

Regional review meeting of the National Programme for Control of Blindness (NPCB) and Management Information System (HMIS) training held on 2nd and 3rd March, 2012 at Bhubaneswar, Orissa -A Report.

A regional review meeting of National Programme for Control of Blindness (NPCB) and MIS training was held under the chairpersonship of Ms. Sujaya Krishnan Joint Secretary (NPCB), 2nd and 3rd March, 2012 in Bhubaneswar, Orissa. All State Programme Officers (SPOs) of selected states Orissa, West Bengal, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, and Bihar along with District Programme Managers (DPMs) and other officials attended the meeting.

Objectives of the meeting were:

1. To review the programme performance in respect of service delivery, funds utilization, infrastructure development, human resource and capacity development.
2. To understand the issues related to programme implementation and solve them accordingly.
3. To know the current status of implementation of new initiatives under NPCB and issues pertaining to their implementation.
4. To provide hand on training for operationalizing of MIS.

Mr. Upender Kumar Sahu, Principal Director Health Services, Orissa welcomed all the representatives from the MoH&FW and from all the states. He informed the participants that National Programme for Control of Blindness is doing well despite the many constraints especially the lack of manpower. He welcomed the GOI officials and expressed appreciation for holding the meeting at Bhubaneswar and wished that the deliberations during the meeting will be a fruitful and successful one.

Ms Sujaya Krishnan, JS (NPCB), also welcomed all the participants and highlighted the aims and objectives of the meeting. She also informed that since its inception from 1976 National Programme for Control of Blindness is one of best running Public Health Programme in the country. She said that instead of being only cataract centric, programme is now adopting a comprehensive approach by including treatment of other eye diseases like Diabetic retinopathy, Glaucoma, Keratoplasty and Childhood blindness which were included during 11th five year plan. The emphasis of the programme should be on comprehensive eye care, quality of service delivery, infrastructure development, procurement of advanced equipments and human resource development. She emphasized the need for ensuring the quality and reach of the eye care services to the poor people residing in the remotest area of the country. She

also raised her concern about the resurgence of trachoma in many states and urged participant states to be vigilant about trachoma in their respective states and report to MoHFW regularly. An introduction to MIS was initiated and she informed the participants that, with the advancement in technology, MIS will give a transparent and clear picture of what is being done at any given point of time which is an essential requirement especially in the RTI era. MIS ensures reporting by the end users which can be easily monitored by the States as well as the Centre. It also provides a clear picture of the flow of funds and its utilization in each and every district.

This was followed by presentations made by all by the state Programme Officers as per the agenda. Copies of the presentations are annexed.

State specific issues which were discussed are as follows:

Chhatisgarh

Dr. Subhash Mishra, SPO (Chhattisgarh) representing the state made the presentation.

- Prevalence of blindness in the state is 1.08%.
- There are 16 District hospitals out of which 14 were funded by NPCB and 10 CHCs out of which 9 are funded by NPCB.
- There are 36 regular and 2 contractual eye surgeons in the state, 16 more are required. There are 194 regular and 274 contractual PMOAs, 303 more are required for smooth functioning of the Programme.
- Out of total 38 ophthalmic surgeons in the state, 3 have been trained in SICS & IOL during the year 2011-12. Along with it training has been imparted to 47 PMOAs, 13 Staff Nurses and 2685 school teacher.
- During the year 2010-11 state performed more than 1 Lakh Cataract surgeries.
- School Eye Screening Programme more than 6 Lakh school Children were screened for refractive errors, out of which 13,555 were detected with refractive error and 8,315 school children were provided free spectacles.
- During the year 2010-11, state collected 173 corneas out of which 129 were utilized for keratoplasty. During the current year 46 corneas has been collected and 26 keratoplasty has been done by the state.
- He also informed that majority of the cataract surgeries have been performed by Govt facilities (45.6%), 27.4% by NGOs and 27% by the private practitioners.
- SPO also informed about special initiatives taken by the state like creating Ambassadors for Eye Care (teachers are trained for screening school children), organizing Netra Jyoti Mela (in 147

Mela, along with cataract surgery, patients with Diabetic Retinopathy & Glaucoma were also treated).

