

**National Deworming Day August 2016**  
**Jharkhand Anganwadi and School-based Mass Deworming Program**

The state of Jharkhand conducted National Deworming Day (NDD) in 19 out of 24 Districts, on August 10, 2016, followed by mop up day on August 17, 2016 targeting children 1-19 years old. The Department of Health led this program, in collaboration with the Department of Women & child development, and Human resource development. Based on STH mapping results and recommendations from the National Centre for Disease Control, Government of India, and notification from the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, the state implemented the biannual round of NDD. The LF MDA was implemented in the remaining five districts from 10 Aug to 17 Aug 2016, to align efforts with NDD in the state and avoid duplication of efforts.

**Table1: Targets for National Deworming Day, 10 August 2016**

Sl.	Particulars	Target*
1.	No. of registered Children in AWCs (1-5) years	28,58,760
2.	No of children unregistered children (1-5) Years	3,91,582
2.	No. of Children (6-19) years enrolled in Govt. & Govt. aided Schools	49,16,786
3.	No. of Children enrolled in Private Schools	Information not available
4.	No. of out of School children	12,83,758
5.	<b>Total No. of Children Aged 1-19</b>	<b>94,50,886</b>

(\*Target excluding 5 LF Districts)

**Policy Advocacy:** Program of such scale requires stakeholder convergence and collaborative efforts at each administrative and implementation level, which is imperative for successful implementation of the NDD. The Department of Health, Government of Jharkhand undertook the below mentioned initiatives to engage stakeholders for implementation of NDD Aug 2016.



State launch. Ranchi

Key Program Meeting's and Outcomes			
Date	Meeting	Objective	Key Outcomes
5 July	National review meeting at Delhi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lessons learnt from NDD Feb 2016</li> <li>Planning for August round with emphasis on strengthening inter sectoral convergence, finalizing targets based on NDD guidelines and statewide private school engagement</li> <li>Assessment of state's preparedness for August round</li> </ul>	Review of NDD preparations and guidance to complete the same for high quality and high coverage round
1 Aug	Video Conference with MoHFW, GoI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To assess NDD preparation for August round</li> </ul>	Review of NDD August 2016 preparations
3Aug	Video conference with District	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To assess NDD preparation for August round</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Districts with drug shortage asked to</li> </ul>

	officials chaired by State Nodal Officer		collect from State warehouse <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Districts to align integrated distribution with training as per NDD guidelines</li> </ul>
13 Aug	Video Conference chaired by MD, NHM and Additional CS, Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To assess mop up day preparation for August round</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All districts asked to ensure corrective actions for mop up day and directions issued to further ensure it</li> </ul>

**Trainings and Distribution Cascade:** State level training of trainers was held on 20th July and subsequently, District/Block trainings were organized during July 30 – Aug 6, 2016 as per NDD operational guidelines. Evidence Action supported the state in conducting pre - post assessment at state level training and shared findings with recommendations for improvements in lower cascade.

**Drug Procurement and Management:** All NDD implementing districts collected drugs as per their target from State warehouse. The drugs were tested at state-approved lab facilities before distribution. Additionally, WHO drugs were used for five LF MDA Districts. The state also adapted the adverse event management protocol as per the NDD operational guidelines and as a result, all mild adverse reported events were dealt effectively.

**Community Awareness and Mobilization:** The state customized NDD resource kit developed by Evidence Action and approved by Govt. of India. The IEC and training materials were printed at district and did not follow guidance from national ministry on specifications. A media briefing was organized at *Ranchi Sadar* on August 9, 2016 by the CMO.

**Program Management:** Since the MOU is under consideration, Evidence Action extended limited support to the state government in program planning and implementation. We provided three short-term tele-callers based at our Patna office to track program implementation and shared daily updates. The Evidence Action national team from Delhi provided support to the Nodal Officer and her team in planning and monitoring of NDD implementation and suggested corrective actions for improvements in quality and coverage for the round.

**Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E):** Evidence Action places great emphasis on understanding the extent to which schools, *anganwadis*, and the health system are prepared to implement NDD. This includes assessing the extent to which deworming processes are being followed. The M&E efforts were geared in two ways: (1) process monitoring, (2) coverage validation.

