



Rotary's Ulema Committee to support State Govt. in Strengthening Routine Immunization

The State Health Department, Govt. of Uttar Pradesh and INPPC recently organised a meeting with Rotary's Muslim Ulama members to discuss Routine Immunization on 29 December in Lucknow. I, as the Chairman Rotary's Muslim Ulama Committee attended the meeting accompanied by NCM Ajay Saxena Secretary Muslim Ulama Committee, with Shri Amit Kumar Ghosh, IAS, Mission Director, National Health Mission Govt. of U.P. attending the important meeting.



Rotary's Ulama members endorsing and supporting the pledge to support Routine Immunization efforts in the State.

The State of U.P despite considerable progress in the last few years still has a dismal R.I. coverage in the State. With Polio eradication's incredible success and the infrastructure, knowledge, and lessons learnt, the State is hoping to turn around the R.I levels, especially in the worst performing districts.

Rotary an important Partner of the Governments both at the State and Centre has support in improving R.I. coverage across the country. Rotary has been tasked to use its network,

resources and leadership in advocacy, social mobilization and mass awareness, et al to improve R.I. in the country.



Ulama member seen accepting Rotary's 'Keep India Polio Free'

In the State of Uttar Pradesh, Rotary's Muslim Ulama Committee – formed in early 2007 amidst widespread misconception about the Polio campaign and vaccine – was instrumental in getting the community on board dispelling myths and misconception about the campaign. They were responsible in changing the anti- Polio perception of the minority community and thus helped the campaign reach and cover all children with the vaccine. Ulama Members – naib Imam Idgah Maulana Khalid Rasheed Fireangimahali; VP All India Mulsim

Personal Law Board Maulana S Kalbe Sadiq; Principal Nadwatul Ulama Maulana Saeed-ur-Rehman Azmi; President Sunni Ulama Council Maulana Iqbal Qadari; Maulan Idrees Bastavi; Imam Tilewali Masjid Maulana Fazlur Rahman Waizee, and others attended the important meeting. The State Health Department, Govt. of U.P. has sought Rotary's support and the Ulama's participation in bringing about similar success in improving Routine Immunization in the State. I as the Chairman Rotary's Muslim Ulama Committee expressed my optimism and hope saying "seven Ulama members of the executive Committee have extended support and we will engage principals of 11,000 Madrasas in building awareness and participation of the community toward improving R.I."

Shri Amit Kumar Ghosh, IAS, Mission Director, NHM Govt. of U.P, in his address to the Ulamas stressed on the important role played by Rotary's Ulema Committee in fighting Polio. He said, the State is now extensively invested in improving R.I. that protects children from 5-7 preventable diseases including Polio. He said that the support of Rotary and Ulama is extremely important to ensure all children are covered through R.I.

The meeting concluded with everyone expressing great confidence in strengthening Routine Immunization in the State and ensuring that every child receives the necessary vaccines to lead a healthy life. Media in Lucknow also covered the meeting and hailed the partnership between the Government, Rotary and the religious leaders.

With warm regards



Rtn. Ashok Mahajan

Chairman, Rotary Foundation India, 2012-15

Director, Rotary International 2007-09

Trustee, The Rotary Foundation 2009-13

Member, International PolioPlus Committee 2009-13

Chair RI Membership Development and Retention

Committee 2012-13

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