

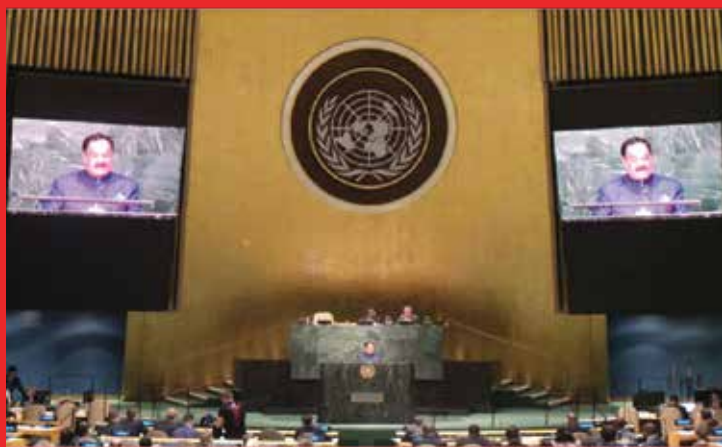


National AIDS Control Organisation
India's Voice against AIDS
Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India
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Swachh Bharat Abhiyan



Beti Bachao Beti Padhao

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Shri Faggan Singh Kulaste
Hon'ble Union Minister of State, (MoHFW)



Smt. Anupriya Patel
Hon'ble Union Minister of State, (MoHFW)

From the desk of Secretary & DG



Dear Reader,

The Mid-Term Appraisal (MTA) of National AIDS Control Programme Phase- IV (NACP-IV) is currently underway. The objectives of the MTA are to review the progress made by the NACP IV and document the achievements; identifying the opportunities & challenges with a view to sustain AIDS response in India and to advise and offer recommendations for the planning of NACP-V in the context of the international goals stated for the 2030 and the India's commitments to Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). The MTA of NACP IV encompassed many technical discussions, desk reviews and field visits. This exercise witnessed the involvement & tremendous support of the development partners of NACO, representatives of the Community and Civil Society Organizations, Technical Experts and other stakeholders along with NACO and SACS officials.

I am happy to share some of the important activities undertaken by National AIDS Control Organization during April to June, 2016 quarter.

A delegation led by **Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda, Hon'ble Union Minister for Health & Family Welfare, Government of India** has attended the High Level Meeting on Ending AIDS at UN General Assembly from 8th to 10th June, 2016 at New York, USA. The objective of the High Level Meeting was to review the progress of global efforts to tackle the AIDS epidemic and adopt a new declaration that will

reaffirm current commitments and commit to actions to work towards **“Ending AIDS as a public health threat by 2030”** as a part of SDGs.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between Government of Tamil Nadu and Union of India on 14th June, 2016 on the occasion of World Blood Donor Day at New Delhi. The MoU formalizes support of Central Government to set up and run Metro Blood Bank Center of Excellence in the State of Tamil Nadu, for which land has been provided free of cost by the State government.

NACO had undertaken an extensive exercise in the month of April for preparation of Annual Action Plan (AAP) of all State AIDS Control Societies (SACS) for the financial year 2016-17. It's my pleasure to share with you that NACO has approved the plans and first two installments to SACS has already been released. Now, it is the time that we need to implement the plans with full swing and also monitor the activities for achieving the set targets.

Finally, I hope that recommendations of MTA would guide and further strengthen the programme to achieve the desired goal and make necessary course-correction. I am positive that recommendations will significantly contribute towards planning and response to HIV/AIDS in time to come.

Shri N. S. Kang
Secretary & DG, NACO
Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
Government of India



From the desk of Joint Secretary

Dear Reader,

It gives me immense pleasure to pen down for the Editor's column. I take this opportunity for the first time to share my views, thoughts and also activities which are successfully undertaken by NACO during the period of April to June, 2016 in the NACO Newsletter.

I am pleased to inform you that during the 'Coordination and Management Meeting' of the 'United Nations Economic & Social Council' (ECOSOC) held on 5th April, 2016, India has been once again elected to UNAIDS PCB for the term 2017-19. During 30th April to 2nd May, 2016, PEPFAR 2016-2017 Country Operational Plan (COP) Review Meeting was organized in Bangkok to receive the final approval on the 2016-2017 COP from the office of the Global AIDS Coordinator (OGAC). NACO participated in the meeting to ensure that the OGAC is clear on the priorities established by NACO and to reinforce that PEPFAR India's support in response to India's HIV epidemic. The COP has been signed with PEPFAR India.

An Indian delegation led by **Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda, Hon'ble Union Minister for Health & Family Welfare, Government of India** attended the High Level Meeting on HIV/AIDS held during 8th to 10th June, 2016 at United Nations Headquarters in New York, USA. The Hon'ble Minister reiterated the Government's commitment towards achieving the 90-90-90 targets by 2020 and to provide comprehensive services that encompass requirements of prevention, treatment, care and support to all its citizens to achieve the goal of ending AIDS by 2030.

An event was organized to observe the World Blood Donor Day on 14th June, 2016 at New Delhi. The theme for this year event was "**Blood Connect us all**"

with slogan "**Share Life Give Blood**". On this occasion, a walk for blood was organized at India Gate to create awareness on Voluntary Blood Donation and around 400 donors were participated. During the event, 15 Blood Banks, 3rd Voluntary Blood Donation Camp organizers & 2nd State AIDS Control Societies were also given award of excellence for working towards 100% Voluntary Blood Donation.

India had also actively participated in the 'Thirty-eight meeting of the Programme Coordinating Board' (PCB) held during 28th-30th June, 2016 in Geneva. Apart from it, **Ms. Amala Akkineni**, a renowned Indian film actress, Bharata Natyam dancer, & an animal welfare activist, who is also associated with TeachAIDS had visited NACO. **Ms. Akkineni** shared animated TeachAIDS CD on HIV prevention.

In continuation to the Knowledge Exchange programme between India and Republic of Korea, a 5 - member delegation from South Korea visited NACO and its implementation sites in May, 2016 to learn from the India's National AIDS Control Programme. The Mid-Term Appraisal (MTA) of NACP IV was also initiated to comprehend the current status, identify opportunities and challenges of the programmes & offer recommendations for on course corrections.

Through this issue, I would like to share that NACO has initiated this publication with the sheer objective of providing platform to the States, partners, programme and divisions to actively contribute and update national, global and State-level activities & events. I hope you will find this issue of Newsletter enlightening.

We look forward to receive your valuable comments & feedback.

