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LEPROSY ELIMINATION – TAMILNADU SHOWS THE WAY

by

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BACK GROUND

- The National leprosy control programme was originated in India in 1955. Tamil Nadu Started this programme only with 200 workers in 1960, with Survey, Education and Treatment as its objectives, and functioned under SET units, LCU, LSC, and Referral centres. The main activities are Survey, Pre clinic drive, Clinic, AC, HC study MDT Implemented under the banner NLEP in 1983 and all the districts were covered, in phased manner by the end of 1991.

OBJECTIVE

To assess NLEP activities in Tamil Nadu with reference to prevalence, case detection from 1983-2003.

MATERIALS & METHODS

This is a retrospective study in which Data from various reports pertaining to leprosy elimination activities in Tamil Nadu are analysed.

RESULTS & DISCUSSIONS

Statewise Case load in 1981 & 2003

Sl. No	State / UT	Population (In Lakhs)		Cases (In Lakhs)		PR /10000	
		1981	2003	1981	2003	1981	2003
1	Tamil Nadu	484.10	634.3	7.33	.148	151.4	2.34
2	Andra Pradesh	535.50	777.0	6.28	.205	117.2	2.84
3	Kerala	254.50	-	0.75	-	29.5	-
4	Karnataka	371.40	544.2	2.22	0.104	59.5	1.90
5	Maharashtra	627.50	1007.40	4.00	.297	63.7	2.95
6	Bihar	695.10	870.70	3.80	.148	53.7	2.95
7	Orissa	263.70	378.0	3.20	.277	121.4	7.32
8	Uttar Pradesh	1,100.00	1737.70	4.20	.176	37.9	4.12
9	West Bengal	545.50	825.70	4.30	.224	78.5	2.71
10	Madya Pradesh	521.50	630.40	1.20	.120	23.0	1.91
11	Jharkhand	-	280.40	-	.182	-	6.49
12	Chhatis Garh	-	214.90	-	.155	-	7.2
	INDIA	6850.90		39.327	3.45	57.5	3.23

In 1981, Tamil Nadu tops the list in case load 7.33 lakhs followed by Andra Pradesh 6.28 lakhs as against total no. of 40 Million cases. Prior to 1983 almost 50% of Leprosy cases were from southern states. The scenario is completely reversed now.

PR / 10,000

Year	1982-83	85-86	89-90	91-92	97-98	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
PR	118	108	53	21	6.9	3.5	2.3	1.4

PR declined from 118 in 1983 to 1.4 in 2004 after starting MDT. It is interesting in to note that the sudden reduction in PR from 53 (1989-90) to 21 (91-92) is due to the total coverage of MDT in all districts.

NCDR PER 10,000 & % OF CHILD

Year	82-83	86-91	91-92	92-93	93-94	94-95	95-96	96-97	97-98	98-99	99-2000	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
NCD R	196	18	18	13	11	12	10	10	7	7	10	7.2	6.1	3.9	2.5
Child Cases	NA	35.2	36.8	36.4	36.5	42.1	38.6	27.0	27.1	31.8	31.5	24.8	22.5	19.2	17.6

The reduction in NCDR from 196 (1982-83) to 18 (1992-93) is due to the complete coverage of MDT and close monitoring in all districts. Incidentally the range of NCDR has remained around 7 and this static NCDR, from an epidemiological stand point is compatible with progress towards elimination.

THE TARGET ACHIEVEMENT IN CASES DETECTION

Sl No.	Year	Target	Achieved	(%)
1	1990-91	75,000	98,187	131
2	1991-92	70,000	1,02,317	146
3	1992-93	60,000	76,629	128
4	1993-94	56,000	63,618	114
5	1994-95	56,000	68,850	121
6	1995-96	45,000	60,623	134
7	4/96 - 7/96	13,477	21,925	162

THE CASES BROUGHT UNDER MDT

Sl No.	Year	Cases added	Cases brought under MDT	(%)
1	1987-88	83607	80060	95
2	1988-89	104569	100394	96
3	1989-90	114732	115739	101
4	1990-91	98197	94762	96
5	1991-92	102317	93949	92
6	1992-93	76629	71428	93
7	1993-94	83618	80054	94
8	1994-95	68850	64591	94
9	1995-96	80623	56497	93
10	1996-97	63589	57990	91
11	1997-98	41970	40641	97
12	1998-99	45862	48695	100
13	1999-2000	62812	62911	100
14	2000-01	47390	47327	100
15	2001-02	32261	32274	100
16	2002-03 (Jan.)	22077	22077	100

The Above tables demonstrate the effective work done by NLEP workers in case detection activities beyond expectations

MLEC'S COMPARISON

Phase	Karnataka	Andra Pradesh	Tamil Nadu	Madya Pradesh	Chhatish Garh	India (in Lakhs)
I	9881	18,742	12,835	12,162	-	4.63
II	3,752	7,9191	12,693	5575	-	2.13
III	2,957	3,794	10,137	-	12353	1.65
IV	2,311	2,719	6,151	-	4519	0.96

In 1997, with the help of DANLEP, Intensive case detection campaign with a heavy thrust on IEC, conducted in South Arcot District and its encouraging results gave birth to MLEC's which was replicated all over India. Tamil Nadu ranks first in identifying the hidden cases during the MLEC's

STRONG POLITICAL COMMITMENT

Sl.No.	Field Staff.	Prior to 1979	79-82	84-88	89-92	Position at Integration
1	HE	12	16	24	16	96
2	NMS	61	101	194	71	427
3	Leprosy Inspectors	516	84	792	337	1746
4	Medical officer	32	-	38	53	176
5	Lab Tech.	28	14	42	53	186
6	Leprosy Phy. Tech.	11	-	24	32	106

The increase in the no. of field functionaries was made possible due to the strong political will & beaucratic support

REACHING THE UN REACHED

Year	Pop covered	Cases Detected			
		MB	PB	SSL	Total
1999-2001	3,45,277	148	459	288	895
2002	86,057	6	46	30	82
2003 (Partly available)	20,667	1	11	16	28

Measures taken through SAPEL to reach the un reached groups such as Muslim women population, workers from Tannery, Export Garments, Hotel, restaurents, Fishing, Construction company.

PR Range – District / Block / PHC as 31/08/2004

Range	<1	1.1 - 2.0	2.1 - 5.	5.1 - 10.0	>10.0
District	6	20	4	-	-
Block	37	101	224	25	0
PHC	242	360	650	146	14

Out of 30 districts in Tamil Nadu 6 districts crossed the line of elimination and 20 districts are geared towards elimination

CONCLUSION

WITH THE HELP OF VARIOUS DONOR AGENCIES / NGO'S / VOL. ORG. AND OTHER SERVICE PROVIDERS TAMIL NADU, HAD DONE A COMMENDABLE WORK IN LEPROSY ELIMINATION AND SHOW OTHERS NOT ONLY IN LEPROSY ELIMINATION WORK BUT ALSO ELIMINATION OF OTHER COMMUNICABLE / NON COMMUNICABLE DISEASES.

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