effective implementation of the NDD Programme:-

- State launch of National Deworming Day on 10<sup>th</sup> February, 2017 through the State Health Department. Similar/simultaneous launching of programmes may also be held at district, sub-division and block levels.
- Involvement of private schools during NDD, 2017 to cover all children in the age group of 1- 19 years.

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