Dr. C. V. Dharma Rao
Joint Secretary, NACO
Ministry of Health & Family Welfare,
Government of India

India commits to “End AIDS epidemic by 2030” at ‘High Level Meeting’ during 70th Session of UN General Assembly

A High Level Meeting on Ending AIDS was convened by the Secretary General of UN General Assembly from 8th to 10th June, 2016 at New York, USA. The objective of the Meeting was to review the progress of global efforts to tackle the AIDS epidemic and adopt a new declaration that will reaffirm current commitments and ensure firm actions towards “Ending AIDS as a public health threat by 2030” as a part of Sustainable Development Goals.

More than 3000 delegates from 192 countries attended the three day meeting. The delegations included 30 heads of states and governments, ministers, senior officials, representatives of international organizations, civil society and people living with HIV.

The Indian delegation was led by **Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda, Hon’ble Union Minister for Health & Family Welfare, Government of India.**

The delegation included **Dr. Sanjay Jaiswal & Dr. Bhushan Lal Jangde, Members of Parliament, Shri N. S. Kang, Additional Secretary, (MoHFW),**



Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda, Hon’ble Union Minister for Health & Family Welfare delivering speech during High level meeting (HLM)



Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda, Hon’ble Union Minister for Health & Family Welfare along with delegation

Shri Amandeep Garg, PS to the Minister for Health & FW, Dr. B.B. Rewari, NPO (ART) WHO India. Nearly a dozen representatives from civil society & NGOs also participated in the deliberations.

The General Assembly opened a three-day high-level meeting on 8th June, 2016 on ending AIDS with the adoption, without a vote, of a Declaration “Political Declaration on HIV and AIDS: On the Fast-Track to Accelerate the Fight against HIV and the End the AIDS Epidemic by 2030” calling for urgent action & intensified efforts to ensure that the global response to HIV and AIDS left no one behind.

Speaking to the assembly, **Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda, Hon’ble Union Minister for Health & Family Welfare, Government of India,** told the member states that world has come a long way in our collective fight against the spread of the AIDS epidemic that had engulfed large sections of population. Strong political will and concerted targeted actions over the last decade & a half have contributed to strong achievements in pushing back the epidemic. The number of HIV affected people on antiretroviral therapy has increased substantially and the number of annual AIDS-related deaths has gone down considerably.



Shri Jagat Prakash Nadda, Hon'ble Union Minister for Health & Family Welfare delivering speech during High level meeting (HLM)

He said that these remarkable successes have demonstrated that the target of ending the AIDS epidemic by 2030 is realistic and that a sustained political commitment and action is necessary to address the scale of challenge that still lie ahead. He expressed his satisfaction that India is leading the scene as one of the most efficient partner in the global fight against AIDS epidemics.

Lauding the role of Indian pharmaceutical industry, the Hon'ble Minister said that they have been instrumental in scaling up access to HIV treatment not only in India but in other parts of the world, especially in the developing countries most affected by this scourge.

The Hon'ble Minister proposed five pronged strategy for the next five years. These are:

- Adopt the fast-track targets proposed while keeping prevention also in focus
- Increase investments, both domestic and international assistance and cooperation
- Ensure access to affordable medicines and commodity security
- Creating an inclusive society that values every human life
- Global solidarity including all forms of cooperation including North-South, South-South cooperation, multilateral & bilateral cooperation; & collaboration between governments, private sector and civil society

He assured that India is committed to maintain the TRIPS flexibilities to ensure global ARV supply in future also.

In conclusion, he said that this high level meeting will leave a mark in history. Let it be remembered as a time when the world took bold decisions based on science, and narrow divisions were buried in favour of creating an inclusive society, paving the way to end one of most devastating modern scourges.

The Hon'ble Minister also had a meeting with the civil society participants from India. This meeting focused on the issues faced by the communities and how can they better contribute to the programme especially in light of 90:90:90, giving essential feedback required for bridging the gaps in programme from time to time.

Dr. B. B. Rewari, NPO (ART)

Visit of delegation from Korea Centres for Disease Control & Prevention (KCDC) and Korea Federation of HIV/AIDS Prevention (10th to 12th May, 2016)

NACO organized a Knowledge Exchange visit (KEV) for a 5-member delegation from the Republic of Korea consisting of officials from 'Korea Centres for Disease Control & Prevention' (KCDC) & 'Korea Federation of HIV/AIDS Prevention' during 10th to 12th May, 2016.

The main objective of this visit was to learn from the India's National AIDS Control Programme, in particular to understand HIV/AIDS related policies & programmes by visiting NACO and its implementing sites. Prior to this Knowledge Exchange Visit, NACO shared a need-assessment tool to understand the needs of the visiting team and to develop the visit agenda.

The South Korean delegation was lead by **Mr. Kim, Hwon, Team Manager, KCDC**. The delegation visited the office NACO, Delhi State AIDS Control Society (DSACS) & its implementation sites in Delhi. The visit was hosted by the World Bank and was given concurrence by the Ministry of External Affairs & DEA.

A meeting with the delegates was organized at NACO office during the first day of visit i.e., on 10th May, 2016 under the chairmanship of

Dr. C. V. Dharma Rao, Joint Secretary, NACO.

In the meeting, a comprehensive presentation on India's HIV/AIDS Response was made by **Dr. Neeraj Dhingra, DDG (TI)**. During the meeting, NACO officials shared India's experiences on various components & interventions. The delegation also had a detailed discussion with **Dr. Rajesh Kumar Rana, Account Director (Media) of the IEC division at NACO.**

A meeting was also organized at DSACS under the chairmanship of **Dr. Mrinalini Darswal, Project Director, DSACS** on 10th May, 2016. The delegation visited the Centre of Excellence (ART) at the Maulana Azad Medical College, STI clinic at Lok Nayak Jai Prakash Narayan Hospital, Delhi, Integrated Testing & Counseling Centre (ICTC) at NDMC Polyclinic, New Delhi & two TI NGOs implementing targeted intervention projects among Men-who-have-sex-with-Men (MSM) and Transgenders (TG). During the three day KEV, the team engaged themselves with extensive dialogue with the officials of NACO, DSACS, facilities, community members and other stakeholders. At the end of the each day during the visit, the delegation shared their feedback in a format developed by NACO.