- There are three NGOs working with NPCB which were supported during the year 2005-06,06-07 &2008-09 . Double Frequency Green Laser & Eye banking equipments were procured during 2005-06 & 2006-07. Microscope,Slit Lamp,PHACO Machine have been procured during the year 2009-10. All are functional.
- Pending liabilities are state's responsibility.

Component wise grant in aid provided to the state and its utilization

STATE/UT	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
Regional Institute of Ophthalmology	Vitrectomy, Double Frequency Green Laser procured and functional (Rs. 50 Lakh)			
Medical College	Medical college Raipur (Rs. 40 lakh) Digital Slit Lamp procured in 2009-10 and functional		CIMS, Bilaspur (Rs. 40 lakh) Procurement under process	
GIA for strengthening of Distt Hospital			DH Raipur & Dantewada Equipments procured and functional	
GIA for strengthening of Sub Distt Hospital			Slit lamp & operating microscope procured and functional	
GIA for strengthening of Vision centre		Eight equipments procured and all are functional	Eight equipments procured and all are functional	
Non recurring GIA for Eye Bank				
Non-recurring GIA for Eye Donation Centre				
Non-recurring GIA for NGOs	NGO have been supported in 2005-06 &07	Equipments procured and functional		

West Bengal

Dr. K. K. Pati, SPO West Bengal made a brief presentation on the status of NPCB in the Goa. He informed that

- Prevalence of blindness in the state is less than 1%.
- There are 13 Medical Colleges, 15 District hospitals, 45 Sub- Divisional Hospitals, 34 General Hospital and 33 other Hospitals.
- Regional Institute of Ophthalmology & All Medical colleges and District hospitals except one District hospital Howrah (Rs. 20 lakh has been approved by NPCB), are state funded.
- There are 187 regular and 3 contractual eye surgeons in the state, 21 more are required. There are 429 regular against 493 sanctioned posts of PMOAs, 153 more are required for smooth functioning of the Programme.
- Against 10 sanctions posts for contractual eye surgeons only three are available. State could not employ all because of poor honorarium. Proposal for recruitment of 62 MT (Optometry) is under process.
- In the state the eye donation Counseling services are being provided by NGOs and fund of Rs. 10,000/- monthly is being released to them towards cost of service provided by them. Three districts like Purba Medinipure, Hooghly and North 24 Pargans have been covered rest are under process.
- Out of total 187 regular eye surgeons, 10 were trained in Phaco, 1 in SICS & 3 in sub-specialty during the year 2010-11.
- During the year 2010-11 state performed more cataract surgeries than allotted target. During the year 2011-12 state has performed approximately 22 lakh up to 31.12.2011.
- School Eye Screening Programme more than 8 Lakh school Children were screened for refractive errors, out of which 44,034 were detected with refractive error and 23688 school children were provided free spectacles.
- During the year 2011-12, state collected 1584 corneas out of which 769 were utilized for keratoplasty (utilized rate 48.5).

Component wise grant in aid provided to the west Bengal and its utilization

STATE/UT	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
Medical College		Funds released for three Medical Colleges*. Equipments procured and functional	Funds released for 6 MCs and I RIO. 2 MCs and RIO **submitted the report.	Rs. 40 Lakh released to RIO. Funds utilized and equipments functional	
GIA for strengthening of Distt Hospital					DH Howrah, will be released soon
GIA for strengthening of Sub Distt Hospital					Funds sanctioned for 2 DH could not released
GIA for strengthening of vision Centre					36 centres Process is ongoing
GIA for strengthening of Eye Bank					
GIA for strengthening of Eye Donation Centre					For 3 EDCs. Release under Process
Non-recurring GIA for NGOs		Rs. 25 Lakh in two installments in 08-09 & 10-11		One instalment has been released to NGO Vivekananda Mission Asram Netra Niramoy Niketan	

* Fund released for three Medical College (Mednapore Medical College & Hospital & Bankura Sammilani Med.College & Hospital, North Bengal Medical College & Hospital).Fund released to two MCs only . Funds of NBMC & H was diverted to State Commodity Assistance as per order of GOI

** R G Kar MC & H, NRS MC & H & RIO

Jharkhand

Dr. M.E. Ashraf, SPO Jharkhand representing the state made the presentation.

