

**OFFICE OF THE MISSION DIRECTOR
NATIONAL HEALTH MISSION
GOVERNMENT OF TRIPURA
SIHFW Building, 1st floor, Palace compound, Agartala**

No.F.13 (3-62) - DFWPM/PHS/DEWORM/2018 (Sub II)

Dated: 17th Jan 2020

To,

All Chief Medical Officers, Principal Officer, Education TTAADC, Principal Officer, Social Welfare and Social Education, TTAADC, District Education Officers, District Inspectors of Social Education and District Nodal Officers (NDD), - North Tripura, South Tripura, West Tripura, Khowai, Unakoti, Dhalai, Sepahijala and Gomati district, Government of Tripura.

Subject: Program directives for upcoming National Deworming Day February 2020

Madam/Sir,

You may be aware that under the aegis of National Deworming Day (NDD), Government of Tripura has planned to implement the tenth round of NDD program across all eight districts on February 17, 2020 followed by mop-up day on February 24, 2020.

You are requested to adhere to the following directives for successful implementation of National Deworming Day: -

1. **State level Joint Directives** on NDD is expected to be released in the coming week by Secretary, Health and Family Welfare department, Secretary, Education department and Special Secretary, Social Welfare and Social Education department, Government of Tripura. Please refer to the same for enhanced stakeholder convergence at district and block level.
2. **Target setting** - For a high-quality NDD program, setting target as per census and reporting coverage against the determined program target prior to the NDD round is crucial. This needs to be taken into consideration in NDD February 2020 round through engagement with stakeholder departments across all levels for finalizing district targets.
3. **NDD District Coordination Committee Meeting:** District Chief Medical Officer are instructed to convene the NDD February 2020 **District Coordination Committee Meeting during first week – second week of January, 2020** along with the stakeholder departments under the chairmanship of **District Magistrate cum District Collector**. Details and expectation of the meeting is given below:
 - **Purpose of DCCM:** To leverage the support of line departments for NDD and ensure that necessary program arrangements including training, drug logistics, community mobilization and preparation for managing adverse events are made in time for the program.
 - **Expected participants:** CMOs, DNOs, DEOs, DISEs, representatives of private schools (having high enrolment and network), TTAADC, Kendriya/Navodaya Vidyalaya, Madrasa/SPQM and religious schools. In addition to this, representatives from Panchayati Raj, Municipality, Tripura Rural Livelihood Mission, Tribal Welfare Department, Drinking Water and Sanitation department (Swachh Bharat Mission), Information and Cultural Affairs Department, Urban Development Department, Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan, National Cadet Corps (NCC), Bharat Scouts and Guides and National Social Service Scheme should also be invited well in advance.
 - **Agenda points for DCCM –**

- 1) Discuss the role of all the three-line departments i.e. Department of Health, School Education and Social Welfare and Social Education as per NDD guidelines.
- 2) Finalise program strategies for enhanced program coverage including private school engagement and reaching to out-of-school children.
- 3) Discuss the district and block-level targets of 1-19 years children (**target enclosed in Annexure A**).
- 4) Discuss the training cascade and timelines as per timelines and instruct the district and block level officials to complete all trainings from **fourth week of January 2020 to first week of February 2020 as per availability of drugs at block level**. Special emphasis on integrated drug distribution of drugs, IEC, training materials, reporting forms and participation from all three departments in all training level must be ensured.
- 5) Discuss regarding block level preparations for NDD: To ensure plan with timeline and preparedness for NDD program including trainings schedule, drugs availability, community mobilization activities, monitoring visits and adverse event management protocol.
- 6) Discuss about NDD launch program: Plan for NDD launch in a government/private school on **February 14, 2020**, with wide media coverage to raise awareness in the community. You may also invite concerned Member of Parliament (MP) and Member of Legislative Assembly (MLA) for the launch.
- 7) Discuss state's initiative towards promotion of sanitation and hygiene practices viz, importance of hand washing practice before taking food and after using toilet and regular nail trimming to reduce re-infection among the beneficiaries. Ensure hand washing and nail trimming before administration of Albendazole tablets at all schools (both government and private) and *anganwadis* on National Deworming Day and mop-up day.
- 8) Discuss correct and timely recording and reporting mechanism for NDD. Reiterate that all reporting, block level onwards, must be through NDD App/webpage only.
- 9) Ensure that all stakeholder departments at district extend support to the technical assistance partner Evidence Action for successful roll out of NDD.
- 10) Minutes of DCCMs to be documented within three days of the meeting and should be shared with district and state officials.

