

FileNo.Z-28015/332/2020-TB(Pt4)  
Central TB Division  
Ministry of Health and Family Welfare  
Government of India

Jeevan Vihar, New Delhi

Dated: 24<sup>th</sup> May, 2022

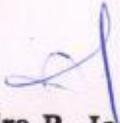
**Office Memorandum**

**Subject:** Constitution of Technical Committee for 'Updation of STDC guidelines' under National Tuberculosis Elimination Programme

National TB Elimination Program (NTEP) is committed to achieve Sustainable Development Goal- End TB targets for India by 2025. In order to accelerate the efforts towards TB elimination, the program has been focusing on strengthening STDC as a technical arm of State TB Cell. A committee is being constituted to review the gaps and findings of 2004 guidelines and guide the way forward for updation of these for strengthening of STDCs under NTEP. The names of the members and TOR for the committee is attached in the annexure below.

Other members may be adopted as per need.

The meeting of expert committee will be held at JeevanVihar on suitable date provided by Chair. Subsequently, the meetings will be planned every month for the follow up.

  
**Dr Rajendra P. Joshi**  
DDG-TB, CTD

To-

1. All concerned committee members (as per annexure enclosed).

Copy to:

1. PS to DDG-TB, MoHFW
2. WHO Representative to India
3. NTI Director - Chairperson
4. Director- NITRD, Delhi
5. Director- NIRT, Chennai
6. Director-LHMC
7. All CTD Officers
8. All STOs
9. Dr.ReubenSwamickan, Chief of Infectious Diseases, USAID
10. Regional Director- The UNION South-East Asia office
11. Associate Director, Share-India

## **ANNEXURE**

1. Dr. Somashekar N- Director, NTI Bangalore – Chairperson
2. Dr. Neeta Singla, NITRD
3. Dr. Tanmaya Talukdar, Professor & Head, LHMC, New Delhi
4. Dr. Alok Mathur, Addl DDG (TB), CTD
5. Dr. Sanjay Mattoo, Addl DDG (TB), CTD
6. Dr. Raghuram Rao, Joint Director (TB)
7. Dr. Nishant Kumar, Joint Director (Public Health), MoHFW
8. Dr. Ravinder Kumar, Specialist-TB, CTD – Member Secy
9. Dr. C. Ravi Chandra, Director-Training, NTI Bangalore
10. NPO, WHO (India)
11. Dr. S.K Tripathi, NTI, Bangalore
12. Dr. S. Uma Shankar, NTI, Bangalore
13. Dr. Reena, Microbiologist, NTI, Bangalore
14. Dr. Niti Singh, Consultant Microbiologist, NITRD
15. Dr. Seenivasan Prabhu, Consultant Microbiologist, NIRT Chennai
16. Dr. Sriram, Scientist D, NIRT Chennai
17. Dr. Radhakrishnan- Consultant Microbiologist, NIRT, Chennai
18. Mr. Avijit H Choudhury, WHO Country office for India
19. Dr. Shibu Balakrishnan, RTL, WHO
20. Dr. Debadutta Parija, RTL, WHO
21. Dr. Kshitij Khaparde, RTL, WHO
22. Dr. Deka, RTL-WHO
23. Dr. Shivani Chandra, RTL -WHO
24. Dr. Sunil Kumar.M, STO, Kerala
25. Dr. K.K. Chopra, Director-STDC, NDTBC
26. Dr. Md. Hanif, NDTB Lab team
27. Dr. Anindya Mitra, Director-STDC, Jharkhand
28. Director STDC, Telangana
29. Director STDC, MP
30. Director STDC, Ajmer, Rajasthan
31. Director STDC, UP
32. Director STDC, HP
33. Director STDC, Odisha
34. Director STDC, Pune
35. Director STDC, Gujarat
36. Dr. Pankaj Nimawat, Add Director, STDC Gujarat
37. Dr. Nirmala, Microbiologist, STDC KA
38. Dr. Neelam, Microbiologist, IRL Bhopal
39. Dr. Tarun Patni, Microbiologist, IRL Ajmer
40. Dr. Bandana Choudhary, IRL Guwahati
41. Dr S. Anand, National Consultant for TB laboratories
42. Dr. Manu Mathew, Deputy PD, iDefeat
43. Dr. Rakesh PS, Senior Technical Advisor, iDefeat TB
44. Ms. Anisha Singh, Project Director, ACSM-NTSU, UNION
45. Mr. Ashish Bhardwaj, ACSM-NTSU, UNION
46. Dr. R. Lakshmi, WHO- National Consultant, TB Labs
47. Dr. Shazia Anjum- WHO SHQ, Karnataka
48. Dr. Sanjay Suryawanshi, WHO Consultant, Institutional Strengthening
49. Dr. Heena, NC-STDC Strengthening, iDefeat
50. Dr. Siva/Dr. Aniket, WHO consultant
51. Dr. Viral, National Consultant, iDefeat