Under **process monitoring**, Evidence action conducted **tele calling** and reached out to functionaries of

Stakeholder departments at districts and blocks. Out of 6010 phone calls made, 3,540 calls were successful (including follow up calls). Unsuccessful calls were primarily due to outdated and incomplete contact database of the district/block officials.

Daily updates of tele calling findings from Evidence Action helped state leadership at identifying gaps at all levels in implementation of NDD program as per the guidelines, which they could make efforts to close.

Calls to frontline functionaries of Health, ICDS, and Education Departments from Aug 2 to Track program preparedness			
Total calls made	Successful	Unsuccessful	% of successful calls
6,110	3,540	2,560	57%

Real-time findings from Evidence Action monitoring visits on NDD were shared with the daily tracking sheet on NDD to ensure corrective measures in a timely manner. The state also formed monitoring teams to monitor NDD implementation.

Evidence Action has undertaken coverage validation<sup>1</sup> exercise through an external agency, the findings of which will be shared in the coming weeks with the state and will assist effective planning for NDD Feb round.

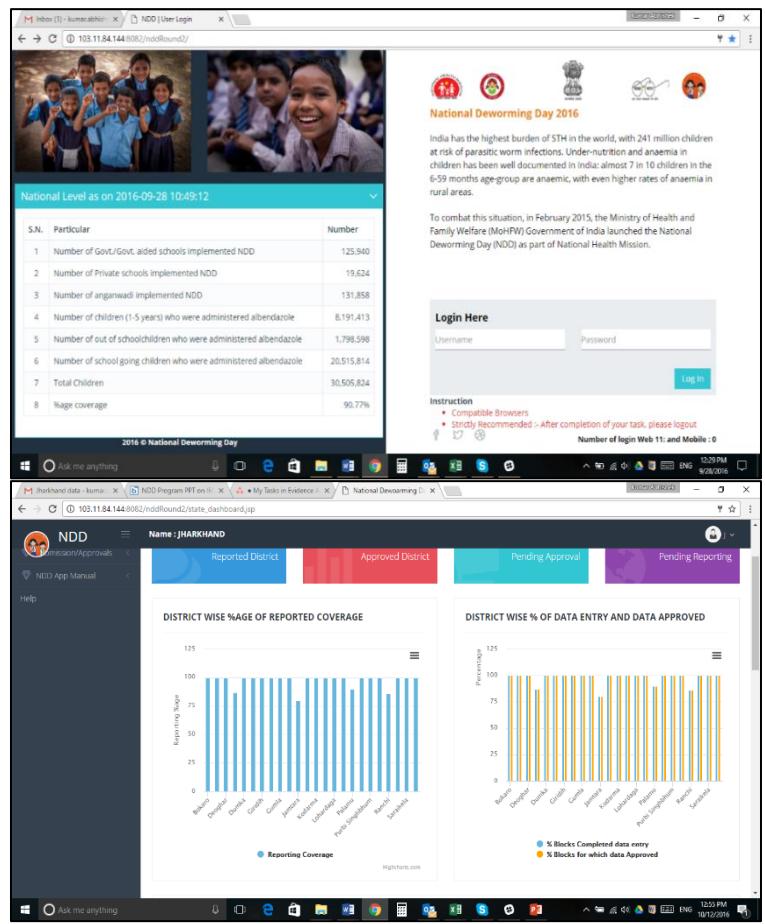
## Coverage reporting:

Evidence Action supported Government of India in developing a web and app based automated reporting mechanism at block level to ensure high quality coverage reporting. Supporting training manuals were also developed and used.

The state was provided with user id and passwords for all blocks and districts that implemented NDD August 2016 round. As on 10 October, 2016 16 Districts have approved data from blocks.

## Learnings:

- As per tele calling tracking sheet, engagement of private schools in trainings & coordination committee meetings was not observed.
- Delay in issuance of critical official communications of high programmatic importance like, 1) joint directives and 2) ASHA engagement letters, which had an impact on overall implementation of NDD.
- Updated contact database of teachers, block officials, *anganwadi* workers and *Sahiyas* will help in reinforcing key training messages through SMS.



Evidence Action in coordination with State and District officials is currently supporting the state government in compilation of the coverage data on the NDD app as per the reporting timelines in NDD operational guidelines. The monitoring data and the coverage report will be submitted to the MoHFW, Government of India.

<sup>i</sup> Coverage validation started from 12, September and at present data analysis is under process and a detailed report will be shared by November 2016.