



प्रीति सूदन

सचिव

PREETI SUDAN
Secretary



भारत सरकार
स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण विभाग
स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय
Government of India
Department of Health and Family Welfare
Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
D.O. No. Z-28015/481/2019TB
Dated: 28th October 2019

Dear Secretary,

You are aware, Tuberculosis (TB) remains one of India's biggest public health challenges. Government of India is commitment to End TB by 2025, 5 years ahead of Sustainable Development Goal targets. TB disease is driven by a number of socio-economic factors that requires a multi-sectoral approach that includes participation of various other Ministries. Together, we have to make concerted efforts for necessary policy modifications, awareness creation and customizing the social protection schemes for creating an enabling environment so that policies, programmes and communication strategies for TB patients can work optimally. We have already constituted an Inter-Ministerial Task Force for furthering these objectives.

The minutes of the second meeting of the Inter-Ministerial Task Force, held on 4th Oct 2019, are attached for your perusal and necessary action. A few of the important points requiring your kind attention are:

- A Nodal officer of rank not below Joint Secretary may be designated to enable sustained coordination on our TB control efforts. It is also suggested that future meetings of the Task Force may be attended by the Nodal Officer so designated.
- An MoU may be signed between our Ministries to formalize the collaboration. An MoU will not only help in clearly bringing out possible areas of collaboration but would also lay the ground for a sustainable partnership.
- Extensive IEC activities may be undertaken within your Ministry and through its various departments and offices. A soft copy of the IEC materials, which include Video and Radio Spots/jingles, social media messages, posters, stickers, publications etc., has been made available to the attendee from your Ministry in the 2nd meeting of the Task Force. Soft copies can also be downloaded from link:

<https://tbcindia.gov.in/index4.php?lang=1&level=0&linkid=606&lid=2800>

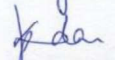
Look forward to a successful collaboration towards the goal of a TB free India.

TB Harega Desh Jeetega !! — with your support !

Encl: As above.

The Secretary
Government of India
(List enclosed)

Warm regards
Yours sincerely


(Preeti Sudan)

1. Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
2. Ministry of Panchayati Raj
3. Ministry of Labour and Employment
4. Ministry of Heavy Industries & Public Enterprises
5. Ministry of Rural Development
6. Ministry of Coal
7. Ministry of Railways
8. Ministry of Home Affairs
9. Ministry of Road Transport and Highways
10. Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
11. Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship
12. Ministry of Law and Justice
13. Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas
14. Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region
15. Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution
16. Ministry of Human Resource Development
17. Ministry of Home Affairs
18. Ministry of AYUSH
19. Ministry of Defence
20. Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
21. Ministry of Heavy Industries & Public Enterprises
22. Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment
23. Ministry of Tribal Affairs
24. Ministry of Shipping
25. Ministry of Women and Child Development

Proceedings of Second Meeting of Inter-Ministerial Coordination for Ending TB held on 04th October 2019 at Nirman Bhawan, MoHFW, New Delhi.

The second meeting of Inter-Ministerial Coordination for TB was held under the Chairpersonship of the Secretary, Health & Family Welfare, Government of India on 04th October 2019 at Room No 155 A, Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi.

The agenda of the meeting and list of participants is placed at Annexure I & II. A total of 20 ministries were represented along with few partner organizations.

Address by Secretary HFW

- Secretary HFW initiated the discussions and shared the Ministry's resolve to achieve targets of TB under the Sustainable Development Goal by 2025, five years' ahead of the global targets.
- It was highlighted that out of the estimated 27 lakh cases, last year about 21.5 lakh cases were notified and receiving quality assured test and free medication. It was also shared that the prevalence rate of DR-TB is 3%, which is lesser compared to other high burden countries.
- Secretary HFW further reiterated that the Nodal officer in every Ministry for coordination with MoHFW to be designated at Joint Secretary level and the same officer to attend the meetings.

Address by Special Secretary HFW

- SS (H) stressed upon signing of MoU between MoHFW and various Ministries. A generic MoU highlighting expectations/roles of the Ministries and joint implementation of agreed upon activities will be drafted and shared by Central TB Division.
- It was thus stressed to formalize engagement through MoU at the earliest and create a joint working group for TB with various Ministries.

- Share standardized IEC materials and messages for TB awareness creation with all Ministries.
- It was also decided to update the list of nodal officers at the earliest and the meeting to be held every six months.
- Inputs on draft MoU to be provided to customize for each Ministry
- MoU to be signed within next one months, followed by development of Action plan and having a joint working group
- It was also decided to hold the Next meeting after 3 months to review progress on MoU signing and development of Action Plans.

Presentation by Joint Secretary, RNTCP

- JS (RNTCP) shared the action taken and updates on the activities done towards Inter-ministerial Coordination over past one year. Brief scope of collaborations was reiterated following the six thematic areas – integration of TB services in existing health facilities, extend social support to TB patients, awareness creation, preventive measures, work place intervention and corporate social responsibilities through PSUs under various Ministries.
- The different Ministries/ their PSUs/ PSE's with their own health infrastructure need to integrate TB services in all health facilities and ensure notification of TB patients.
- It was further reiterated that for expansion of TB services in existing health facilities, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare will support the Ministries for establishment of TB diagnostic and treatment services or linkages of services to the nearby public sector health facilities under the Health department.
- Any Ministry with Health Services can avail the free diagnostic tests for their patients. The CBNAAT and TruNAT are latest rapid molecular diagnostic tests available under MoHFW through RNTCP for diagnosis.
- It was also stated that support of all Ministries will ensure nutrition assistance to all TB patients. Under NIKSHAY Poshan Yojana Rs. 500/- is given to TB patients per month till completion of treatment through direct benefit transfer for nutrition assistance.