Officers of NACO & Korean Delegation during the Visit to NACO

Mr. Jimreeves K., Donor Coordinator & TL for S2SKET
Mr. Utpal Das, Specialist - Knowledge Transfer

A day long programme for healthy behaviors and life skill support development for CLHIVs in Rajkot

Being infected by HIV and at the same time having to cope with the various emotional and physiological changes associated with puberty and adolescence Children Living with HIVs (CLHIV) require more than their share of love, support, encouragement, acceptance and attention than any other adolescents. To cope with the HIV/AIDS related afflictions as well stigma & discrimination it requires resilience and courage. Added to these are the anxieties associated with coping with coming of age and curiosity regarding sex & sexuality. The children require guidance and direction with a balanced mix of empathy and friendship in making the important decisions & developing healthy behaviors a very positive initiative was undertaken jointly by the ART center team PDU Hospital Rajkot & DAPCU Rajkot for imparting counseling support, information and educating CLHIVs enrolled in the center. During this initiative, a day long program imparting knowledge on Healthy behaviors, building up mental strength, meditation session, stress coping mechanisms especially and life skills was conducted on 6th May, 2016. The program was attended by 45 CLHIVs aged 12th to 18th years and was facilitated with support from Nodal Officer ARTC **Dr. Artiben Trivedi, Dr. Mukesh Somani- HOD Psychiatry, Dr. Manish Moneria - Dept of Obstetrics/ Gynae, and District ICTC Supervisor of DAPCU, Mr. Narendra Dave. (Dr. Govind Bansal, National Consultant - DNRT)**



Participants attending one day workshop on imparting knowledge on healthy behaviour & stress coping

Launch of Methadone based Opioid Substitution Therapy under National AIDS Control Programme in India



Dignitaries Present during the Launch of Methadone based Opioid Substitution Therapy under NACP

In order to mark the launch of Methadone based Opioid Substitution Therapy (OST) in the country, technical consultation on OST with Methadone was held under the chairmanship of **Shri N. S. Kang, Additional Secretary, (MoHFW)** on 8th April, 2016 at Delhi. Followed by this meeting, a similar consultation was held under the chairmanship of **Dr. Neeraj Dhingra, Deputy Director General (TI, M&E, & Research), NACO** on 11th April, 2016 at Hotel Classic, Imphal.

Shri N. S. Kang, Additional Secretary, (MoHFW) in his key note address, said that initiation of OST with Methadone is yet another milestone in providing HIV prevention services to people who inject drugs in India. He said that changes introduced in section 71 of the NDPS (Amendment) Act 2014 not only allow for “management” of drug dependence, it also legitimizes opioid substitution, maintenance and other harm reduction services. He said harm reduction services are being provided to people who inject drugs (IDUs) under the National AIDS Control Programme (NACP) through more than 250 NGOs/CBOs. He also highlighted about series of regional level sensitization workshops that were organized by NACO with senior functionaries dealing with drug related issues and assured that similar initiatives would be intensified with such agencies in the coming days to enhance the access to various HIV prevention and treatment services for IDUs. He has categorically mentioned that introduction of Methadone will eventually increase the basket of choices for the client to choose appropriate treatment options.

Shri N. S. Kang, Additional Secretary, MoHFW also appealed to other Ministries & Departments dealing with drug related issues for their cooperation and support in rolling out the services provided by NACO. During the consultation, subject knowledge experts have highlighted their experiences on various process to be involved in initiation of Methadone including selection of site; training of service provider; & procurement & supply chain management of drugs. Panel discussion was moderated by **Dr. Suresh Kumar, Psychiatrist & Harm Reduction Expert.**

Amala Akkineni visited NACO

The renowned **Ms. Amala Akkineni**, a former actress, dancer, and an activist who is best known for her works in, & is also known for her work in the field of HIV. She is also the co-founder of TeachAIDS along with **Ms. Piya Sorcar.** **Ms. Amala visited NACO** on 11th April, 2016 & shared the animated Teach AIDS CDs on HIV prevention. Teach AIDS CDs are ready to use, easy to understand material that effectively delivers awareness on HIV/AIDS and its prevention.

Dignitaries Present at event :

- Mr. Rohit Sharma, Director, Delhi Zone, Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB)
- Mr. S. N. Dash, Under Secretary, Dept. of Revenue, Ministry of Finance
- Smt. Nirmala Devi, Asstt. Commissioner of Police
- Dr. S. K. Khandelwal, Professor & Chief, National Drug Dependence Treatment Centre (NDDTC), AIIMS
- Dr. Pratima Murthy, NIMHANS, Dr. David Jacka, Global Expert on Harm Reduction from Australia
- Dr. Michelle Kermode, Associate Professor, Nossal Institute of Global Health (NIGH), University of Melbourne, Australia
- Dr. Suresh Kumar, Psychiatrist and Harm Reduction Expert, representative from the State AIDS Control Society and community representatives
- The consultation meeting held at Imphal, Manipur was attended by Additional Director (Health Systems), Govt. of Manipur, Senior Medical faculties from RIMS
- Dr. Ravindra Rao and Dr. Alok Agarwal, from NDDTC - AIIMS, Project Directors of North-East State AIDS Control Society, Community representatives from North Eastern States, officials from the National AIDS Control Organization and North East Regional Office

**Ms. Sophia Khumukcham, PO-IDU,
Mr. Abraham Lincoln, TE- HR,
Ms. Kim Hauzel, TO- IDU/ OST &
Mr. Chin Samte, TO- IDU**



Amala Akkineni visited NACO

Ms. Richa Pathak, TO (Y)

NACP & RNTCP staff conducts 3 day training of trainers on Daily Regimen for first line Anti Tubercular Treatment

The National Technical Working group HIV TB, Expert Committee to Examine Type of Drug Regimen for Drug Sensitive TB, Standards of TB care in India recommended daily regimen for all drug sensitive TB among People Living with HIV (PLHIV) in India. In addition Isoniazid Preventive therapy for prevention of TB among PLHIV and strengthening Airborne Infection Control activities at ART centres are also recommended.

This was launched on World TB day 2015 by Hon'ble Health Minister as a Pilot initiative by NACO - CTD - WHO as "31st project" in 5 High burden states namely Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Maharashtra, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu at 30 ART centres.

The National TB HIV coordination committee recommended scale up of activity in the entire country. In order to develop the capacities and skills of all the NACP & RNTCP staff on comprehensive approach for implementing Daily regimen for anti TB, IPT and AIC TOT was conducted in coordination with SHARE India & cascade model of training using at standardized training material is being conducted ART centres for Medical Officers & Staff Nurse.

