



News & Events 2-4

- Regional Consultative Meeting of Partners (Eastern Region)
- Regional Consultative meeting of partners (Northeast Region)
- TB Advocates Training (Eastern Region)
- Governing Body Meeting

Success Story 4-6

- Axshya Samvad goes door-to-door to fight for TB
- RHCP joins hands to fight for TB

Committed 7

- The dedicated worker

Last Words 7

FROM OUR DESK

Greetings everyone!

Welcome to Partners Speak!

We are delighted to bring to you this edition of Partners Speak. Speaking about the strength of partnership now our PTCC family has grown to more than 200 partners and observed that as such a strong body PTCC could make a tremendous impact on TB care and control. PTCC serves as a channel to harness the strengths and expertise of partners in various technical and implementation areas and functions as a resource pool of expertise. It supplements National TB care and control. The aim of PTCC is to achieve the goal through a unified response from civil society and spread awareness on Tuberculosis. Hence we urge you to get involved, share your experiences, good practices in order to address the challenges in TB care and control.

In this edition we will provide you a snapshot of PTCC activities, case studies, success stories from the field which are shared by our partners and also efforts of committed individuals, community volunteers, RHCPs to improve service and educating larger communities on TB care and control.

We hope you enjoy reading and look forward to your active contribution in the future.

Meet Our New Partners

- Sahayog, Odisha
- Evangelical Baptist Convention-Lamka Rehabilitation, Manipur
- St. Vincent Welfare Society, Tripura
- Vaishali Netraheen Evam Viklang Punvas Seva Samiti, Jharkhand
- Chhatrpati Shivaji Samiti, Madhya Pradesh

News & Events

Regional Consultative Meeting of Partners (Eastern Region)



Photo credit - PTCC

Regional Consultative Meeting of partners is one of the major event of PTCC. The Key objectives of this consultation is to develop a common understanding and agreement among the key stakeholders for involving partners in TB care and control at state and regional level. Regional meetings have created a visibility of partners and provided a platform to initiate dialogue with the State and District level programme managers for TB care and control.



Photo credit - PTCC

The Regional Consultative Meetings of Partner-East was held on 21-22 May 2015 at Bhubaneswar Odisha. The participants representing NGOs, CSOs, CBOs and patient groups from Bihar, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Odisha and West Bengal participated and the agenda included discussion around key challenges, suggested solutions and recommended action. The group actively participated in all activities as

per the agenda and each group prepared list of recommendation that can contribute towards coming up a regional action plan for TB care and control for this region. The group will now run with an independent discussion and prepare a localised and doable work plan to take TB control efforts to the next level in this region.

Regional Consultative meeting of partners (Northeast Region)

The consultative meeting was held on 11th and 12th June 2015 at Guwahati, Assam. Participants from Assam, Tripura, Mizoram, Manipur and Nagaland participated in the meeting. The major points discussed in this meeting were



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News & Events



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Role of civil society organisations in facilitating community based monitoring, community engagement, Community Involvement and role in the State Advocacy through partnerships at field level.

TB Advocates Training (Eastern Region)

Partnership for TB Care and Control (PTCC) organised training of TB Advocates from 19th to 20th May 2015

in Bhubaneswar Odisha. Total 30 participants representing five eastern states Bihar, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Odisha and West Bengal participated in this training programme.

The group included TB patients, Community Volunteers, DOTS providers, TB Forum members, CSOs and NGO representatives who were able to openly exchange their views on various discussion points surrounding challenged at service delivery and treatment adherence. The objective of this training was to build the capacity of identified potential TB Advocates including TB patients themselves to strengthen their skills and motivate them to interact with



Photo credit - PTCC



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News & Events

key stakeholders like policy makers, program managers, state / district administration, community leaders and media to voice the need of TB patients for quality services and support at all levels. The agenda also included training on media engagement and advocacy with local government and key decision makers. Conclusions from this meeting included lot of recommendations and suggestions. There is a strong need for community based TB advocates who are also spokes person for TB patients at TB Forums. There is a strong need for empowering local TB advocates who can interact with local political leaders, policy makers and media TB advocates are required at all levels.

Governing Body Meeting

The 9th Governing Body Meeting of Governing Board Members was held on 26th June 2015 in New Delhi. Discussion points included preparation of future action, plan & strategy with regard to communication, Reach & visibility and funding opportunities for partnership.



Photo credit - PTCC

Success Story

eDetection: A ceaseless effort

Operation Asha's (OpAsha) methodology is to identify new tuberculosis cases and hire and train local people as Community Health Workers to empower them with the eDetection application. OpAsha's 'Active case finding' methodology was used to identify a 51 year old patient (Kailash Batham) in Gwalior with sputum positive tuberculosis. He was immediately started on treatment and monitored as per eCompliance.

OpAsha's community health worker was

aware that this patient had long standing symptoms; hence the same eDetection application was used simultaneously to question his family members, friends and other people in the neighbourhood.

This helped, as 2 of his 5 family members- his wife Munni Devi (35 years) and son Bhagwan Singh (20 years) were found to be symptomatic and their sputum was collected for testing. The worst happened. Both of them were also identified as sputum positive tuberculosis patients. They were both registered under the eCompliance application and treatment was started.

Success Story

Kailash though on treatment with extremely poor health condition had to continue working as a labourer, since he was the sole bread winner of the family. His working environment was full of dust and pollutants, only worsening his disease. He could barely manage to earn enough to provide full meals for himself and his entire family. Malnutrition coupled with poor living and working environment, unfortunately took his life.

