

**Expanded Polystyrene beads (EPS) based application in Tamil Nadu rural sector as an adjunct to Mass Drug Administration (MDA) to reduce and sustain vector density and transmission rates in filariasis**

**Salient features of the technology:**

- This technology is used to prevent the breeding of *Culex quinquefasciatus*, the filarial vector mosquitoes which breeds mainly in the soakage pits in rural villages.
- EPS beads act as a mechanical barrier which prevents the further oviposition and emergence of adult mosquitoes.
- CRME studies at Tirukoilur have proved that this technology (EPS bead application) was very effective in suppressing the vector population at the village scale level.
- Vector density was greatly decreased in villages where vector control was used as an adjunct to mass drug administration.
- The data for 2 years intervention and implementation programme with EPS in Tirukoilur are being analyzed.
- This technology will be explored for a possible transfer to the DPH, TN.
- This technology has been developed by CRME, Madurai (an ICMR institute).