In this regard, National AIDS Control Organization and Central TB Division conducted 3 day Training of Trainers (ToT's) regarding "Daily Regimen for first line Anti Tubercular Treatment (ATT) for all HIV/TB co-infected patients and 31st Intensified Case Finding (ICF), Isoniazid Preventive Therapy (IPT) & Air Borne Infection Control (AIC) strategies for ART Centres" at Centre of Excellence (CoE), Maulana Azad Medical College,



Group Photo of Trainers during first line Anti Tubercular Treatment Training

Dr. C. V. Dharma Rao, Joint Secretary, NACO inaugurated the training session, **Dr. Naresh Goel, DDG (LS), Dr. K. S. Sachdeva DDG BSD NACO, Dr. Raghuram Rao, DADG-TB/CTD, MoHFW, Dr. B.B. Rewari, National Program Officer (ART) CST, NACO, Dr. Rajesh Deshmukh, Program Officer (HIV-TB), BSD, NACO, Dr. Rajashekar S, Dr. Amar Shah, representatives from RNTCP Consultants, SHARE INDIA, CDC India & Centre of Excellence, Maulana Azad Medical College, New Delhi** facilitated the training session marked the participation from SACS (JD/CST), State TB-HIV Coordinators, Regional Consultants, State TB Officers and RNTCP Consultant from all states.

Similar trainings were organised by RNTCP at State and regional level for District TB officers and medical officers TB Control. Two TOTs trainings were held on 22nd-23rd & 25th-26th February, 2016 at National Tuberculosis Institute (NTI), Bangalore.

All components i.e Intensified case finding, use of CBNAAT, ICT enabled treatment adherence, ADR management, AIC measures, IPT, supervision and monitoring strategy have been incorporated in the curriculum.

Dr. Rajesh Deshmukh, PO (HIV/TB)

Folk Media-reaching out to hard to reach population

It has been two years since Telangana State was formed and picking up its pace in many developmental issues. Telangana State AIDS Control Society (TSACS) started working from July, 2015 and continuing its work on prevention and control of HIV/AIDS in the State.

Being one of the high prevalent States, TSACS had to undergo the difficulties like ambiguity in bifurcation of the Department which includes Staff allocation and fund availability to carry out the communication activities in the State.

The IEC division has geared up the efforts and tried to roll out the activities at its best especially the priority activities in order to reach out to the different segments of Target Groups.



Folk Artists performing in Medaram Village

Medaram Jatara is one of the biggest tribal jatara in Asia. It is being celebrated biennially in Medaram village. About eighty lakh to one crore people from all across the State as well as other States like Maharashtra, Odisha, Chhattisgarh, Karnataka & Jharkhand had attended the function and done the darshan of the deities, who were brought from the forest and seen off after three days of the worship. In this regard, IEC division planned & successfully completed the 3 - day training program for the Folk artists on the Pallesuddulu format, which is very popular traditional theatre art form in Telangana State. One resource person for two districts assigned to train the teams. Resource persons and teams stayed together for three days and completed the in-house training, which was



Folk Media Artist Performing on Stage

video documented. At the end of the training program on the third day, model shows were performed by the best performing teams which were videographed and the DVDs of the same were shared with all DAPCUs for ensuring the quality in the shows performed by their teams.

Upon completion of the three days training program, DAPCUs rolled out the Pallesuddulu shows in Medaram Jatara. A meticulous planning and well co-ordination among the DAPCUs helped rolled out of 204 shows in the Jatara reaching out 71400 people. Some of the people, who received message, visited the nearby ICTC centres for HIV screening.

For successful execution of show DAPCU, Warangal district had co-ordinated with the district administration in getting the places for organizing the Folk performances. Selected more than 20 high congregation areas, which covers about 20 kms of circumference from the Jatara area, teams were positioned at 20 places performing two shows per day and giving awareness on HIV/AIDS to the targeted audience. Passes were arranged for the Team Members, SACS/DAPCU Officials who were involved in this activity.

Three layer monitoring system was setup in order to ensure proper execution of shows and also to extend necessary support to the teams. State Officers from Telangana SACS were assigned the responsibility of monitoring the shows as per their allotted districts. In

the second level, resource persons visited the places and monitored the shows, which also helped in improving the quality of the shows in the field. DAPCU members from each district visited and checked the performances of their respective teams as per their allotted areas in Medaram.

It was directed that teams should collect Mobile numbers from at least five audiences who watched the show and note the same in the Reporting format No. 2. Officials / staff from Health Departments certified the shows wherever they attended the shows.

A Whatsapp group was created with JD (IEC), DPMs, team leaders as members, who have shared the photographs and short videos of the shows immediately after the performance was completed. This had an impact as a communication to all members and motivated other teams to share their best efforts in reaching out the audience.

Best Practices :

- Video documentation of the Model shows set a bench mark and helped DAPCUs in examining the content and quality of performance reviewing with their teams.
- Utilised the shows in reaching out to the captive audience in Medaram Jatara. Targeting Efficiency is high as the shows were performed at the large congregation of Jatara.
- Created a Whatsapp group with Folk Media performing teams and DPMs which was useful in the sharing the photos and updated news on roll out. Worked as a motivation for other teams.
- Close working association with Health, Police Depts, Warangal Dist. Administration in rolling out shows for awareness generation, distribution of condoms.
- Well co-ordination among the 10 DAPCUs in developing the meticulous plan and roll out of the same at different 20 locations in order to reach out huge audience.



Performance by Folk Media artist

Case Study of an OST Client

Case Study of an OST Client - Targeted Intervention program among Injection Drug Users in Chandigarh Society for Service to Voluntary Agencies.

Mr. Rajkumar (Name Changed) 35 years old, Auto driver & Peer Educator. The story of Mr. Rajkumar is very common like other injecting drug users and its impacts to their psychosocial life. In his early days he was very hard working person. Belonged to a middle class family his father died when he was studying in class 8th, very soon responsibility of the whole family came over his shoulders. Initially he hired an auto rickshaw on rent, & after two year he could purchased his own auto rickshaw. Mother, three sisters and an elder brother are the other members in the family. **Mr. Rajkumar** got married in year 2000.

In the early days of year 1998, **Mr. Rajkumar** felt his sexual intensities. In absence of proper guidance and doctor advice, person felt helpless to fight his mental pressure to increase his sexual abilities. Earlier, he tried some sleeping pills to relax his mind so that he can easily ignore his sex related thoughts. In search of getting solution of the concern problem he received suggestions from the peer group about some drugs, by which he can improve his power. Soon after which **Mr. Rajkumar** approach his peer to get his first dose.

