



## डॉ. विजय सतबीर सिंघ अप्पर मुख्य सचिव Dr. Vijay Satbir Singh Additional Chief Secretary

महाराष्ट्र शासन सार्वजनिक आरोग्य विभाग

मंत्रालय कॉम्प्लेक्स बिल्डींग, गोकुळदास तेजपाल रुग्णालय कंपाऊंड, १०वा मजला. मंबई ४००,००१

१०वा मजला, मुंबई ४०० ०० १ दुरध्यनी : कार्यालय - ०२२-२२६१७३८८ फॅव्ह्स : २२६१७९९९ GOVERNMENT OF MAHARASHTRA Public Health Department

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Date: 23 January, 2017

D.O.No.Polio-2017/C.R.83/FW

Dear

I am to inform you that Government of India is consistently and significantly taking efforts towards eradication of Polio. Since 1995, every year Maharashtra state has conducted two state-wide Pulse Polio campaign by vaccinating all children from birth to 5 years of age with 2 drops of oral polio vaccine (OPV) irrespective of previous vaccination status. Each Pulse Polio Campaign has 3 major phases:

- Pre-campaign preparation phase: starts with microplanning of vaccination activity, training of manpower involved in the campaign, social mobilization of community though mass media and display of posters, hoarding, etc.
- Booth day (Sunday): Vaccination booths are placed for vaccinating children up to 5 years of age at prominent well known place which is easily identifiable by community and is within easy reach of community. Vaccination teams are also present at major railway stations, bus terminuses, highways and airports.
- House to house Vaccination: performed from monday onwards by visiting each house to ensure that no child is left unvaccinated.

This activity is collective effort of Ministries of Govt. of India and Govt. of Maharashtra. It has ultimately paved way for making the state and country polio free. As a result of high quality campaigns and inter-ministerial coordination polio cases in state have reduced from 18 in year 1999 to No Polio case since 2011. But poliovirus is still circulating in three polio-endemic countries i.e. Pakistan, Afghanistan and Nigeria from where lot of people travel to and from India and therefore poses a threat of polio resurgence in our polio-free nation.

To deal with this risk, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Govt. of India has decided to conduct two nation-wide polio vaccination campaigns, with the first on 29<sup>th</sup> January and second on 2<sup>nd</sup> April, 2017.





I sincerely appreciate that since the inception of the programme, members of The Federation of Obstetric & Gynecological Societies of India (FOGSI) played crucial role in creating awareness among community members availing private health facilities. I request to communicate to all the members of FOGSI to provide support in both Pulse Polio campaigns.

As you are aware, India has switched from tOPV to bOPV on 25 April 2016 to reduce the risk of emergence of type 2 VDPV. But as a part of environmental surveillance, the sewage samples collected at Ahmedabad & Hyderabad isolated type 2 sabin (vaccine) like poliovirus indicating continued use of tOPV beyond switch. During field investigation team health workers found tOPV vials being used at some of the private practitioners. Please communicate to all members not to use/store tOPV and also communicate that during pulse polio round, health workers will be verifying the vaccines stored / in use at the private practitioners.

This will go a long way in protecting the gains made by country's polio programme and ultimately paving way for successful global polio eradication.

Yours sincerely,

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(Dr. Vijay Satbir Singh)

Enclosure: Role of FOGSI in Pulse Polio Campaign

Dr Alka Kriplani
President - FOGSI
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Lower Parel (W), Mumbai-400013.

## Role of FOGSI in Pulse Polio Campaign

- Sensitization and mobilization of parents for the Pulse Polio campaign.
- Provide clinics as site for vaccination session (for setting Polio booths).
- Displaying Pulse polio IEC materials like posters and banners in the clinics to create awareness
- Create Community awareness and demand generation for polio campaigns
- Support in tOPV verification done by health staff involved in Pulse polio campaign.