

# Every Child Counts













## **ROTARY INDIA'S ROLE IN ERADICATING POLIO**

Rotary's volunteers the world have helped organize national immunization days, staffed health stations and given drops to children. In addition to their own recordbreaking contribution for polio eradication besides countless volunteer man-hours, Rotarians have helped leverage a further US \$ 4 billion from the governments the world over for this cause.

In India alone since its launch the disease incidence has reduced to 99%, with just remaining few endemic regions in the northern states where Polio is persisting. More than 40 lakh children has been saved from falling prey to Polio in India since the campaign was launched. Indian Rotarians are also contributing to the program by donating lare funds and in kind support. During every NID / SNID Indians Rotarians are seen volunteering by manning Polio booths and administering Polio drops to children. So far in India Rotary's India National PolioPlus Committee (INPPC) has actively been involved in Social Mobilization, Media management, and Political, bureaucratic and religious advocacy to make Polio Immunization



widely acceptable. Successfully gaining access to children who have never been reached before is an integral component of Rotary Polio Plus commitment. Consequent to the sustained advocacy efforts of Rotary's India National PolioPlus Committee, the Government of India adopted the National Immunization Days in 1995. INPPC has garnered political support for the program by involving the President the Prime Minister, Chief Ministers, Health Ministers and local politicians in the program.

Rotary also enlisted bureaucratic support by involving the Cabinet Secretary, the Chief Secretary, the Principal Secretary, District Magistrates and other health officials in the polio compaign.

Rotary approached senior minority leaders such as the Shahi Inam of Jama Masjid and the President of All India Muslim Personal Law Board and was successful in enlisting their support. Further INPPC formed a Rotary Muslim Ulema Committee in the state of U.P. comprising of senior Muslim scholars and religious leaders to address Issues of resistance amongst Muslim population and appeal to Muslim parents to Immunize children against Polio. Today this Ulema Committee that Rotary helped set up in the State is a vital resource that the U.P. Govt. and other social organizations intervention from time to time for their ongoing programs to bring about an overall improvement in the social-economic life of the minority community. INPPC's Polio Corrective Surgery and Rehabilitation Camps for the polioaffected children is one of the finest examples of its commitment towards polio eradication and the overall welfare of the children. So far nearly 7000 polio-inflicted children have been opereted upon and rehabilitated through 82 camps held in different endemic states of the country. Similarly free health camps are being organized by Rotary in different districts to cater to the urgent health needs of the people including Polio immunization.

In 2009, monitoring the close relation of diarrheal diseases as increasing incidence of Polio in Children in India especially in U.P. and Bihar (the Polio high risk states), Rotary decided to support the Govt. of India in their antidiarrheal campaign that recommends use of Zinc tablets and ORS as a remedy. Rotary will lend support through IEC, publicity and media and create awareness for the zinc and ORS supplements for diarrhea in the country.

Apart from advocacy efforts, Rotary also makes extensive use of various IEC materials, such as comic books, video vans, banners and posters, etc, to publicize the cause of polio eradication. To keep the importance of Polio Immunization alive in media and general, Rotary has organized different events involving celebrities from the sports and entertainment world and also hosted media and general, Rotary has organized different events involving celebrities involving celebrities from the sports and entertainment world and also hosted media and general, Rotary has organized different events involving celebrities from the sports and entertainment world and also hosted media briefings to promote the polio eradication program.

India's success against the disease so far is historic and its victory over the virus in the coming year is very vital towards achieving the global eradication goal. And Rotary in the country is committed to the making of a Polio free India.



### District Governor Rajyalakshmi Vadlamani

District Chairman
PDG Dr. Ravi Vadlamani



### proudly invites you to participate in the

# NATIONAL IMMUNISATION DAY

### on 27th Sunday from 8-30 a.m.

#### at

- (1) JNTU Centre, Beside KPHB Police Station, Kukatpally
- (2) Ramdevrao Hospital, Opp. to Vivekanandanagar Colony, Kukatpally
- (3) Addagutta Primay Health Centre

#### Guests of Honour :

PDG JAWAHAR VADLAMANI PDG MARGARET HAYES, Dist. 9640 PDG SAMBASIVA RAO PATIBANDLA PDG ANTHONY HAYES, Dist. 9640 DGE D.K. ANAND PDG KENNETH HALL, Dist. 9650 DGN TVR MURTI Rtn. SUF LLOYD Rtn. SUE NASH DG LEILA RISTELI, Dist. 1400 Rtn. RAILI SAARENPAA, Dist. 1400 Rtn. MARGOT ALEXANDER Rtn. ENSIO SARRENPAA, Dist. 1400 Rtn. GAE SWAIN Rtn. KATARIINA MERIKANTO, Dist. 1400 Rtn. GEOFF SWAIN **Rtn. PAUL TOLLIS** Rtn. JUKKA MERIKANTO, Dist. 1400 **Rtn. ELIZABETH TOLLIS** Rtn. PIRKKO WIHERVAARA, Dist. 1400 Rtn. KIMMO WIHERVAARA , Dist. 1400 **Rtn. DIANE LEACH** Rtn. GERRY BARTLETT Rtn. TELLERVO BLOMQVIST, Dist. 1400 Rtn. SEPPO BLOMQVIST, Dist. 1400 Rtn. DAVID FAYLE Rtn. JUHA RISTELI, Dist. 1400



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**Rtn. Rajyalakshmi Vadlamani**, District Governor "Samata" 6<sup>th</sup> Line, Main Road, Brodiepet, GUNTUR – 522 002, A.P., India Tel : (O) 91-863-2355986, 2241392, (R) 91-863-2355891, Mobile : 91 99892 81666 Fax : 91-863-2354524, E-mail: raji3150@gmail.com