



Prachi Pandey
Joint Secretary (EE.1)
Department of School Education & Literacy
M/o Education
Tel: 011-23389247

D.No. 4-1/2023-PM POSHAN 1-1 (EE.5)

Dated 2nd February, 2023

Respected Madam / Sir,

As you are aware, Lymphatic Filariasis (LF) commonly known as elephantiasis (Haatipaon), is a serious debilitating disease, transmitted through bite of Culex mosquito which breeds in dirty polluted water. Infection is usually acquired in childhood causing hidden damage to the Lymphatic System. India alone accounts for approximately 50% of the global burden of Lymphatic Filariasis (LF). One of the most important strategies to stop the spread of LF infection is to conduct Mass Drug Administration (MDA), in which all the eligible population will be administered with either 2 drugs or 3 drugs as per guidelines to prevent LF.

2. In this connection, please refer to National Center For Vector Borne Diseases Control, M/o Health and Family Welfare's DO letter dated 24.01.2023 (copy enclosed) wherein it is mentioned that M/o H&FW recently launched the enhanced strategy for elimination of LF by 2027. A mission mode pan India MDA will be conducted twice a year on 10th February, 2023 and 10th August, 2023 alongwith National Deworming Day (NDD) covering 133 LF endemic districts. In the pan India campaign starting from 10th February, 2023, 81 districts will be covered by the MDA. The list of MDA States and districts, write up and a set of Frequently Asked Questions are also attached herewith.

3. In this regard, you are requested to carry out the following activities before and during the MDA campaign in the schools of your respective States and UTs:

Before MDA campaign:

- During morning assembly, all the children and teachers need to disseminate the information on MDA campaign i.e. 10th February onwards and may take an oath of consuming MDA drugs and encourage their family members and neighbours for the same
- Prabhat Pheris on day of MDA to sensitize communities.
- School principals and BEO/DEOs to attend the task force meetings.
- Instruct all the BEOs to conduct the Pre MDA mobilization activities in all the schools of the endemic blocks and ask BEOs to report back to the district.
- Special instructions are released for the schools in the urban areas for MDA mobilization.
- Share the LF related communication materials with all the principals/head teachers.
- LF discussions during morning assembly
- Essay writing/drawing competition in schools prior to MDA on LF and vector control.

During MDA campaign:

- Schools to support the drug administrators for having a booth for conducting the drug administration to all the children after mid-day meals. (Every individual except children below 2 years of age, pregnant women and very sick persons can take DEC and Albendazole tablets as per the dosage schedule under public health programme. In case of IDA ivermectin should not be given under the age of 5 year.)
- Teachers to observe Post consumption, the children should be observed for 30 minutes.

4. I would, therefore, request you to kindly instruct the concerned official in your State/UT to look into the matter and carry out the suggested activities for creating awareness on the MDA campaign, drug compliance and preventive measures like vector control under PM POSHAN Scheme. The IEC material and social media content developed for the same is sent through link on email.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

Prachi Pandey
2.2/XXIII

(Prachi Pandey)

Encl: as above

The Principal Secretaries/Secretaries (Education) – Concerned States, PM POSHAN Scheme

The Principal Secretaries/Secretaries (Education) of the State Govt of :

- i. Bihar
- ii. Chhattisgarh
- iii. Jharkhand
- iv. Karnataka
- v. Madhya Pradesh
- vi. Maharashtra
- vii. Odisha
- viii. Uttar Pradesh
- ix. West Bengal

Sanjay Kumar
Secretary,
School Education & Literacy
Ministry of Education



Shri Rajesh Bhushan
Secretary,
Ministry of Health & Family
Welfare

DO No. 4-8/2022-PM POSHAN-1-1 (EE.5)

Dated the 19th December, 2022

Dear Additional Chief Secretary / Principal Secretary / Secretary,

Globally, cervical cancer is the 4th most common cancer in women. In India, cervical cancer is the second most common cancer in women and India contributes to the largest proportion of global cervical cancer burden. Cervical cancer is a preventable and curable disease, as long as it is detected early and managed effectively. Most cervical cancers are associated with the Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) and the HPV vaccine can prevent most cases of cervical cancer if the vaccine is given before girls or women are exposed to the virus. Prevention through vaccination is one of the pillars of the Global Strategy adopted by WHO for the elimination of cervical cancer. Further, the National Technical Advisory Group for Immunization (NTAGI) has recommended introduction of HPV vaccine in the Universal Immunization Programme (UIP) with a one-time catch-up for 9-14-year-old adolescent girls followed with routine introduction at 9 years.

2. The vaccination would be provided primarily through schools (Grade based approach: 5th-10th) as school enrolment of girls is high. In order to reach those girls who are unable to attend school on the campaign day, the vaccination would be provided at a health facility while for out-of-school girls the campaign would be conducted through Community Outreach and Mobile teams based on age (9-14 years). For registration, recording and reporting of vaccination numbers, the U-WIN App would be used.

3. In this regard, your support is critical. You are requested to issue necessary directions at appropriate levels for taking up the following activities in order to make the campaign a successful one:

- a. organizing HPV vaccination centres in schools for vaccination.
- b. directing District Education Officer to support District Immunization Officer and be part of efforts of District Task Force on Immunization (DTFI) under District Magistrate.
- c. coordinating with Government School & Private School Management Board in the district.

- d. identifying a nodal person in each school to coordinate vaccination activities and collate the number of 9-14 years of girls in the school and bulk upload the same in U-WIN.
- e. generating awareness through schoolteachers to all parents during Special Parents-Teachers' Meeting (PTAs).
- f. supporting in generating an up-to date list of all types of school (UDISE+) in each block for micro planning and access to GIS mapping of schools to districts immunization officers for developing microplans so that none of the school is missed during the vaccination drive.
- g. supporting health team to plan vaccination campaign in state excluding months of examination and holiday.

4. You are also requested to circulate the importance of HPV vaccine through the official social media handles of the State /UT with all the stakeholders at district/block and school levels for creating awareness about the vaccine and its importance in long way.

With warm regards,

Yours sincerely,



(Sanjay Kumar)

Yours sincerely,



(Rajesh Bhushan)

1. **The Additional Chief Secretaries/ Principal Secretaries / Secretaries (Education) of all States and UTs.**
2. **The Nodal department for implementation of Pradhan Mantri Poshan Shakti Nirman (PM POSHAN) Scheme in all States and UTs.**