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भारत सरकार
स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण विभाग
स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय
निर्माण भवन, नई दिल्ली - 110011
Government of India

Department of Health and Family Welfare
Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi- 110011

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In the context of rapid and increasing urbanization in India, the health and well-being of our urban citizens, especially the urban poor, have constantly engaged the attention of the Union Government as well as the State Governments/UT Administrations. However no systematic effort has been made till date to improve the access of the urban poor to quality primary health care services. Realising this significant gap in availability of public health care, Government of India has decided to launch the National Urban Health Mission (NUHM) as a sub-mission under the overarching National Health Mission, the other sub-mission being the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM).

It is estimated that about 97 million people live in urban slums. As cities grow, more and more people will live in slums. The poor people living in slums are deprived of essential primary health care services. They have to depend on the unorganized and at times unqualified, private providers for outpatient care, leading in most cases to heavy out of pocket expenses.

NUHM will cover all cities and towns with a population of more than 50,000, all district headquarters and state capitals. Towns with a population below 50,000 will be covered under NRHM.

NUHM will not be just a matter of extending the activities under National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) to urban areas. There will have to be necessary adaptations and innovations in order to ensure that the growing number of urban population obtain the benefits of organised primary health care by enabling and encouraging flexible, local and decentralised planning at the city/town level.

I have requested Smt. Anuradha Gupta, Additional Secretary & Mission Director to share the Implementation Framework of NUHM with your Health Secretary. While various activities have been enumerated in the Framework, I would like to request you to initiate the following activities immediately, so that the State/UT could be in a position to submit the Programme Implementation Plan for 2013-14 by 31.7.2013.

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- a) Undertake mapping of slums and low income neighbourhoods, and existing public health facilities managed by the state governments/urban local bodies, to identify the gaps in availability of primary health care for the targeted population. The health facilities managed by the private (profit and not-for-profit) could also be mapped.
- b) Plan for up-gradation of existing facilities, establishment of additional Urban Primary Health Centres, each serving about 50,000-60,000 population wherever needed. Care should be taken to identify land for new facilities near low income neighbourhoods.
- c) Develop plan of action for community mobilization, engagement of required human resources (ANMs, ASHAs etc.), outreach services in the slums & low income neighbourhoods, prevention and early detection of various communicable and non-communicable diseases.
- d) Focus on emerging urban health issues like outdoor and indoor air pollution, occupational health, mental health, road injuries etc.
- e) Convergence with wider determinants of health, especially housing, water supply and sanitation programmes.

I look forward to your leadership for a successful launch of NUHM in your State/UT.



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SPPED POST

Yours sincerely,

(Keshav Desiraju)

To
Chief Secretaries of all States and UTs

Copy to:-

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1. Dr. Sudhir Krishna, Secretary, Ministry of Urban Development, Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi.
2. Shri Arun Kumar Misra, Secretary, Ministry of Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation, Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi
3. Shri R. Bhattacharya, Secretary, Department of School Education & Literacy, Ministry of HRD, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi - 110001. Fax: 23387859.
4. Shri Pankaj Jain, Secretary, Ministry of Drinking Water & Sanitation, Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi.
5. Shri Prem Narain, Secretary, Ministry of Women & Child Development, Room: 601-A, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi : 1100001 : Fax: 23381495

(Keshav Desiraju)

17 May 13