He came in exposure with proxyum which is a medicine generally used (restricted in Chandigarh) among the drugs users. After some time **Mr. Rajkumar** had good group of peers those were using variety of drugs for addictions. He was not

aware about the injecting pattern, techniques and importantly key drugs to pump in veins or cells. One of his close peer **Mr. Tejinder** (Died three years ago due to HIV/ AIDS) demonstrated him the techniques and key body area for conducting episodes and shots. Quickly after that **Mr. Rajkumar** tried many drugs in his veins like: Norphine, Morphine, Avil, Addnok, Nitrate 10, Tetanus vaccine, Lupigesic, Smack, Diazepam & Cannabis etc.

He was falling short of money for purchasing new shot or episode, his life roamed around his peer group only. Leaving isolated and away from family, has also broken his social networking among the family and relatives. Domestic violence and daily quarrell with wife, mother and all were very common.

In year 2011, there came a turning point in **Rajkumar's** life when a girl was born. As time passed **Rajkumar** had considered his present condition worst for her daughter's future life & then he decided to change himself for his daughter & approached the OST center. During initial period his daily doses were decided by the doctor's as 4 Mg. After frequent doctor's interventions & psychological counseling and support throughout two years **Mr. Rajkumar** story is now changed completely.

Presently, he is working as peer educator in SOSVA TI- IDU project as well as an auto puller enjoying his new social life and helping other IDU's to getting out of injecting world sets. "I just can't seem to stop a lot of times I will come & tell myself that I will not going to inject . I was feeling helpless when my life, my family, marital life is going to hustle bustle. At time when my daughter came into my life, with the first experience holding her in my hand , I realized what I have done to my life. At that time I realized myself. "

Ms. Pooja Shrivastava & Mr. Rajkumar (Name Changed), PSACS

Sensitization meeting of Hon'ble Members of the Legislative Assembly of Himachal Pradesh regarding Legislative Forum on HIV/AIDS

The sensitization meeting of Hon'ble Members of the Legislative Assembly of Himachal Pradesh regarding Legislative Forum on HIV/AIDS was held on 6th April, 2016 under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Deputy Speaker of Legislative Assembly of Himachal Pradesh.

Shri Nandlal Thakur, Chief Parliamentary Secretary (CPS), Health welcomed all the Participants who were present in the sensitization meeting. In the beginning of the session **Chief Parliamentary Secretary (CPS) Health, Shri Nand Lal** gave a detailed presentation on HIV/AIDS scenario in HP & in India as well. He urged Hon'ble Chief Minister & Health Minister to increase the amount of financial assistance provided by HP Government to PLHIV in the state so that they can live a healthy & sound life.

Hon'ble Chief Minister Shri Virbhadra Singh, while presiding over the sensitization workshop for MLAs Forum on Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) said that such workshops assist a lot in spreading the awareness about the fatal disease and it was a welcome step by State AIDS Control Society to include MLAs who can play an important role in spreading awareness among the masses.

Chief Minister said that despite ardent efforts to proliferate awareness of HIV/AIDS being made by governmental & non-governmental agencies, the misconceptions relating to HIV/AIDS continue to outpace the efforts to educate people regarding this fatal disease & we the responsible citizen/ leaders of the Himachal Pradesh have to work in collision with to fight against HIV/AIDS.

Hon'ble Chief Minister said that as the people listen more tolerantly to the elected representatives & they can make the masses understand the dangerous effects of HIV/AIDS. He said that on one hand the stigma & discrimination attached to the disease keep the people away from seeking medical help & related information on the other hand, for some the belief that they cannot be infected, promotes denial and keep them away from the realities of the disease being allure by the false sense of security. All such issues are

capable of being resolved with active participation of MLAs, NGOs and other government departments/agencies involved in the task.

Hon'ble Chief Minister emphasized the need for supplementing all such efforts with an active participation from all sections of the society for creating awareness about the disease. He said that such type of workshops open the channel for communication and foster discussions about HIV and interpersonal relations, which can create awareness in the society.

Hon'ble Chief Minister said it was far astonishing that as many as 3.40 crore cases of HIV/AIDS were reported around the globe and as many as 20.9 lakhs cases were tested positive in India alone. As far as Himachal Pradesh was concerned 8497 cases of HIV were tested positive out of which 3127 people are suffering from AIDS.

Hon'ble Chief Minister dedicated on-line Blood Bank Management Information System (BBMS) to the people of the State, which would enable the the status of blood available in various blood banks in the state and the details of donors.

Shri Kaul Singh Thakur, Hon'ble Health Minister, Govt. of Himachal Pradesh said that the State government was more concerned about the treatment of the HIV/AIDS patients and was providing bus fare to the patients who were coming for treatment to Antiretroviral Therapy (ART) centers. He also said that mass awareness is required to sensitize the people about HIV/AIDS. In addition, it was ensured by the Health Minister that the meeting of the Legislative Forum on HIV/AIDS will be held in coming session of the Legislative assembly & will draft few amendments in the financial Assistance to the PLHIVs & will add on other benefits to the people infected & affected by HIV/AIDS in HP.

Director Health Services cum Project Director Dr. D.S. Gurung presented the vote of thanks and also urged the members of the Assembly to work for the upliftment of PLHIV in Himachal Pradesh.

Himachal Pradesh, SACS

Out of School Youth Intervention through NYKS under Mainstreaming

Bihar State AIDS Control Society, Patna, working with Zonal office of “**Nehru Yuwa Kendra Sangathan**” for mass level awareness & prevention regarding HIV and AIDS for out of school Youth. As we are aware that the literacy rate of Bihar is low and mostly the citizen of Bihar are based in rural areas. As well as Bihar is also known about source migrant state which is directly linked with HIV and AIDS Program. The awareness & prevention measure knowledge level are also low in the state.

In this context Bihar, State AIDS Control Society (BSACS) approached “**Nehru Yuwa Kendra sangathan**” which is working with “**Out of School Youth**” age group between 15 to 35 years & now NYKS has 6 lakh Youth club member. Initially, was planned in 2012-13 and worked only in source migrant district of Bihar but later on seeing the success of the orientation- cum - awareness activities in those districts, (BSACS) decided to continue this programme in all districts of Bihar.

Since 2012-13, about 14,155 NYC/ Youth Club Member at district & state level in Bihar. The NYC/Youth Club members who have been orientated under district level programme, they disseminated the messages among other club members about HIV & AIDS. This program is not only covering HIV & AIDS aspects but also covering & promoting Voluntary Blood Donation. Bihar State AIDS Control Society is also inviting those youth club

members who had worked well youth clubs during various state level events like National Youth Day, International Youth Day, World AIDS Day, etc. Under this programme special focus was given to mobilization. The Youth clubs have also been included during the sessions of gram panchayat sabha under supervision of NYC/ NYC of NYKS.