- Prevalence of blindness in the state is 1.4%.
- Except two District Hospitals at District Sahibganj & Chaibasa, all DHs are state funded.
- While stating about contractual manpower SPO informed that against 8 sanctioned posts of Ophthalmic Eye Surgeons only one and against 10 posts of PMOA, 9 are posted.
- There are total 36 regular (1 Ophthalmic Surgeons in DH and 19 in MCs) and 1 contractual Eye Surgeons in the state, 11 more are required. Similarly there are 93 regular and 9 contractual PMOAs in the state, 115 more required for smooth functioning of the programme.
Out of total 36 Eye surgeons in the state, five are trained in phaco, 13 in SICS& IOL, 3 in sub-specialty.
- State performed 78734 cataract surgeries against the target of 75000 during the year 2010-11.
- School Eye Screening Programme- more than 4Lakh school Children were screened for refractive errors, out of which 11,230 were detected with refractive error and 2801 school children were provided free spectacles.

Component wise grant in aid provided to the Jharkhand and its utilization

STATE/UT	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
RIO	2005-06 money released, procured in 2007-08				
Medical College	RIMS in 2006-07, PMCH & M.G.M. equipments procured are functional				
GIA for strengthening of Distt Hospital	Procured equipments are functional	For all 24 DH. Instruments are functional			Procurement is in process for selected DH
GIA for strengthening of Sub Distt Hospital	Instruments procured during 2006-07 & 2007-08. For 2008-09 & 09-10 process is undergoing.				
GIA for strengthening of vision Centre					
GIA for strengthening of Eye Bank					
GIA for strengthening of Eye Donation Centre					
Non-recurring GIA for NGOs	Funds released during 2006-07, 2007-08 and 2008-09. For 2008-09 report is awaited.				

Bihar:

Dr. Anjani Kumar, SPO Bihar representing the state made the presentation.

- Prevalence of blindness in the state is .78%.
- SPO informed that there are two eye banks in the state and both are non functional.
- There is no Eye Donation Centre & mobile van in the state.
- SPO informed that because of unavailability of mobile van or vehicle supervision, monitoring and follow up of patients becomes little difficult.
- Only 25 District Hospitals have Eye Surgeons, rest 13 districts do not have eye surgeons.
- There are only 179 Ophthalmic Assistants in the state. State could appoint only 20 OAs during the year 2010-11.
- SPO also informed that there are still District Hospitals in the state without separate Eye OT and Eye unit.
- Money has been released to all District Hospitals for establishment of Vision Centres and state is expected to make functional all vision centres by the end of year.
- SPO informed that estimated number of cataract patients in Bihar state is more than 6 lakh and contribute 10% of the total cataract patients in the country.
- State performed 1,90,186 cataract surgeries against the target of 2,85000 during the year 2011-12.
- School Eye Screening Programme -more than 5 Lakh school Children were screened for refractive errors, out of which 7134 were detected with refractive error and 568 school children were provided free spectacles.
- There are eight NGOs in the state working with NPCB.

Orissa:

Dr. Radha Rani Nanda, SPO Orissa representing the state made the presentation.

- Prevalence of blindness in the state is not known.
- There are 30 Districts Hospitals and 25 Sub-District Hospitals, 75 vision Centres, 6 Eye Banks and 7 Eye Donation Centres in the state.
- SPO informed that except DH Ganjam (NPCB funded), where work of construction of separate Eye OT is ongoing, all are World Bank funded.
- There are total 65 regular Eye Surgeons in the state and there is vacancy for 26 regular and 28 contractual Eye Surgeons. Similarly against the sanctioned strength of 255 PMOAs (197 regular

and 58 contractual) only 237 (194 regular+ 43 contractual) are in position. 18 more PMOAs required for smooth functioning of the programme.

- During the year 2011-12, 153 teachers, 40 ASHA/ ICDS workers and 25 Eye Donation Counselors were trained in providing primary Eye care services.
- SPO informed that there are two eye banks in the state and both are non functional.
- State performed 67,194 cataract surgeries against the target of 2lakh during the year 2011-12.
- School Eye Screening Programme- more than 2 Lakh school children were screened for refractive errors and 7655 school children were provided free spectacles.
- Out of 448 corneas collected against the target of 1000, 314 were utilized.
- No NGO is working with NPCB in the state.