4. **Active Participation of Private schools** – Continue strengthening of private schools (including pre-primary private schools) engagement through participation of their representatives in district-level coordination committee meetings and special meetings called by district and blocks. Providing NDD kits, and other materials such as FAQs, diary note, specific SMS for parents etc must be ensured which will further help to generate awareness and interest in private schools for implementing NDD.
5. **Out-of-school category:** Health Department at district and block level to ensure inclusion of up to 19 years of age (out of school) in other category (Industrial Training Institutes, polytechnics, NIT, professional/medical and para-medical/ vocational/colleges and other institutes), brickkilns, slum dwellers, children enrolled in non-formal education system, coaching institutes, orphanage for getting deworming benefits.
6. **NDD Block Coordination Committee Meeting:** NDD February 2020 Block Coordination Committee Meeting should be conducted in between **third and fourth week of January, 2020** with the stakeholder department **under the chairmanship of SDM/BDO**.
7. **Integrated Distribution:** The NDD kit for teachers (including private schools) and *anganwadis* should be distributed during block level trainings. It will consist of drugs (Albendazole 400 mg), IEC and training materials and reporting formats. Further, all *anganwadis* and schools should receive NDD kit by fourth week of January 2020 to first week of February 2020 to conduct NDD and mop-up day efficiently. Note that as per findings from independent monitoring during NDD August 2019 round, integrated distribution was only 71% in schools and 77% in *anganwadis*.

Transportation and logistics of NDD kits: CMOs to ensure timely transportation and distribution of NDD kits during block level trainings of teachers and *anganwadis*, with support from Department of School Education and Social Welfare and Social Education as per NDD guidelines and operational plan of the state shared with districts. **Letters must be issued from districts to blocks for ensuring transportation and distribution of NDD kits within the stipulated timeline.** In addition, necessary supervision at all level is required for ensuring adequate drug bundling and NDD kits for its distribution in a timely manner during block trainings.

9. **Drug Administration Protocols:** Albendazole tablets to be administered to children as per table given below:

Age Group	Dosage (Albendazole 400 mg tablet)	Administration
1- 2 Years	Half Tablet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drug administration should be done under supervision by teacher/<i>Anganwadi</i> worker • During intake, children should chew the tablet and if required should consume some water • Ensure safe drinking-water should be available at the school/ <i>anganwadis</i> on NDD • For young children from 1-2 and 2-3 years, the tablet should be broken and crushed as per the standard dosage (between two spoons) and then safe water be added to help administer the tablet • Instruct children to chew the tablet completely. Albendazole drugs that are not chewed or crushed may have significantly lower effectiveness.
2-3 Years	One full tablet	
3 – 19 Years	One full tablet	

10. Trainings:

As per NDD Operational Guidelines, a training cascade (**Annexure B**) to be implemented from the state level to the block level to train *anganwadis* and school teachers to implement NDD.

- **State Level Training for Master Trainers:** state level master training will be organized at Agartala by second week of January 2020. All 8 DNOs and 59 BNOs to participate in the training.
- **Block level training** is being planned from fourth week of January 2020 to first week of February 2020. Hence the training cascade must be completed on or before first week of February 2020. Respective Stakeholder department should take initiative on this. All the NDD trainings to be monitored accordingly to ensure quality.
- District official of respective stakeholder departments must coordinate with respective block level officials for ensuring high participation of all *anganwadis*, ICDS supervisors, school teachers and MPWs in the block level NDD trainings.
- Effective utilization of NDD training material (Flip charts and handouts) to be ensured in NDD trainings. Practice sessions on drug administration, recording protocol for teachers and *anganwadis* to be organized during training. Further session on importance of hygiene practices viz, hand washing and nail trimming will be incorporated in all training sessions.

Adverse Event Management: All CMO should ensure formation of adverse event management team at district and block prior to NDD. On NDD and mop up day, all district and block level official of stakeholder department, headmasters, teachers and *anganwadis* and ICDS supervisor must be vigilant for any adverse events in their area. Any reported adverse events should be managed as per the NDD protocol. Reporting of any adverse events should be done using Adverse Event standard reporting form. The MO-PHC should ensure that the medicines that are mentioned in the Adverse Event Management protocol should be available in the health centre on NDD and mop-up day. MO-PHC must ensure functional referral services (emergency response team) ready with them for any prompt actions required on NDD and mop-up day. Schools and *anganwadis* must have emergency helpline numbers and contact numbers of nearest MO-PHC/MPW. All severe adverse events suspected due to Albendazole administration must be reported to Pharmacovigilance program of India helpline (Toll free) 1800 180 3024.