On the success of Program, **Sh. Deepak Mandal** shared his experience of OSY Program & said that before this program very few rural youth used to open mouth about HIV and AIDS but now a day's more & more rural youth know about HIV & also try to motivate others for HIV Testing also.

After all commendable work done through this program, UNICEF is ready to support NYKS, NYC & NYC for providing technical as well as financial support for Social Behavior, Change Communication. Accordingly, BSACS trained Master Trainers for SBCC under the programme, in December, 2015. After that Master Trainers organized district level ToT for Youth Club members for Social Behavior Change Communication.

“Earlier NYKS used to Search resource persons for HIV & AIDS Program but now thing has been changed as resource pool is available at district level itself NYKS” said **Shri Narendra Rai, District Youth Coordinator, Jehanabad.**

Mr. Alok Kumar Singh
AD (Youth), Bihar, SACS

ELM activities by states

National AIDS Control Organisation is implementing Employer Led Model (ELM) as an intervention to reach informal migrant workers linked to industries by integrating HIV/AIDS prevention to care programme within existing system and structure of employers (industries). It provides an opportunity to enhance the access of informal workforce to HIV prevention, care and support programme in India to reduce their risk &

limit spread of HIV epidemic. Towards the end of May, 2016 a total of 304 Industries have come on board across 127 districts in 25 States covering 30 Industrial sectors. About 2.62 lakh migrants are covered through different activities during this program. Out of which 3523 person are counselled & tested for HIV. 970 persons are treated for any STIs & 6 HIV positive persons have been referred for ART services.



Group session on HIV/AIDS at MPT, Goa May, 2016



Awareness Program by paramedical staff of DMRC, Moti Bagh, New Delhi



ELM activities conducting in Rajasthan

National Migration Unit,
TI Division, NACO

Of, For & By the children; Children's Parliament in Institution addressing CABA issues

The HIV/AIDS Orphan and Vulnerable Children Social Protection project has been implemented in selected states by Karnataka Health Promotion Trust with the support of USAID and NACO. The Program Goal is to increased access to priority health, educational, social protection and welfare services by children affected by HIV/AIDS (CABA).

The HIV/AIDS OVC Social Protection Project is promoting Child Protection Policy, institutional care givers trainings and Child Parliament within institutions caring for children affected with HIV/AIDS with an objective of making the institutions child friendly, upholding child rights and empowering children to be resilient.

In Nandana Makkala Dhama hostel run by Spandana Network for Positive People, in Belgaum district, Karnataka things are changing rapidly after the formation of the Child Parliament. The transition of children from lack of clarity on the role & functionality of the elect leaders to realization of their problems and pro-active involvement to resolve them, seeking solutions collectively is the effect of USAID HIV/AIDS OVC Social Protection Project's initiative to train institutions on Child Protection Policy(CPP) via workshops and institutional caregivers trainings.

The predominant danger that was identified by the Child Parliament was that posed by snakes and rodents that frequented an empty site besides the hostel. In a bid to stop the snakes from living in that patch of land, the Child Parliament decided to clean it on their own after a discussion.



CABA empowerment through Child Parliament

When they were unsuccessful in clearing the plot satisfactorily they resolved to approach the Municipal Corporation with the help of the District Project Coordinator, **Mr. Nadaaf**. A letter went out to the Corporation Commissioner of Belgaum and in a matter of nineteen days the corporation sent their laborers & clean the plot, making it safe for children in the campus.

The action from the government in this region of Karnataka was facilitated by the help and support of project staff and the establishment of a system like child parliament which makes it possible for children to be a stakeholder in decision making and issues that affect them. The partnership between the child parliament and the project staff was critical in overcoming challenges and issues of the institution and children living in them.

The children who have seen this positive outcome from their efforts feel confident and positive on their role as leaders. They are of the opinion that together they can approach all other issues and concerns of children in the hostel 'collectively'.

Spandana Network for Positive People which runs this hostel in Belgaum is a partner with USAID HIV/AIDS OVC Social Protection Project and has benefitted from the project workshops on Child Protection Policy. Consequently, the Child Parliament was established in the institution with facilitation support from INSA-India which plays an exemplary role in building leadership among children in institutions.

The project walks ahead with efforts focused on getting more and more such institutions to adopt the Child Protection Policy and change the world that Children Affected with HIV/AIDS live in.

Mr. Ravi, IEC & Mainstreaming, NACO

NBTC and NACO jointly celebrated World Blood Donor

World Blood Donor Day is celebrated every year on 14 June, to thank voluntary, regular, repeat, non - remunerated blood donors for their life-saving gifts of blood and to raise awareness about regular blood donations to ensure the quality, safety & availability of blood & blood products for patients in need. The theme of this year's World Blood Donor Day was "**Blood connects us all**" which focuses on thanking blood donors & highlights the dimension of "**sharing**" & "**connection**" between blood donors & patients. The slogan "**Share life, give blood**" draws attention to the role that voluntary donation systems play in encouraging people to care for one another and promote community cohesion.

The event was organised at PGIMER, RML Hospital Auditorium, New Delhi. The celebration started with Walk for Blood at India Gate, where more than 300 participants from all walks of life came together to create awareness among the masses. Participants walked with slogan, theme, quotes and banners. This was the third such event organized by NBTC.



Shri N. S. Kang, Additional Secretary, (MoHFW)



MoU between Union of India & state of Tamil Nadu for 'establishment of metro blood bank center of excellence for blood transfusion services' in Chennai on 14th June, 2016

The function at the Auditorium commenced with "Diya walk : ushering in light to dispel darkness" with all dignitaries. Present on the occasion were **Shri N.S. Kang (Additional Secretary, MoHFW & President NBTC)**, **Dr. (Prof) Jagdish Prasad (DGHS)**, **Dr. B.D. Athani (Additional, DGHS)**, **Dr. C.V. Dharma Rao (JS, NACO)**, **Dr. R.S Gupta (DDG – BTS & Director, NBTC)**, **Dr. A.K. Gadpayle (Ms, Dr. RML Hospital)**, **Ms. Brexen (WHO)**. Speaking on the occasion, **Shri N.S. Kang (Additional Secretary, MoHFW & President NBTC)** said "the objective of celebrating blood donor day is recognize and celebrate the achievements of regular donors. We need to motivate & aware more & more people about blood donation so that overall number of blood donors must continue to grow to meet our future blood needs".

