

National Surveillance Programme for Communicable Diseases (NSPCD)

Current status
November 2002



National Institute of Communicable Diseases
(Directorate General of Health Services, GOI)
Delhi

Background

- Initiated in 1997-98 following recommendations of various high power committees
- Central Sector Health Scheme with NICD as the nodal agency
- States/UTs as implementing agency
- Currently in operation in 101 districts of 28 States & 7 UTs



Broad objective

Strengthening of district and state capabilities to identify and respond to disease outbreaks



Specific Objectives

- To establish early warning mechanism
- Laboratory strengthening and networking for rapid confirmation of diagnosis
- Effective use of surveillance data using rapid means for communication
- Institute appropriate and timely response for prevention & control of outbreaks



Diseases/pathogens covered

- ✓ Epidemic prone communicable diseases- acute diarrhoeal diseases including cholera, viral hepatitis, dengue, Japanese encephalitis, meningitis, measles, viral haemorrhagic fevers, leptospirosis etc.
- ✓ Pathogens with bioterrorism potential
- ✓ Drug resistant pathogens



Central responsibilities (NICD)

- Development of RRT guidelines, laboratory & computer manuals, and training materials
- Training of State Rapid Response Teams
- Strengthening & networking of National and Regional laboratories
- Establishing rapid communication network
- Technical review, co-ordination, monitoring and evaluation



State responsibilities

- Strengthening of epidemiological capabilities at state and district level by training of district RRT and health personnel at the periphery
- Modernization and computerization of state & district Epidemiology cell
- Strengthening of state / district laboratories
- Improving sub-district mobility and communication

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Format for weekly reports

- **Week Starting**
Week ending
- **Outbreak**
 - **Number**
 - **Nature**
- **News Paper cutting**
- **Report of epidemiological investigation**
- **Name & Signature of Nodal Officer of District**



Expected outcome

- ✓ Early detection of outbreaks
- ✓ Early institution of containment measures
- ✓ Reduction in morbidity & mortality
- ✓ Minimize economic loss



Progress of implementation

Year	States/UTs	Districts	Regional laboratories
1997-98*	10	25	5
1998-99*	18	45	5
1999-00	Nil	Nil	Nil
2000-01*	28	80	Nil
2001-02*	35	100	Nil
2002-03*	Nil	101	13 proposed



Action Plan for 2002-03

- Training of State RRTs of newly included states/UTs in June 02 followed by training of district RRTs and MOs and PMWs.
- Review of the programme in Southern states/UTs and districts in January 03
- Strengthening 23 Regional Labs
- More active involvement of Medical Colleges- 2 pilot projects (Shimla & Ajmer)



• Appraisal of the NSPCD Programme

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Future Plans

- ✓ Expansion of programme to cover all the districts of the country under Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP)
- ✓ Strengthening of NICD and other National laboratories
- ✓ Networking of National and Regional laboratories
- ✓ To expand the scope of work of 23 Regional and 101 district laboratories
- ✓ To enhance computer literacy among disease surveillance professionals

