



सत्यमेव जयते

भारत सरकार

राष्ट्रीय रोग नियंत्रण केन्द्र

(स्वास्थ्य सेवा महानिदेशालय)

स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार
22, शाम नाथ मार्ग, दिल्ली - 110054

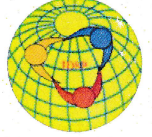
Government of India

NATIONAL CENTRE FOR DISEASE CONTROL

[Formerly Known as National Institute of Communicable Diseases (NICD)]

Directorate General of Health Services

Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India
22, Sham Nath Marg, Delhi-110054



Direct: 00-91-11-23913148
23922132 Fax: 23922677
Email : dirnicd@nic.in
Website : www.ncdc.gov.in
www.idsp.nic.in

Dr. AAKASH SHRIVASTAVA

MD, MPH, PhD

Additional Director & Head

Centre for Environmental & Occupational Health,
Climate Change and Health

F.no. 62/NCDC/NPCCHH/2024-25/AP-A&SH

Date: 21st January 2025

Subject: Assessing and strengthening health sector preparedness and response for air pollution-related illnesses- reg

Dear *Madam/Sir,*

As the winter season progresses and temperatures drop, air quality in many parts of the country has deteriorated, which may lead to an increase in adverse health impacts of air pollution. Experience shows that this manifests as increased footfall in emergency departments, OPDs, and indoors. The most prominent of these health impacts are respiratory and cardiovascular.

Anticipating this rise in cases, DO Letter No. 61/NCDC/NPCCHH/2024-25 dated 19th October 2024 of Prof. (Dr.) Atul Goel, Director General of Health Services (DGHS), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (copy enclosed) issued which urges the state health departments and facilities to enhance their preparedness, including intensifying public awareness campaigns, disseminating targeted messaging through designated mass media channels in regional languages, strengthening the capacity of the healthcare workforce and scaling up participation in sentinel surveillance system for air pollution-related illness under NPCCHH.

Health sector preparedness and response measures have also been outlined in the advisory (D.O. No. 70/NCDC/CEOH&CCH/2018-19/AP Advisory, dated 18th November 2024, of Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (copy enclosed). The advisory outlines facility and community-level activities that need to be undertaken and the roles and responsibilities of officials at each level. The advisory also emphasises on the need for targeted awareness campaigns for vulnerable populations including children, pregnant women, elderly, individuals with pre-existing conditions and workers exposed to air pollution.

As you know, air pollution-related illnesses are one of the key priority climate-sensitive illnesses covered under the programme. Strengthening health sector preparedness and response, thereby preventing and reducing morbidity and mortality due to air pollution, is a top priority of the programme. To aid the nodal officers at the district and state levels to operationalise and monitor these activities, the programme division, with the support of UNICEF India Country Office, has prepared a monitoring and evaluation tool for facility, district, and state levels to better understand the status of preparedness and aid in timely course correction. These tools—floated as Google forms—are to be filled out by officials at these three levels.

स्वच्छ पर्यावरण, स्वस्थ भारत - जलवायु परिवर्तन, समझें और बचें



**National Programme
on Climate Change
and Human Health**

NATIONAL PROGRAMME ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND HUMAN HEALTH

NCDC, 22-sham Nath Marg, Civil Lines, Delhi-110054

Ph: (o) 011-23937242. Email: npcchh.hq-ncdc@ncdc.gov.in

Website: shorturl.at/AFHR7



Antibiotic Resistance Containment Stewardship: Our Role, Our Responsibility
Judicious Use of Antibiotic: Key to Contain Antibiotic Resistance



These tools were shared through the programme on December 10, 2024, and the reporting status and summary analysis until January 15, 2025, are attached for your review. I recommend that the States /UTs that have no or very low submissions take advantage of this tool as soon as possible to assess and strengthen their preparedness in line with the issued guidelines and advisories.

We once again request you to kindly disseminate the Google forms to all the facilities and districts in your states so that together we can better understand the current status of preparedness and necessary steps can be taken to further improve the health sector preparedness and response to Air Pollution. We believe that this monitoring and evaluation tool (for state, district and facility level) will provide us with necessary insights into the steps that the program at all levels may need to take in the short and medium term.

Together, I am sure we can overcome this challenge.

Yours Sincerely,



(Aakash Shrivastava)

Google form link

1. State level: <https://forms.gle/MjaB18tjFtCPMCwz9>
2. District level: <https://forms.gle/BUirpriyoS5JByiK8>
3. Health facility level: <https://forms.gle/mzmWRHzaXGFf2WP66>

To,

State Nodal Officer-Climate Change, NPCCHH (All States/UTs)

Copy to:

1. Mission Director (NHM) (All States/UTs)
2. Sr. Regional Director, MoHFW, GoI.

Enclosure:

1. DO letter from DGHS to PS(H) (All states/UTs) dated 19thOct2024.
2. DO letter from Secretary(H) to CS (All states/UTs) dated 18thNov2024.
3. *Reporting status and summary analysis of response until January 15, 2025*

स्वच्छ पर्यावरण, स्वस्थ भारत - जलवायु परिवर्तन, समझें और बचें



**National Programme
on Climate Change
and Human Health**

NATIONAL PROGRAMME ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND HUMAN HEALTH
NCDC, 22-shamn Nath Marg, Civil Lines, Delhi-110054
Ph: (o) 011-23937242. Email: npcchh.hq-ncdc@ncdc.gov.in
Website: shorturl.at/AFHR7