52. Dr. Dheeraj Tumu, WHO Consultant
53. Nikshay team representative- CTD
54. Ms. Richa Bharti, Technical Officer-ACSM, CTD
55. Ms. Sophia Khumukcham, WHO Consultant
56. Mr. Shailendra, CTD
57. Dr. Asif, Consultant, CTD
58. Dr. Ranjeet Prasad-Project Manager, TB-IPC, Share-India
59. Mr. LR Sharma-State IEC Officer (HP),
60. Dr. Paranjoy Bordoloi- State IEC Officer (Assam),
61. Ms. Himani Verma, Chattisgarh- TB Champion and
62. Adurrahman Urf Shahazad Ahmad, UP-TB Champion.

### **Terms of Reference- for Technical Committee for 'Updation of STDC guidelines'**

India has set the goal to achieve the SDG targets related to ending TB by 2025 which is 5 years ahead of the global target. The National Strategic Plan (NSP) 2017-25 has set into motion across the country with clear strategic framework in the 4 pillars – Detect, Treat, Prevent and Build.

State Tuberculosis Demonstration and Training Centers (STDCs) plays a paramount role of providing technical support to State TB Cell and enhance the capacity of NTEP staff to achieve India's ambitious goal. However, the guidelines for the functional framework of STDCs was last published in the year 2004 and is not paced with the evolving thematic areas under NTEP. Hence, NTEP envisions strengthening capacities of STDCs for executing its key functions.

First STDCs in the country came into existence as TB Demonstration and Training Centres (TDTCs) in 1962 before the formulation of National TB Programme (NTP). The guidelines for STDC were formulated by Central TB Division in support with National Tuberculosis Institute (NTI), Bangalore in 2004. Consolidated findings were shared through a National level consultative workshop held on 7-8 April, 2022 at NTI, Bangalore. Current level of functioning of STDCs was discussed and recommendations were provided as a result of deliberations. It was highlighted to strengthen the role of STDCs as a technical arm of State TB Cell, for which the program needs to provide the updated guidance document for STDCs based on accelerated NTEP efforts.

A committee has been constituted under the chairmanship of Director at NTI for updation of these guidelines and guiding the implementation of functional framework of STDCs. This will help to strengthen the functioning of STDCs and smoothening their role as technical assistance to State TB cell across India.

#### **Outcome:**

1. Establishment of STDCs in the States as per program requirements
2. Strengthened role of STDCs as a technical arm to State TB Cell across India
3. Efficient utilization of Modernized training system for better programmatic performance.
4. Leveraged implementation of NTEP efforts at State in achieving India's TB elimination goals.

#### **Timeline**

Following timeline is proposed to revise the guidelines on ‘Structural and functional framework of STDCs’.

<b>S.no</b>	<b>Activities</b>	<b>May</b>	<b>Jun</b>	<b>Jul</b>	<b>Aug</b>	<b>Sep</b>
1	Identify Committee members from CTD, WHO, other stakeholders (Lab, Nikshay, National Institutes) and finalise under the chair of NTI.					
2	Initial meeting at CTD to discuss, share and finalise the layout/structure					
3	Initiate the content development with support from iDefeat, UNION					
4	Sharing of the first draft by the contributors to the committee					
5	Comments and feedback from the committee members					
6	Finalization of content and formal approvals					

Initial meeting of the committee members will be held at Central TB division as per the availability of Chair. Subsequent meetings may be taken up at NTI. The committee is proposed to meet every month to discuss the content and updates.