- It was decided that in the next meeting presentation to be made by different Ministries on activities carried out or planned as per MoU and Action Plan.
- It was suggested that periodicals from all Ministries may include TB messages so that awareness is generated among subscribers.

Representatives of Ministries then shared feedback and discussions were held on initiatives that can be undertaken & be part of the proposed MoUs for ending TB in India.

- **Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region**
 - a. Regarding MoU it was suggested that an early meeting to be scheduled to work on the finer details.
 - b. Communication to NE region from Central TB Division on fast tracking utilization of funds may be sent as it was informed that additional resources are available with the MoDoNER
- **ECHS, DESW, Ministry of Defence**
 - a. Medical Director, ECHS shared update on finalization of action plan following the MoU signing and same is being acted upon.
- **Ministry of Panchayati Raj**
 - a. Awareness activities may be initiated with TB as agenda of Permanent Gram Sabha's
 - b. It was stated that the ministry may identify panchayats to be made TB free
 - c. Gramodhya Sankalp which is a quarterly magazine of this ministry with a reader base of around 5 lakhs can include TB messages – materials, including pictures, may be shared by Central TB Division. Designated regular space of 3-4 messages (2 pages) may be allotted for CTD.
- **Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology -**
 - a. It was reiterated that the Common Service Centres (CSCs) established across rural India to be used for awareness creation and Central TB Division, MoHFW to share the standardized content in a downloadable link.

- b. Further collaborations may be explored like supporting in opening accounts for DBT, use of Jan Aushadhi Kendra, drug delivery for TB patients or Sample collection at CSC level can support TB diagnostic.
- **Health Sector Skill Council & Ministry of Skill development and Entrepreneurship**
 - a. It was suggested that collaborations on Capacity building of 'Pradhan Mantri Arogya Mitra' under PMKVY and Ayushman Bharat on TB may be done.
 - b. Exploring to train and engage 'TB Mitra' in Public/ Pvt Health sector enabling them as single point of information on TB and related services at health facilities and conceptualizing the 'Home Aid' for TB care & treatment.
 - c. Sensitization component on TB may be included as a compulsory part in all the trainings being conducted under the aegis of MoSD, in order to create a joint awareness among all different sectors people being catered by MoSD, with having the provision of mandatory skill set assessment.
 - d. Also, Rehabilitation initiative may be explored
 - e. It was decided to convene a joint meeting to work out the specifics collaboratively at the earliest.
- **Ministry of Home Affairs**
 - a. Adopting the work place policy for TB and using the TB & HIV interventions guidelines for further strengthening TB services in Prisons.
 - b. TB free prisons initiative may be undertaken.
- **ESIC, Ministry of Labour & Employment**
 - a. Discussions were held on the integration of TB services in ESIC dispensaries and hospitals and the same may be part of the MoU between Central TB Division and MoLE.
- **Department of Telecommunications, Ministry of Communications**
 - a. Experience of leveraging postal services (Department of Posts) for creating sample transportation network were shared and expansion was proposed.
 - b. It was also suggested that through linkages with RNTCP, provide access to TB care services to all workers at work sites.
- **Department of Public Enterprises, Ministry of Heavy Industries and Public Enterprises**
 - a. Adoption of work place policy on TB was emphasised.

- **Ministry of AYUSH**
 - a. The action plan has been prepared post signing of MoU and same is being reviewed for finalization.
- **Ministry of Women & Child Development**
 - a. Linkages with Anganwadi's, ICDS, CDPO etc for providing last mile TB service delivery and trainings/modules to generate awareness on TB and reduce stigma.
- **Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs**
 - a. It was suggested to explore if vocational training, livelihood opportunities and awareness using Self-help network under Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana- National Urban Livelihood Programme (DAY-NULM) etc can be leveraged for TB patients.
- **Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment**
 - a. Linkages to schemes (packages) for social protection of TB affected community may be explored.
 - b. Screening for TB (four symptom complex of Cough, Fever, Weight loss, night sweats) among all persons attending substance abuse rehabilitation facilities may be planned.
- **Ministry of Law & Justice**
 - a. May support to review the current law or legal provisions, acts etc and strengthening or devising new statutes towards protecting patients' rights.
- **Ministry of Railways**
 - a. The action plan post signing of MoU has been prepared and being finalized.
 - b. It was further requested to include mass level IEC/awareness may be done through all facilities under Railways
 - c. Active Case Finding & Health camps may be initiated on the platforms in collaboration with local district administration (District TB Officers).
- **Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas**
 - a. It was requested that the earlier minutes of meeting of the National Consultation Workshop of PSUs for TB Elimination which was held in Dec 2018 may also be shared.

- **Ministry of Coal**
 - a. Stated they will formulate a strategy in consultation with all PSUs under their ministry.
- **Ministry of Information and Broadcasting**
 - a. It was suggested to avail the facilities for dissemination of Information, Education and Communication materials of Central TB Division for generating mass awareness.

Special Secretary (Health) thanked all the participants and called for signing of MoU in a months' time followed by the action plan and next meeting within next 3 months.