From: Chief, Smallpox Eradication 31 August 1973

To: Smallpox Staff

Subject: Target Zero - Progress Report 13

1.0 Overview

A seasonal decline in incidence is now being recorded in all four endemic countries - the numbers of reported cases being considerably below the January - April levels. However, when viewed in comparison with the summer incidence of recent years, the present situation should be viewed with real concern in India, Bangladesh and Pakistan. Although notifications this year are undoubtedly much more complete in Pakistan and Bangladesh and perhaps somewhat more complete in India, I find it difficult to believe that reporting has improved that substantially in any of the three countries to account for the much higher summer incidence this year. To illustrate in regard to India and Pakistan:

India	May	June	July	August	Total for Year
1970	1 825	756	726	302	12 750
1971	3 192	1 383	830	425	16 166
1972	3 813	1 977	1 427	1 043	27 407
1973	13 522	5 676	3 963	(3 400)*	(75 000)*

Pakistan	May	June	July	August	Total for Year
1970	262	171	166	65	3 192
1971	712	907	518	217	5 808
1972	823	461	347	282	7 053
1973	1 561	1 147	760	(600)*	(8 000)*

* estimated

The contrast between these data and those of Ethiopia is notable. Ethiopia has substantially improved the completeness of notification this year but despite this has been able to achieve a sharp decrease in incidence.

Ethiopia	May	June	July	August	Total for Year
1971	2 164	3 031	1 318	839	26 329
1972	2 176	1 181	877	1 097	16 999
1973	614	306	254	(160)*	(4 500)*

* estimated

While I sense that activities are beginning to move into higher gear in the three problem countries of Asia, it is clear that the task ahead should not be underestimated as it is all too evident that endemic foci are extensive in number.

2.0 Target areas

The proportion of cases occurring now in the December target areas continues to hover in the 80% range. As noted before, by September/October, the 90% mark should be reached if the end December targets are to be achieved.

2.1 Cases occurring within December 31 target area

	May	June	July	August
Bangladesh	3 536	2 362	470	926
Ethiopia	272	50	83	46
India	12 262	4 628	3 467	2404
Pakistan	592	382	372	291
Cases occurring outside target area but specifically traced to importations				
Afghanistan	1	8	2	-
Ethiopia	1	-	-	-
Fr. Terr. Afars & Issas	-	-	-	2
India	151	176	63	33
Nepal	52	31	42	22
Pakistan	25	1	1	-
Somalia	1	3	-	1
Total of all cases in category 2.1	16 893	7 641	4 500	2 390
Per cent of world total cases in category 2.1	85%	77%	80%	81%

2.2 Cases occurring outside target areas

Bangladesh	641	421	139	573
Ethiopia	341	256	171	85
India	1 109	872	433	23
Pakistan	944	764	387	225
Total all cases in category 2.2	3 035	2 313	1 130	573
Per cent of all cases in category 2.2	15%	23%	20%	19%

Note: Data as of 28 August 1973

3.0 Reporting

As of 28 August, reports should have been received from all areas through week 33. Only India now remains deficient - the extent to which notifications are in arrears having again increased from a cumulative total on 7 August of 22 weeks for the noted states and territories to 28 weeks for the present report. Of special concern is the fact that five states or territories, three of which are highly endemic (Assam, Jammu and Kashmir and Madhya Pradesh) are each three weeks or more behind - none having provided any reports as yet during the month of August. This is not an enviable record.

Arunachal Pradesh	1
Assam	3
Chandigarh	3
Gujarat	1
Haryana	1
Jammu and Kashmir	4
Kerala	2
Madhya Pradesh	3
Manipur	4
Nagaland	2
Orissa	1
Rajasthan	1
Uttar Pradesh	1
West Bengal	1