Component wise grant in aid provided to the state and its utilization

STATE/UT	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
RIO (SCB MCH, Cuttack)	(Rs.50 Lakh), Equipments procured And functional	Rs. 40 Lakh Equipments procured And functional			
Medical College	SCB MCH, Cuttack (Rs.50 Lakh), VSS MCH, Burla (Rs. 30 Lakh) MKCG MCH, Berhampur (Rs. 30 Lakh) Equipments procured	SCB MCH, Cuttack(Rs.40 Lakh) VSS MCH, Burla (Rs. 40 Lakh MKCG MCH, Berhampur (Rs. 40 Lakh) Equipments procured	VSS MCH, Burla (Rs. 15 Lakh Equipments procured		
GIA for strengthening of Distt Hospital		Rs. 280 Lakh released. 34 Operating Microscope with XY and 13 Slit Lamp Procured & functional			
GIA for strengthening of Sub Distt Hospital	Rs. 3.75 lakh in the year 2005-06, Rs 10 lakh in 2008-09, Rs. 13.88 lakh in 2009-10 and Rs.2.5 lakh during the year 2010-11 was released. Tonometer(schiotz), Direct Ophthalmoscope, Vision Drum, Trial Lens sets Vision Charts ,Torch , Slit Lamp and Speculum was procured in their respective years. All are functional				
GIA for strengthening of vision Centre					
GIA for strengthening of Eye Bank	MKCG MCH, Berhampur (Rs. 5 Lakh)		MKCG MCH, Berhampur (Rs. 30 Lakh)		
GIA for strengthening of Eye Donation Centre					
Tele			MKCG MCH, (Rs.40.00 lakhs) Procurment done of Rs.29.92 lakhs	MKCG MCH, (Rs.20.00 lakhs) Not Expanded	
Non-recurring GIA for NGOs					

MIS presentation

In the afternoon session, Dr. V. Rajshekhar, eye Specialist Safdarjung Hospital, Delhi, outlined the objectives of introduction of MIS for NPCB, gave a web based presentation and demonstrated the working of the MIS. He informed that the MIS is a planned, integrated and a computerized system for gathering relevant data of various components of NPCB, from the field in the specified developed formats and transmitting it to the central cell of NPCB. He demonstrated the working of the MIS online highlighting the MIS designed and the various modules covered by the application. He briefed the participants about concept of MIS and its advantages. He informed that it will hasten the reimbursement procedure to the NGOs. Along with it there are certain quality checks incorporated in the system which will help in transparency and monitoring and evaluation. It was emphasized that it is mandatory for NGOs to furnish information through MIS system only for timely payments.

Mr. Ringe also addressed the participants about MIS Software and its needs. It was explained that this web-based application has the capacity to capture all the data from the field level i.e. the input formats to be filled up by the NGOs district hospital, Govt. Hospital etc. The data will be collated and viewed by the DPM who will validate the data and the data shall be visible at the state and the Central Cell. It has feature of financial and infrastructure details to be included.

Subsequently a hands on training was provided to the participants and their queries were solved accordingly by the resource persons from Delhi.

Some Common issues which were discussed during open session:

1. Enhancement in salary of contractual staff

Action: Participants were informed that there is provision of enhancement in salary of contractual staff in the 12th five year plan. Till then they can manage it through NRHM funds.

2. Most of the SPOs demanded for enhancement in the reimbursement rates for cataract surgery and other eye diseases.

Action: There is proposal for increase of the same in 12th five year plan.

3. Most of the SPOs are finding it difficult to implement NPCB under NRHM umbrella. There is slow or non transfer of money to State Blindness Control Societies. It was demanded that NPCB should be separated from NRHM as a distinct programme.

Action: This will be discussed with concerned authorities.

4. SPOs are unable to procure because of procurement policy. They requested for either central procurement or establishment of rate contract for easy procurement.

Action: JS (NPCB) assured that this would be taken up in the 12th five year plan.

5. Mostly states informed that there is shortage of trained man power.

6. States were informed that no reimbursement of expenditure for cataract and other other activities would be made unless data is available on MIS. States are directed to complete trainings for all districts and to ensure data entry.

Meeting ended with thanks to the chair.