However Munni Devi and Bhagwan Singh were provided with both psychological and emotional support by OpAsha's community health workers, during the family's turmoil and thus remained extremely regular during the entire treatment duration. They have been both cured of tuberculosis in November 2014 and December 2014 respectively.

Submitted by: Operation Asha

Axshya Samvad goes door-to-door to fight for TB:

A door to door campaign called Axshya Samvad was organised by PARAS Swayamsevi Sanstha in the village of Bhakkura in the village of Bhakkura to converse with each person individually and to make them aware about TB. During home visits the community volunteer of PARAS came to know about Shyamlal Bariha who is a resident of Bhakkura (A remote village in Chhattisgarh) was bed ridden for several weeks, plagued by a persistent cough

and fever. But soon after the community volunteer Mr.Dharam Singh Patel came to the rescue, he learned his condition and convinced him for sputum test and takes him to nearby DMC where his sputum test found positive. But a problem occurred as the person was anaemic and could not take medicine. Hence PARAS arranged to bring him Raigarh district hospital and arrange blood for him. After consultation with DTO he was admitted in hospital for two days observation. Now he took his medication regularly and in a process of speedy recovery.

Before treatment, he lacked appetite, had loss of eyesight, and was so feeble that he could not move from one place to another. Now he is able to manage all his work he thanked Axshya. PARAS have also encouraged his family members for sputum examination.

Submitted by:

PARAS Swayamsevi Sanstha



Photo credit - PARAS Swayamsevi Sanstha

Success Story

RHCP joins hands to fight for TB:

Raghurai, 41 year old, an inhabitant of Gauspur Village in Ghazipur. Last year he migrated to Mumbai for livelihood purpose & started a juice corner there, but after some time he suffered from physical weakness, fever including more cough. Due to above trouble Raghurai returned to Ghazipur. He tried to take treatment from registered medical practitioners including traditional healers, but he was medicated without proper diagnose, so his condition was becoming critical day by day. There after he met RHCP Dr. B.R. Verma for getting further treatment, Dr. Verma, who is a trained RHCP under project “Private Sector Engagement”, found him a TB suspect. Thus he counselled him and suggested him to go for sputum test, he referred him to DTC, Ghazipur, after having diagnose, results was found smear 3+ (positive), and started DOTS. Further STS Sunil Verma had a regular follow up with him. After getting DOTS, he is now feeling comparatively better and also imparting the necessary & significant information to the community, he also guide people to the local DMC and trained RHCPs if they are diagnosed with TB. He has referred a total four symptomatic from last one month and after diagnosis one of them has found positive.

Sursati Devi, was suffering with fever and cough for two years, she tried many local traditional healers for treatment, but wasn't recovered due to lack of proper diagnosis, further she went to clinic of RHCP Mr. Mukesh Kumar, who recently trained by Safe Society, Gorakhpur district, Uttar Pradesh. He found her TB symptomatic and quickly referred her for Sputum examination at DTC Ghazipur, after sputum test she was found infected with TB-Smear positive 1 and Scanty 08/100, she was started taking DOTS under the supervision of Mukesh Kumar.



Photo credit - Safe Society



Photo credit - Safe Society

Submitted by: Safe Society

Committed

The dedicated worker:

Narayan Pragati Kendra is implementing Project Axshya activities in the villages of West Singhbhum and Seraikela-Kharswan, Jharkhand.

Smt. Sima Singh is a community volunteer associated with Narayani Pragati Kendra over two years. She is a dedicated volunteer having Matriculation from Hindi Vidyapeeth, Deoghar, and now pursuing ANM course from a private institution. Her keenness to help people makes her a role model. She is bringing smile on the face of vulnerable people of Adityapur and Gamhariya which is 48 km far from district

headquarter of Seraikela, Jharkhand. She has successfully reached out 1465 numbers Tuberculosis symptomatic. She is also a DOTS provider. At present she is providing DOTS to 12 TB Patients. Due to overload of examination of sputum for AFB at DMC, she is also assisting the lab technician in Slide staining. Sima collects sputum and spreading awareness among the community. She stated she meet several people in the community and sensitize them about TB which gives her a lot of happiness.

Submitted by: Narayan Pragati Kendra



Photo credit - Narayan Pragati Kendra

Last Words

The Partnership for TB Care and control brings together civil society across India on a common platform to strengthen and support the National TB control efforts. Add your voice to our efforts. Contact Ms. Sanchita Raut, at projectcoordinatorptcc@gmail.com

Vision & Mission

Vision: India free of TB

Mission:

- Lead advocacy efforts for the rights of every individual affected by TB
- Facilitate universal access to quality services of TB care and control
- Engage all sectors and all sections of population

PTCC Partners - Nationwide

24 States/200 Partners

States	Partners
Andaman & Nicobar	1
Andhra Pradesh	11
Assam	3
Bihar	12
Chhattisgarh	2
Delhi	28
Goa	1
Haryana	4
Jharkhand	8
Karnataka	3
Kerala	1
Madhya Pradesh	19
Maharashtra	12
Meghalaya	1
Manipur	1
Odisha	18
Punjab	4
Rajasthan	1
Telangana	1
Tamil Nadu	34
Tripura	2
Uttar Pradesh	21
Uttarakhand	9
West Bengal	3
Total	200



Disclaimer: The information and views expressed in the newsletter is of the authors only. Partnership for TB Care and Control does not take responsibility for any of the views expressed here.

We would like to thank all our partners for sharing their stories, information and news.

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