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Government of Goa,
Directorate of Education,
Porvorim- Goa.
Dated: - 16/01/2017

C I R C U L A R

Sub: **Supporting "Measles/Rubella Vaccination Campaign"**

The State of Goa is conducting the MR Vaccination Campaign as part of the National Strategy to eliminate Measles and control Rubella/CRS in the country. All children aged 9 months to less than 15 years will be vaccinated, regardless of previous vaccination status or history of Measles/Rubella-like illness.

The Measles is a highly infectious disease caused by a Virus. An estimated nearly 49,000 children die from Measles annually, making it one of the leading causes of child deaths in India. Measles can be prevented by immunizing children with two doses of Measles Vaccine, which is safe and effective. A MR Campaign offers a second opportunity to ensure population immunity against Measles and Rubella. The aim of the Campaign is to cover more than 95% of the targeted children.

The Rubella is an infectious yet mild viral illness affecting both children and adults that can cause death and disabilities in the newborn, if an unprotected pregnant women gets infected with Rubella Virus in early pregnancy. Rubella Virus has the potential to cause abortions, stillbirths and severe birth defects known as Congenital Rubella Syndrome (CRS), including deafness and blindness in the newborn child. This may lead to serious lifelong disabilities, which is a huge burden to the family and society. (Nearly 30,000 estimated CRS cases in the country per year).

Under this Campaign, the Department of Health in partnership with Education Department is organizing to bring Students and Teachers together to jointly participate in the MR Campaign, followed by Orientation for Teachers and Students to be conducted by Health Programme Managers/Health Workers of your area.

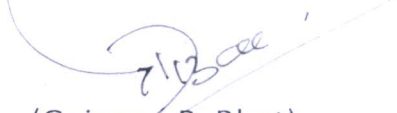
Further, the MR Campaign will be conducted within a period of 3-4 weeks. Vaccination will be conducted in Schools during the first 2 weeks and later on in the community through outreach sessions. Duration of the Campaign may vary depending upon the Vaccinator's availability v/s Injection Load, based on District/State Micro Plans.

Your active participation in the Campaign is requested for the following:

- Inform the Students and their guardians about the date and time of the session.
- Prepare a list of students less than 15 years of age.
- Assign teachers to help organize and conduct immunization sessions in the School.
- Co-ordinate with Health Workers to conduct the sessions during School timings.

- Ensure that the Teachers cross check Left-thumb marking of all vaccinated children.
- Share list of Absentee target students with the Health Worker for Vaccination during the Village Campaign Session.
- Senior Students should get involved in motivating and ensuring the Vaccination of those under-15 children who are out of School.

It is therefore enjoined upon all the Headmasters/Principals of the Govt./Govt. Aided/Unaided Primary, Secondary, Higher Secondary and Special Schools in the State of Goa to adhere to the above instructions, to submit the enclosed **MR Campaign FORM 2 A & 2 B** as required and to ensure that all children in the target age group in your School get vaccinated during the Campaign. A Certificate of Appreciation will be given to all Heads of Institutions who have 100% coverage by the Departments of Health.


(Gajanan P. Bhat)
Director of Education

Encl:- MR Campaign FORM -2 A & 2 B

To,

The Heads of Govt./Govt.Aided/Unaided Primary, Secondary, Higher Secondary and Special Schools in State of Goa

Copy to:-

1. The Director, Directorate of Health Service, Campal-Panaji-Goa
2. The Dy. Director of Education, South/Central/North Educational Zone,
Margao/Panaji/Mapusa-Goa
3. The ADEIs., of all talukas. Canacona, Quepem, Salcete, Mormugao, Sanguem
Dharbandoda, Ponda, Tiswadi, Bardez, Pernem, Bicholim & Sattari-Goa
4. Nodal Officer, IT, for uploading on website

