

National Centre for Disease Control
(Directorate General of Health Services)
22-Shamnath Marg, Delhi - 110054

Sub: Minutes of meeting of 7th Task force on Yaws Eradication Programme (YEP) under the Chairmanship of Dr. Jagdish Prasad, Director General of Health Services, Govt. of India, held at Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi on 25th July, 2014.

Vide Ministry of Health Family Welfare notification No.T.22011/1/2000-PH dated 11.04.2000, a Task force was constituted under the chairmanship of Director General of Health Services to periodically review and take view on technical issues pertaining to the Yaws Eradication Programme (YEP). Till now, six meetings of Task Force on YEP have been held.

Seventh Task Force Meeting on Yaws Eradication Programme (YEP) under the Chairmanship of Dr. Jagdish Prasad, DGHS was held on 25th July, 2014 at Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi. The list of the Task Force members and invited experts and State Programme Officers who participated in the meeting is annexed.

The agenda items were as under:

- Review the implementation of the recommendation of last Task force meeting held on 11.02.2009.
- Review the report of the 6th Independent appraisal held on 7th to 15th May and 17th to 26th June, 2014
- Permission to initiate the process towards the declaration of Yaws eradication from India

At the outset, Dr. L S Chauhan, Director, National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC), welcomed the Task force members and experts. He informed the members that Action Taken Report on the recommendation of the 6th Task force meeting held on 11 February 2009 is placed in the folder. As per recommendation of the 6th Task force, the list of Yaws (807) and non-Yaws (1614) villages as per revised sampling protocol was given to all State Programme Officers (SPOs) of 10 states during review meeting on 16-17 March 2009. Further sero-survey data for the year 2008 & 2009 was analyzed at

NCDC and it was taken into consideration in the revised sampling plan. Teams from NCDC were sent to all the states and districts to support them to undertake sero surveys and as per protocol adequate number of samples were collected and tested. No sero-positivity in 1-5 years children was observed indicating absence of transmission of Yaws in the community.

Dr. Jagdish Prasad, Director General of Health Services (DGHS), welcomed the members of the Task Force and experts and State Programme Officers and observed that lot of efforts have been made in conducting sero survey and other activities of the programme. He invited the members to make constructive suggestions so that we can move forward to achieve the objective of eradication in the shortest possible time.

After that Dr. S K Jain, Joint Director & Head, Department of Parasitic Diseases, made formal presentation on the current status of the programme, actions taken on the recommendations of the last Task Force meeting, status of the sero-survey and samples collected from the different states. Presentation also included details of objectives, methodology, observations and recommendations of 6th Independent Appraisal carried out by the National Centre for Disease Control.

It was mentioned in the presentation that:

- ***No case has been reported after November 2003.***
- ***Yaws elimination was declared in 2006.***
- ***All rumour cases reported were investigated and found to be false.***
- ***Sero-survey as per scientific protocol completed & no sero-positivity in 1-5 years children- indicating no community transmission.***
- ***Govt. has announced incentive for reporting of confirmed cases of yaws (Rs. 5000 to case, Rs. 500 to informer of confirmed case). But despite of wide publicity nobody claimed cash rewards so far.***

After extensive deliberations the Task Force recommendation that:

1. As inspite of continuous activities under the Yaws eradication programme such as active case search, rumour reporting & investigation as well as

awareness generation in the community about Yaws disease and wide publicity of the cash incentive scheme, no new Yaws case was detected in the country after November 2003. The sero-survey carried out as per scientific protocol could not find any sero-positivity in 1-5 years children indicating no transmission of Yaws infection in the community, **“The country should prepare its case for getting eradication certificate from World Health Organization (WHO) and NCDC should initiate next steps in this direction”**.

2. The Task force also recommended that
 - i. State and district level review meeting should devote more time for discussion of YEP
 - ii. Sero survey may be discontinued
 - iii. IEC activities including awareness about cash incentive may be intensified.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

Annexure

Seventh meeting of Task force on YEP on 25.07.2014

List of Task Force members, Experts and State Programme Officers who attended the meeting

Sl.No	Name	Designation	Contact No.
1.	Dr Jagdish Prasad	Director General of Health Services, Min of H&FW, GoI	011 23061063
2.	Dr Shiv Lal	Chairman, Central Panel	09810609970
3.	Dr L. S. Chauhan	Director, NCDC	0981706920
4.	Dr A. C. Dhariwal	Director, NVBDPC	09968070427
5.	Dr J P Narain	Former Director(CDS), WHO SEARO	08800876855
6.	Dr Asheena Khalakdeena	Team Leader, Communicable Diseases, WHO Country Office	08800797659
7.	Dr Saurabh Jain	WHO Country Office	09910503721
8.	Dr AP Dash	Representative from WHO, SEARO	09560971223
9.	Mr S Chaudhuri	DDG, Ministry of Tribal Affairs, GoI	09957577404
10.	Dr Pradeep Saxena	Director, CHEB	09810249099
11.	Dr Abha Aggarwal	Scientist F, NIMS(ICMR), New Delhi	09899747524
12.	Dr R J Yadav	NIMS(ICMR), New Delhi	09868637736
13.	Dr Geetha Prasadni	Addl. Director & SPO, Directorate of Health Services, Andhra Pradesh	09849902208
14.	Dr Anil Parsai	SPO, Directorate of Health Services, Chhattisgarh	09826183825
15.	Dr Sagar Ghodekar	State Epidemic Officer, Directorate of Health Services, Maharashtra	08408002374, 02026137394
16.	Dr Prameela Baral	JD & SPO, Directorate of Health Services, Odisha	06742390466 09439994866
17.	Dr Shashi Khare	Addl. Director & HoD (Microbiology), NCDC	09899900731
18.	Dr A.K.Saxena	HOD, Dermatology, RMLH & Independent Expert.	09868287986
19.	Dr S.K.Singh	DDG & Independent Expert of 6 th YEP Appraisal	08130255553
20.	Dr AK Harit	Addl. DDG(PH), Dte.GHS, Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi	01123061028, 01122153922
21.	Dr Gyan Prakash	Former DHS Rjasthan & Independent Expert of 6 th YEP Appraisal	09413001001
22.	Dr D. Bora	Independent Expert of 6 th YEP Appraisal	09910643323
23.	Mr N P Singh	Former Addl. Director & HoD Stat. NCDC	09871563378
24.	Dr S. K. Jain	Joint Director & HoD(DPD), NCDC	08285000287
25.	Dr T. G. Thomas	Joint Director, DPD, NCDC	09650517755