

REVISED NATIONAL TUBERCULOSIS CONTROL PROGRAMME (RNTCP)



Objectives:

- **To achieve and maintain a cure rate of atleast 85% among newly detected infectious cases**
- **To achieve and maintain detection of at least 70% of such cases in the population**

Tuberculosis has become a major health concern worldwide. This disease has struck millions making it the leading killer disease in adults. In 2009, out of the global annual incidence of 9.4 million TB cases, 2 million were estimated to have occurred in India, thus contributing to a fifth of the global burden of TB. It is estimated that about 40% of Indian population is infected with TB bacillus. However, the bacillus or the TB germ remains dormant in the body and the person may or may not develop TB in his lifetime depending on other contributing factors like hygiene, poor ventilation, weak immunity etc.

Nagaland formally launched RNTCP on 1st Dec'2002. Till date, the whole of State is covered under the Programme. Since the last 5 years the State as a whole have been achieving the National targets and is among the top 5 performing States in India. The performance of the State in 2012 was 81% NSP Case detection rate and 89% Cure Rate. The morbidity rate in Nagaland is 187/100000 population (ARTI 1.4%) and the mortality rate is less than 1% as per 2011.

One of the Chief concern that is prevalent in the State is the Problem of MDR TB patients. Since MDR TB is essentially a man made phenomena which is a result of inadequate or irregular treatment of 1st line drugs, strengthening basic DOTS can help the emergence of MDR TB.

In Nagaland DOTS Plus treatment was launched on 24th Jan 2012 at Khuzama Tb Hospital. CB NAAT laboratory was set up at DTC Kohima for C&DST of MDR-TB suspects in Aug 2012. . The major advantages are that this highly-automated system requires only a minimally trained staff to generate DST results, can be applied to smear positive sputum specimen of MDR Suspects, results are free of cross-contamination risk and are internally quality-assured, and results are available within 2 hours

With the focus on Universal Access to Tb Care as the prime objective of the programme, Nagaland is also taking steps towards achieving this such as need based ACSM, involvement of NGOS & Private Practitioners, TB/HIV Coordination, Notification of TB cases in the Community.



DTO Kohima addressing School students



A scene of a Community Meeting with Village leaders