

*The children of today are the 'Citizens' of tomorrow and medical students of today are the 'Doctors' of tomorrow. Almost sixty-percent of the graduates coming out of these colleges become private practitioners and they form the first point of contact for patients. Many surveys have revealed a large gap between what is taught in colleges and what is practiced in Tuberculosis control. This necessitates involvement of Medical Colleges in the Tuberculosis control programme. Control of Tuberculosis can only be achieved by team and co-ordination between various agencies. The article by DuBey and Qhuarya discusses the salient findings relevant to the Indian scenario of the World Health Organization (WHO) Workshop, on the Role of Medical Colleges in Tuberculosis Control held in Rome, Italy from 29-31st October 1997. In a similar vein, the article by Saroj Dhingra also stresses that Involvement of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO'S) in health programmes is of vital importance. How the NGO's can be involved in the Tuberculosis Control Programme, the schemes available are discussed in detail. A success story of this involvement is told in the Meerut experience and in the experiences of Yashpal Pulani, a shoe shop owner who doubles up as a Directly Observed Treatment (DOT) provider and promoter.*

*Tuberculosis has been a scourge of mankind from time immemorial. In the present situation with 2 million deaths, in the world each year, it is not possible to eradicate the disease. The article by Betageri highlights on the definitions, clinical presentation and diagnosis of the disease. Multiplicity of regimens, long drawn treatment and difficulty in holding on to the patients has been cited as problems in treating the patient. Directly Observed Treatment and frequent supervision to see that DOT is taking place is most necessary to control the disease.*

*The performance of the NTP has been monitored by the National TB Institute since 1978. Unnikrishnan and Jagannatha have appraised the decadal trend of NTP performance in terms of reporting, case finding and treatment activities for the decade 1992-2001. Unfortunately, the overall performance of the NTP has*

*fatten short of expectations in respect of all major monitoring indicators.*

*As mentioned in our previous Bulletin, we continue giving feed back in the form of articles. In this issue we cover the performance of 'National Tuberculosis programme of Andhra Pradesh and Bihar. Progress report of the National-wide survey on Annual Risk of TB Infection (ARI), Surveillance of Drug Resistance in the districts of 'MayurBhanj, Hoogli, and Nagaon and the training and supervisory activities for the period January to June 2001 are also presented.*

*The other highlights of the issue include the field experiences of Sanjay Singh and Basudev Varma field Investigators. Abstracts, Bibliography, Readers Write, News & Views, Letter from a well wisher and Administrative news form the remaining articles.*

*want to inform our dear readers that Dr. Prahalad Kumar has over as the Director of NTI on 20th 'May 2002. from Dr. (Mrs.) PraBha Jagota who retired as director after superannuation.*

*Happy fading.*

*Editor.*