The program was followed by a presentation on NBTC-NHP Blood Locator Android Application by **Dr. Supten Adhikari**. The Metro blood Bank Project was also flagged off on this occasion Emphasizing on the theme “**Blood Connects us all**” testimonials were given by Thalassaemic children, they thanked the donors for helping them. A skit was also performed by Jazba Theatre to promote voluntary blood donation. These were organized in collaboration with National Thalassaemia Welfare Society, New Delhi. On the occasion 15th Blood Banks, 3rd Voluntary Blood Donation Camp organizers & 2nd State AIDS Control Society were given award of excellence who were working towards 100% Voluntary Blood.

Dr. (Prof) Jagdish Prasad, DGHS in his speech stated that objective of WBDD is not to attract a big influx of new blood donors on 14th June. But is to create wider awareness on the importance of voluntary, unpaid blood donation and encourage more people to become regular donors, including those healthy donors who have already given blood when it was needed by a family member or friend. In the end, vote of thanks was extended by **Dr. Shobini Rajan, ADG (BTS), NACO** to all dignitaries & awardees present. She also thanked **Dr. R.N. Makroo & Dr. Kiran Chaudhury** for the help & support given to organize the event.

BTS division

Meghalaya

Meghalaya AIDS Control Society Sponsor Silver Jubilee Celebration, Run++

As part of the Silver Jubilee celebration, Run++, a run for AIDS awareness was conducted on Saturday, 18th June, 2016 by the Department of Computer Science, St. Anthony's College, Shillong.

The run took place in the presence of **Professor Aiusha V Hujon**, the convener of the Silver Jubilee celebration. The run was sponsored by the Meghalaya AIDS Control society. All participants wore red ribbons & pamphlets on AIDS awareness were also distributed. Students from various departments of the college participated in the run. **Fr. Saji Stephen SDB**, the Vice Principal of the college addressed the students and informed about HIV and AIDS before the run.

The Principal of the College, **Br. Dr. Albert Longley Dkhar SDB** flagged off the run and distributed the prizes. Prizes were distributed to the first three winners in the boys & girls categories. Consolation prizes were also given to those ranking fourth to eight in each category. Mementos of the AIDS Control Society were also handed over.



The first three winners amongst the girls were:

Leena Vungbiaklun - 3rd Year BA Philosophy
Magdalene K. Zhimoni - 3rd Year B.Sc Maths
Bada Kurbah - 4th Semester MCA

Amongst the boys the first three winners were:

Rakesh Jomyang - 3rd Year BA History
Bhaboklang Marwein - 3rd Year B.Sc Geology
Henry Khongwar - 3rd Year

Meghalaya, SACS

Meghalaya AIDS Control Society Collaborated for 6th Annual Mr. Ironman, 2016 Competition

With the objective of promoting sports in the state, Meghalaya AIDS Control collaborated with Meghalaya Body Building & Fitness Association, Shillong as part of the 6th Annual **Mr. Ironman**, 2016 competition which was held on the 18th June, 2016 at the SoSo Tham Auditorium, Shillong.

During the program, people were informed about HIV-AIDS, mode of transmission & how it can be prevented. A special emphasis was put on voluntary blood donation apart from distributing pamphlets & pinning red ribbons. The top three winners were awarded gold, silver & bronze medals & cash prizes, fourth & fifth place winners were awarded trophies.



Punjab

An exhibition on HIV/AIDS Awareness displayed during Ayush Mela

An exhibition on HIV/AIDS information was displayed in the "**Ayush Mela**" held at Sangrur from 21st April to 25th April, 2016 organized by the Department of Ayurveda, Punjab. The **Hon'ble Health Minister, Punjab Shri Surit Kumar Jayani** inaugurated this event. Out of the total visitors 159 visitors were counselled & 108 got themselves tested for HIV with zero negative result. 25 blood units were collected by Mobile Blood Donation Bus during the event. 15000 HIV/AIDS folders were distributed to the visitors.



People Intracting during HIV/AIDS awareness exhibition at Ayush Mela

Punjab, SACS

International Day Against Drug Abuse & Illicit Trafficking

Assam State AIDS Control Society (ASACS) observed International Day against Drug Abuse & Illicit Trafficking on June 26, 2016 in collaboration with the Department of Social Welfare, Govt of Assam & Narcotics Department of Assam. The day-long event was organized at NEDFI House Guwahati. The meeting was inaugurated by Additional Chief Secretary to the Government of Assam, Department of Social Welfare Himanta Narzary, IAS.

In his inaugural speech, Narzary said, “Drug abuse especially amongst the youth is affecting the basic fabric of the society & we all have a responsibility to fight against this menace. As per reports, every year an increasing trend has been noticed in number of drug addicts in the state. Therefore, proper awareness has to be generated amongst the students.” This was followed by speeches from other dignitaries present.

Deputy Director, Blood Transfusion Services, ASACS, **Dr P. K. Barooah** in his presentation gave an overall view of status of HIV/AIDS in the state and also enlightened the audience on the how injected drugs can spread HIV menace especially amongst the youth.



The Artist performing on stage

Emphasizing on the significance of this day, Barooah said, “We need to wake up those people who are in deep slumber due to substance abuse & show them the path through which one can live a normal life sans drugs.” He also spoke about how important it is to avoid syringes & switch over to oral drugs if total abstinence is not possible for which there are OST (Opioid Substitution Therapy) centres in different hospitals of the state. The day-long event also witnessed cultural programmes like dances by children and folk show on drug abuse. Some victims of drug abuse also narrated their heart touching experience after they took drugs.

Assam, SACS

Punjab

Observance of International Day against Drug abuse & Illicit Trafficking

In collaboration with Department of Social Security Women & Child Development, a state level function was organized to International Day against Drug abuse & Illicit Trafficking on 26th June, 2016 at Rehabilitation Centre, Majitha Road, Amritsar. The function was inaugurated by **Hon,ble Health Minister, Punjab Shri Surjit Kumar Jayani**. The Special Secretary Health, **Shri Vikas Garg**, **Director, Shri Gur Lavleen Singh, Social Security, ADC, Shri Tejinder Pal, Amritsar, Dr. Manpreet Chhatwal, Additional Project Director, PSACS & Civil Surgeon, Amritsar** were also present. On this occasion IEC materials were displayed at different locations of event site and around 1000 folders on IDU were distributed & advertisement was also issued in leading newspapers. From 24th to 26th June, 2016 three day SMS campaign was launched in which 2,17,40,000 free SMS were delivered to the subscribers through Department of Governance Reforms.

