

CIRCULAR

Sub :- Distribution of weekly Iron Folic Acid – Compliance report reg.
Ref :- Circular of even no. dated, 16/07/2013.

As you know, *Weekly Iron Folic-acid Supplementation (WIFS) programme* was launched in the State by Government of Kerala in the last week of February 2013, as a joint programme of the Departments of Education, Health and Social Justice, as mandated by Government of India for the control of Iron Deficiency Anaemia in adolescents. While 9 months have elapsed, the percentage of coverage of target school students as per documented data is only 52%. While the Department of Health has given all necessary inputs such as supply of IFA tablets right to the schools doorstep, training of Nodal teachers, facilitative support by local Medical officers and health institutions, etc, it is unfortunate that in a comparison of States performance by Government of India, Kerala's performance leaves much to be desired, especially when the bulk (95%) of the target, and of the implementing responsibility lies in the schools.

It is in this context that the following orders are issued

- A. DDEs are directed to mandatorily collect all the AEO/DEO level annexure 4 reports and compile into the District Monthly report by 12th working day and send the same without fail to the DPI, with copy to DMIO (Health) by 15th working day.
- B. In order to ensure that this happens, AEOs/DEOs are to be directed to ensure strict compliance with the below—
 - *To verify that all the schools in their assigned jurisdiction have sent the Annexure 3 by 5th working day to AEO/DEO*
 - *To directly communicate with HM/Principal concerned in case of default and secure the report*
 - *To compile, and forward the Annexure 4 with respect of their block to DDE promptly*
 - *To arrange a re-sensitisation for any newly assigned Nodal teachers as a group at appropriate venue, and plan the date of the training along with MO*

of CHC/PHC of the area, or the district coordinator-SHP-AH, for arranging faculty from Department of Health

C. HMs/Principals are to be directed to --

1. Organise PTA meetings of all the classes, either specifically for WIFS, or to mandatorily include a session on WIFS during any regular PTA meeting, whichever is earlier. This shall be repeated at regular intervals for reinforcement of the programme. The date of the planned meetings shall be intimated to the School Health JPH/SH Nurse/local PHCMO, for availing of the services of the doctors in sensitising parents and clearing doubts authentically
2. Handle adverse events if any, promptly, reassuringly, and with due concern, with phone intimation to health authorities for immediate management and support.
3. Ensure that class teachers --
 - *get the children to fill up the provided compliance cards, (annexure 1);*
 - *prepare the monthly class report (annexure 2)*
 - *and assist in compilation of school monthly report (annexure 3)*
4. Assign the duty of Nodal teachers to 1 or 2 other teachers. If there is no assigned Nodal teacher in a school, due to transfers/retirement/other reasons.

L. Rajan

(Additional Director of Public Instruction (General))

To

1. All Deputy Directors of Education.
2. All District Educational Officers.
3. All Assistant Educational Officers.
4. All Head Masters.
5. Director, Higher Secondary Education.
6. Director, Vocational Higher Secondary Education.
7. Director, IT@school, Trivandrum.

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