List of participants

1. Ms. Sujaya Krishnan, Joint Secretary (NPCB), Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
2. Ms. Gayatri Mishra, Director, NCD, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
3. Dr. V. Rajshekhar, Eye Specialist Safdar Jung Hospital-NPCB, New Delhi
4. Mr. V. Ringe, Director, NIC, Delhi
5. Dr. R. R. Nanda, State Programme Officer, Orissa
6. Dr. Durga Prasad Sethy, District Programme Manager, Jagatsinghpur, Orissa
7. Dr. S.C. Patra, District Programme Manager, Dhenkanal, Orissa
8. Dr. P.K. Pattanaik, District Programme Manager, Cuttack, Orissa
9. Dr. M.S. Kumar, District Programme Manager, Orissa
10. Dr. Narendra Mohan Jena, District Programme Manager, Gajapati, Orissa
11. Dr. B.P. Prusty, District Programme Manager, Jaipur, Orissa
12. Dr. S.C. Rath, Eye Spl. Cum District Programme Manager, Khurda, Orissa
13. Dr. S. Kramarkar, District Programme Manager, Sonapur, Orissa
14. Dr. L. Bhokta, District Programme Manager, Kalahandi, Orissa
15. Dr. C.S. Pradhan, District Programme Manager/Sr. Eye Specialist, Angul, Orissa
16. Dr. Padama Sagar Das, District Programme Manager, Ganjam, Orissa
17. Dr. V. K. Sahu, District Health Society, Orissa
18. Dr. Shreenibas Behera, District Programme Manager, Orissa
19. Dr. Shweta Kumar Mohapatra, District Programme Manager, Nayagarh, Orissa
20. Dr. Satyanarayan Sahoo, District Programme Manager, Bolangir, Orissa
21. Dr. S.K. Satpathy, District Programme Manager, Kandhamal, Orissa
22. Dr. R.K. Bhol, Sr. Eye Specialist, Jt. Director-II, Orissa
23. Dr. Suresh Chandradani, District Programme Manager, Sambhalpur, Orissa
24. Dr. Santosh Kumar, ADMO(H), Sundargarh, Orissa
25. Dr. Parameshwar Jene, Eye Specialist, Orissa
26. Dr. D. Anuradha, Jr. Eye specialist, Orissa
27. Dr. Mihir Kumar Bal, Director, ECOS Hospital, Dharampur, Orissa
28. Dr. Rohit kumar Patel, ADMO (PH), Jharsugura, Orissa
29. Dr. Bidyutlata Mishra, District Programme Manager, Puri, Orissa
30. Dr. Jayasree Mohanty, District Programme Manager, Koraput, Orissa
31. Dr. Susant Kumar Mohanty, District Programme Manager, Kendrapada, Orissa
32. Dr. P. Narula, District Programme Manager, Deogarh, Orissa
33. Dr. R.N. Darh, District Programme Manager, Nabarangpur, Orissa

34. Dr. R.R. Bhanja, District Programme Manager, Keonjhar, Orissa
35. Mr. Beshnu-Ek-Naik, SO. D.H.S.(O), Orissa
36. Mr. Ashwini Pattanayak, AAO, Melwin Jones Eye Hospital, Cuttak, Orissa
37. Mrs. Nalini Sharma, Secretary Drushti Daan, Orissa
38. Mr. P.C. Sahoo, Technical Director, NIC, Orissa
39. Dr. Subhash Mishra, State programme Manager, Chhatisgarh
40. Dr. B. K. Das, Eye Specialist & Civil Surgeon, Chhattisgarh
41. Dr. Rajive Ranjan Mishra, District Programme Manager, Korea, Chhattisgarh
42. Mr. C.C. Santosh, State HMIS Officer, Chhattisgarh
43. Dr. M.E. Ashraf, State Programme Officer, Jharkhand
44. Mr. Anil Kumar Sinha, Budget and Finance Officer, Jharkhand
45. Mr. Bhupesh Kumar, Ophthalmic Assistant, DBCS Ranchi, Jharkhand
46. Dr. K.K. Pati, State Programme Officer, West Bengal
47. Dr. Prasun Kumar Das, Dy.CMOH-II & District programme Manager, Howrah, West Bengal
48. Ms. Sutapa Banerjee, Data Entry Operator, West Bengal
49. Dr. Anjani Kumar, State Programme Officer, Bihar
50. Mr. Binod Kumar Srivastva, Accountant, State Health Society, Bihar
51. Mr. Jai Bhagwan Tanwar, Consultant Blindness, MOHFW, New Delhi
52. Ms. Sonia Tanwar, Technical Assistant, MOHFW, New Delhi