

No. T. 12011/22/07 – Ophth
Directorate General of Health Services
(Ophthalmology Section)

By Speed Post.

Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi
Dated : 26th September 2007

To

All SPOs / NGOs

Subject: 8th "WORLD SIGHT DAY" on 11th October 2007 at Bhubaneswar.

The "World Sight Day" is organized on 2nd Thursday of every year since 2000. This year it falls on 11th October 2007. During the last seven years a theme on an important aspect of eye care was coined so that the theme gets adequate coverage and activities are organized at all levels focusing on the themes. During the last seven years themes on the occasion of the "World Sight Day" were as follows:-

- 2000: Identifying and correcting Refractive Error in School Children
- 2001: Gift of Sight to the aged: - Intra Ocular Lens Implantation
- 2002: Providing Eye Care to the underserved population
- 2003: Save Children from Visual Impairment and Blindness
- 2004: Improve community participation through Public Private Partnership for Eye Care
- 2005: Sight for kids
- 2006: Diabetic Retinopathy

The theme for the "World Sight Day" 2007 is "**Vision for Children**"

As done in the previous year, following activities are proposed to be undertaken at the central level:

- ✓ Press release during the "World Sight Day" informing importance of Prevention, Control and Management of Blindness due to Childhood Diseases.
- ✓ Broadcasting of Audio Spots & Telecasting Video Spots on Childhood Blindness.
- ✓ Panel discussion on Television & Radio with the Technical Experts.
- ✓ Articles in the Newspapers by Technical Experts.
- ✓ Special programme on "Kalyani" on Doordarshan.
- ✓ National Seminar on "Vision for Children" at Bhubaneswar where National and International Organizations, Government Institutions, Professional Bodies etc. would be invited along with State Programme Officers.

- ✓ *Special Screening Camps for Children to be organized at Community Level involving the NGOs and is to be referred to fixed facilities for further management of the diseases identified.*
- ✓ Participation of "VISION 2020 INDIA" Brand Ambassador.

The objective of the workshop would be:

- Role of Government/NGOs to tackle Blindness due to Childhood Diseases.
- Community approach to tackle "Childhood Blindness"
- Role of NGOs, National & International Professional bodies in Prevention, Control and Management of Childhood Blindness.
- Role of Physicians in tackling Childhood Blindness.
- To promote Eye Care for Children as an important Health issue in the community at Regional and National Level.
- Low Vision Aids in Childhood Blindness.
- Identify Children and Adolescents admitted in blind schools with possibility of Sight Restoration
- Provide identified curable blind the best possible treatment available in the District/Region.
- Setup mechanism for referral coordination and feed back between organisations dedicated to prevention, treatment and rehabilitation of blind.

As was done earlier, you may utilize Rs. 2 lakhs from existing funds in State Health Society under NPCB and Rs. 1 lakh from funds in District Health Society (NPCB) for celebration of "World Sight Day" this year.

You may publicize this event through the Institutions under you & supported by you so that the event can be made a success. A special effort is to be made to organize the above events from 1st October to 31st October 2007.

With regards.

Yours faithfully



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