Punjab, SACS

Haryana

Drug Abuse & Illicit Trafficking Day Pakhwara 26th June – 10 July, 2016



Rally at Gurgaon on Drug Abuse

Drug Abuse & Illicit Trafficking Fortnight was observed from 26th June, 2016 to 10th July, 2016 throughout Haryana. The activities were conducted during the fortnight: pocket IEC on HIV/AIDS read at Registration Counter daily, Promotion of National Toll free Helpline No. 1097, awareness on STIs focusing female patients, one month radio campaign on Drug Abuse: 2 Radio Jingles from 5 stations of All India Radio i.e. Chandigarh, Rohtak, Kurukshetra, Hisar & FM Delhi on Drug Abuse were broad-casted from 10th June to 9th July, awareness at Briklin Sites, Construction Sites, Truck Unions, Migrant areas etc, HIV/AIDS. The fortnight long event was marked by the Drug Abuse session by the District Nodal Officers followed by screening of special movie TEACH AIDS essay writing competition conducted in 19 District Institute of Elementary Teachers Training & Govt. Elementary Teachers Training Institute on 26th June, 2016, poster making competition on HIV/AIDS & Drug Abuse were also conducted in all Senior Secondary schools in Haryana, AIDS awareness messages written on benches of General Hospital Rewari & sensitization session conducted at Bhondsi Jail, Gurgaon.

World Blood Donor Day Pakhwara 14th June – 28th June, 2016



A Seminar on World Blood Donor Day

World Blood Donor Day was observed on 14th June, 2016 and the day was celebrated all over the State by organizing activities like, poster rally, display of banner, honoring of donors / motivators /organizers, seminars, workshops, etc. June, 2016, 21 blood donation camps were organized 1914 blood units & during the campaign total number of 94 camps were organized by collecting 6189 blood units.

Haryana, SACS

Blood Donation Camp by NSS Units of the college

West Bengal



Doctor of NRS hospital checking blood pressure before blood donation

The Blood donation camp was conducted by the NSS Units of the Muralidhar Girls' College. Blood banks usually face crises at this time of the year so the Principal of the college, along with the programme officers of unit I & II & NSS committee members had decided to schedule the camp at this time of the year. The camp was organised in association with Nilratan Sirkar Medical College & Hospital, Kolkata (NRS). **Sri Sobhandeb Chattopadhyay, President, Governing Body** as well as Minister in-charge of Power & Non-Conventional energy sources Muralidhar Girls' College inaugurated the Blood Bank Camp in college campus on 22nd May, 2016. **Dr. Kinjalkini Biswas**, Principal was present along with her teaching & non teaching staff. **Prof. Bela Bose**, President, Kolkata Ekatma (NGO) & NSS expert, University of Kolkata was also present in the camp. **Smt. Piyali das, Assistant Director (Youth Affairs) WBSAP & CS** was also present in the camp & also donated blood.

West Bengal, SACS

World Blood Donor Day - 14th June, 2016

World Blood Donor Day was celebrated by Puducherry AIDS Control Society with the theme of “**Blood Connects Us All**” by organizing various events on the occasion to raise the awareness on Voluntary Blood Donation and to thank regular Blood Donors. Seminar was conducted. A seminar with emphasis on importance of Voluntary Blood Donation for the representatives of various Govt. Departments, Social Organizations, NGOs, Lions Clubs, Rotary Clubs, Women Self Help Groups, etc. was conducted on 10th June, 2016 at Conference Hall, National Health Mission, Puducherry in which 86 persons participated. **Dr. K.V. Raman, Director of Health**, inaugurated the Seminar Programme. Rangoli Competition to create awareness among Women on the “**Importance of Voluntary Blood Donation**” was conducted on 12th June, 2016 at Beach Road, Puducherry.

An Awareness Motor Bike Rally on Voluntary Blood Donation to create awareness in the rural areas was conducted on 13th June, 2016 by involving about 40 also Staff members of Pondicherry AIDS Control Society headed by the Project Director, **Dr. S. Jayanthi**. The bike rally was flagged off by **Thiru. Malladi Krishna Rao, Hon'ble Health Minister. Dr. K.V. Raman, Director of Health, Dr. Kalimuthu, Mission Director & Dr. Allirani, Deputy Director (Family Welfare)** were also present. All the rural villages of Puducherry upto 70 Kms. were covered during the rally which extend through the major rural areas in the Puducherry region & created awareness among general public. Awareness handbills/pamphlets were distributed at junction points. Auto Mike Awareness on Voluntary Blood Donation preceded the rally.



Dr. S. Jayanthi, Project Director honored by Hon'ble Lt. Governor of Puducherry for appreciating her service donating blood for 3 times in a year.

Puducherry, SACS

World Blood Donor Day-Meghalaya



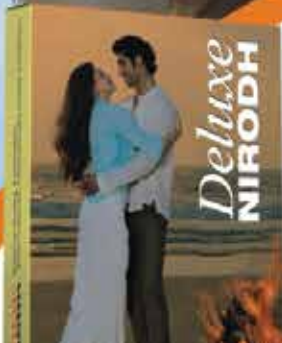
Dr. D. Lyngdoh, Project Director, Meghalaya AIDS Control Society giving the welcome speech

To mark the celebration of World Donor Day 2016, a State level function was organised collectively by Blood Transfusion Council, State AIDS Control Society & Licensed Blood Banks at the Conference Hall, Nazareth Hospital, Shillong. **Dr. Celestine Lyngd** Parliamentary Secretary, Govt. of Meghalaya & Member of Meghalaya Legislators Forum on HIV & AIDS was present as the Chief Guest & **Dr. Sudhir Rai**, Principal Medical Officer, Eastern Air Command was the Guest of Honour. **Shri K.W. Marbaning, IAS, Secretary, Health & Family Welfare, Govt. of Meghalaya,**

Dr. D. Lyngdoh, Project Director, Meghalaya AIDS Control Society, Shillong, past project directors of Meghalaya AIDS Control Society & college students were among others present at the function

Meghalaya, SACS

हर समझदार मर्द की एक अच्छी आदत



कंडोम एक, सुरक्षा तीन

- ⊙ एचआईवी/एड्स
- ⊙ यौन संक्रमण
- ⊙ अनचाहा गर्भ



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