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## Mirpur AJK achieves 35 percent target of ongoing anti-polio drive on 1st day;



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MIRPUR (AJK): Oct. 29: As State Health Services Department successfully achieved 35 percent of the total target of ongoing 5-day anti-polio drive in Mirpur-AJK, the integrated national campaign continued the second consecutive day in the district on Tuesday.

Disclosing this Mirpur District Health Officer Dr. Fida Hussain told this Correspondent here on Tuesday that like rest parts of the country including Azad Jammu Kashmir, the 05 -day national anti-polio campaign was launched in this district on Monday after formal inauguration simultaneously with rest of the country.

Unveiling the salient features of the nation-wide campaign launched in the district, to be continued till November 1st without any pause the District Health Officer said that the besides at fixed centres, the mobile paramedical staffers' teams of the AJK State Health Department visiting door-to-door throughout the district to immunize all children up to five years of age.

Dr. Fida emphasised that it was not only the responsibility of the government and the state health department to carry out the campaign to prevent polio throughout Pakistan, including Azad Jammu Kashmir, as a national obligation but it is also imperative for people from all schools of thoughts to play their role so that no child under five years of age misses out on polio vaccination.

He said that during the five-day campaign, Mirpur district has been divided into 49 union councils/wards and trained supervisors have been appointed to administer polio drops to children up to five years of age.

As per WHO guidelines, he revealed, 02 Tehsil Supervisors, 35 Union Council Monitoring Officers and 103 Union Councils Ward-in-Charge for monitoring teams at the level of Municipal Corporation Mirpur Municipal Committee Islamgarh, Chakswari and Municipal Committee Dadyal as well as 27 Union Councils to make polio campaign successful, have been appointed.

Under the supervision of these in-charges, 439 mobile teams and 41 fixed centers at health centers have been appointed to administer polio drops to 76,656 children up to five years of age, and transit points at 14 different essential places for children traveling with their parents have been made available.

The DHO appealed to the public and the management of public and private sector schools to give polio vaccine drops to children up to the age of five years in cooperation with the teams of the public health department visiting the homes and schools.

District Health Officer Mirpur said that earlier in the past, the polio campaign has always been very successful with parents / public cooperation along with the commitment, hard work and better strategy of the health department in the entry and exit routes of Mirpur and in urban and rural areas.

Dr. Fida Hussain said that due to the successful strategy of the government the state health department and the tireless work of the polio teams, no polio case has been reported in Azad Jammu Kashmir so far, without the support of the public, polio cannot be completely eradicated to achieve this goal.

“For this, we have to fully cooperate with the polio teams of the the state Health Department to make the drive complete success”, he added.