

Dear All,

Greetings from NNF India!!

**3<sup>rd</sup> March, Tuesday**, is being observed as the **World Birth Defects Day** and we at NNF, along with WHO and other SEAR countries are undertaking activities for raising awareness of birth defects in India.

**Let's talk in one voice about ways to help prevent birth defects #WorldBDDay; #ManyBirthDefects1Voice; #rbsk**

**Do Your Know : An estimated 1.7 million babies are born with birth defects every year in India. Let's talk in one voice to raise awareness on #WorldBDDay, to prevent them. #ManyBirthDefects1Voice**

**Do You Know : Some birth defects can be prevented by rubella vaccination, adequate intake of folic acid or iodine through fortification of staple foods or supplementation and screening for infections during pregnancy #WorldBDDay ; #ManyBirthDefects1Voice**

Kindly disseminate the message through your WA, social media accounts.

Kind regards

Dr Ashok Deorari  
President, NNF

Dr Lalan K. Bharti  
Secretary, NNF



**Birth defects**  
An abnormality of body structure or function present since birth

world birth defects day  
march 3

What should we know: Facts	Prevent birth defects
<p>Annually, 1.7 million children are born with birth defects in India</p>	<p>Improve folic acid intake in pre-pregnant women and during early pregnancy</p>
<p>Eight percent of under-five deaths in India are due to congenital anomalies or birth defects</p>	<p>Fortify staple foods with folic acid B-12 and iron</p>
<p>South-East Asia region has the highest prevalence of birth defects in the world</p>	<p>Ensure age-appropriate rubella vaccination as there is no specific treatment for rubella infection</p>
	<p>Screen pregnant women with fever and rash for infections (especially rubella, varicella and syphilis)</p>
	<p>Identify birth defects early to provide treatment &amp; care</p>

Logos for WHO, NNF India, and other partners are at the bottom.