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## **2<sup>nd</sup> phase of Intensive Pulse Polio Immunization (IPPI) campaign on 7-2-2010 (Sunday)**

The Second Phase of Pulse Polio campaign (IPPI) will be held on 7-2-2010 (Sunday). In the first round campaign conducted on 10-1-2010, around 70 lakh children below the age of 5 years were benefited. Special efforts were taken to cover the children of migrant workers settled at construction sites and other places. About 30,000 migrant and Sri Lankan refugee children were given polio drops during the 1<sup>st</sup> phase campaign.

The Public Health Department under Health and Family Welfare, Govt. of Tamil Nadu has made elaborate arrangements in co-ordination with other departments to administer second dose of Oral Polio Vaccine (OPV) on 7-2-2010 (Sunday) to all those children who have received first dose during the January'2010 Round campaign.

### **Experience during the first phase of Intensive Pulse Polio Immunization Campaign**

Due to the good support rendered through press and media, Public have participated in a big way and made the campaign, a successful one. Besides Government Departments, various voluntary organizations such as Rotary have also supported the campaign.

### **Why additional OPV doses during IPPI days**

Tamil Nadu is "polio free". for the past 6 years. However northern states like Bihar, Uttar Pradesh are reporting polio cases and there are possibilities for transmission of polio virus to Tamil Nadu State. Hence it becomes essential to immunize all children under the age of 5 years with additional OPV doses on 7-2-2010 (Sunday) to sustain the polio free status in Tamil Nadu.

### **Points to ponder**

1. Polio Vaccine is safe and effective and it can be given any number of times; there is no side effects. The vaccine is certified by WHO.
2. Even if a child is immunized recently under Routine Immunisation Schedule, the child should be given Polio drops on the campaign days also.
3. Polio drops given on Pulse Polio campaign days are not alternative to the Routine Immunization. They are only supplementary doses to all children under the age of 5 years.
4. Newborns also to be given Polio drops on campaign days.

## **IPPI Arrangements**

As in the past , the State is establishing around 40,399 Immunization booths located in Govt. Hospitals, Primary Health Centres, Health Sub centres , Noon Meal centres, Schools and in other important places. Transit booths have also been set up at Railway Stations, Bus Stand and tourist spots to cover moving population. Mobile teams have been planned to cover the population in remote and inaccessible areas.

About 70 lakhs children are expected to be benefited. Around 2 lakhs personnel including volunteers from NGOs like Rotary are expected to be involved in this mega campaign. Private doctors have also been requested to open their clinics on IPPI days and invite their clients to give Polio drops to the children of under 5 years irrespective of the previous immunisation status.

Finger marking will be done in the left little finger of each child after vaccination. The marking of children helps to identify the unimmunized children.

Each House will be visited on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> days of IPPI campaign and marked with "P" to ensure that all children in that area are immunized.

The campaigns so far conducted in the State have yielded very good results. All efforts have been taken to cover all children under the age of 5 year without omission of a single child.

The Public must utilise this opportunity and bring their children to the Immunization booths to receive polio drops.

M.R.K.Pannerselvam  
Hon'ble Minister for Health

**ISSUED BY DIPR CHENNAI-09**