12. All CMOs should disseminate information that albendazole administration and food intake does not have a correlation. Albendazole tablet can be consumed on empty stomach as well. (**Enclosure WHO letter in Annexure C**).
13. **Role of ASHA, Teacher and *anganwadis* during NDD is very critical for successful roll out of NDD. Role of ASHA, Teacher & *anganwadis* (Annexure D)**
14. District budget release orders to be shared along with instructions to PHC MOs on timely release of ASHA incentives. ASHA orientation on the NDD program and its benefits are to be initiated in advance so that they include appropriate messaging during home visits, mother meetings and other health education efforts. Appropriate distribution of ASHA leaflets, ASHA reporting forms and community handbills to be ensured by the District.
15. **Role of MPW/MPS:** MPW/MPS are to engage at school and *anganwadi* centre on NDD (**February 17**) and mop-up day (**February 24**) to tackle adverse advent on the spot (if any). Further MPW/MPS are responsible to administer albendazole 400 mg tablets at degree colleges, vocational, technical, medical and para-medical institutes, Brickclin and Slum areas, urban slum dweller, orphanage and coaching institutes etc. assigned by health department. Again, MPW/MPS has to report the same to respective block nodal officer (health) as per prescribed format.
16. Districts to instruct schools and *anganwadis* to ensure availability clean drinking water at schools and *anganwadis* on NDD day and mop-up day.
17. **Reporting formats, cascade & timelines:** As per finding from independent surveyors, during NDD August 2019 round, **only 48% of schools and 65% of *anganwadis*** followed correct recording protocol. Hence districts to ensure following of recording protocol as per the NDD guidelines. For every child receiving a tablet, a single tick mark (✓) on NDD should be marked next to the name of the child in the attendance register. Double tick marks (✓✓) to be marked next to the names of children administered drug on mop-up day in their attendance register. One copy duly filled in reporting form to be submitted to respective concerned official as per reporting cascade after NDD (**enclosed in Annexure E**). The counter foil/photocopy of reporting format to be retained at school/*anganwadis* for verification. Details for timelines are attached in same handout under the head of 'Reporting and Reporting Process.
18. **NDD application** - The NDD app "National Deworming Day (NDD)" is available on "Google Play Store" for use on android phones. Alternatively, the application can be accessed using the web link www.nddindia2016.com . All blocks to enter data on the NDD app and districts can only review and approve the data. For timely and correct coverage reporting, username and login details for all blocks


must be shared timely with all blocks. Each District has to identify a nodal person at Block who would be responsible for timely data entry in NDD application and also ensure the concerned is trained on the NDD app/web usage.

19. **Field Monitoring:** District and block level officials need to conduct field level monitoring on NDD and mop- up day. Copy of field monitoring form is attached (**Annexure F**). The scan copies of monitoring formats to be shared to state at nddtripura@gmail.com within 5 working after completion of monitoring visit. Further, state and district official of all three-stakeholder department are requested to upload monitoring data into **online google monitoring form**. Details of which will be shared by fourth week of January 2020.

20. **Financial guidelines:** All three stakeholder **must follow NDD financial guidelines as per (Annexure G)**.

We are confident that with all your support we will collectively be able to reach out to all the Children in the age group 1-19 Years and improve their quality of life with improved health and educational outcomes.

Yours Faithfully,


Mission Director, National Health
Mission, Government of Tripura

Enclosed: Annexures

Copy to:

1. All District Magistrates - North, South, West, Khowai, Unakoti, Dhalai, Sepahijala & Gomati Government of Tripura for information
2. The Chief Executive Officer, TTAADC, Tripura for information
3. The Director, Family Welfare & Preventive Medicine, Government of Tripura for information
4. The Director, Secondary Education, Government of Tripura for information
5. The Director, Elementary Education, Government of Tripura for information
6. The Director, Higher Education Department, Government of Tripura for information
7. The Director, Social welfare and Social Education Department Government of Tripura for information
8. The Director, Industries & Commerce Department Government of Tripura for information
9. The State Nodal Officer, Family Welfare & Preventive Medicine Department Government of Tripura for information
10. State Program Manager, Evidence Action, Tripura for information

Copy forwarded to:

1. PS to the Secretary, Health & Family Welfare Department Government of Tripura for kind information to the Secretary
2. PS to the Secretary, Education Department, Government of Tripura for kind information to the Secretary
3. PS to the Secretary, Social Welfare and Social Education Department, Government of Tripura for kind information to the Secretary.


Mission Director, NHM