

**MINUTES OF THE THIRD MEETING OF THE
EMPOWERED PROGRAMME COMMITTEE
OF THE NATIONAL RURAL HEALTH MISSION
HELD ON 04.08.2006**

The third meeting of the Empowered Programme Committee (EPC) of National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) was held under the chairmanship of Mr. Prasanna Hota, Secretary, Health and Family Welfare in Committee Room No. 249-A, Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi. The list of participants is enclosed.

Agenda Item No. 1

**Confirmation of the Minutes of the Second meeting of the EPC held on
29th July 2005**

No comments were received from any of the members. The Empowered Programme Committee accordingly approved the minutes of the second meeting.

Agenda Item No. 2

**Action Taken Report in respect of the decisions taken in the second
meeting of the EPC.**

The Action Taken Report in respect of the decisions taken in the second meeting of the EPC was discussed and adopted subject to the observation that the Programme Officers of the National Blindness Control Program shall be requested to formulate a detailed proposal wrt **Point 3 of ATR** and place the same before the next meeting of EPC for approval.

Agenda Item No. 3

Contours of Cabinet approval for NRHM

The committee was apprised of the cabinet approval to the Implementation Framework of the NRHM. The specific approvals given by the cabinet in this regard were discussed in detail in a presentation given by JS (BPS). The Committee was apprised of the empowerment of the EPC to approve the deviations upto 25%, in norms of existing schemes with the MSG empowered to approve larger variations. The norms approved by the EPC were also placed before the committee for perusal.

Agenda Item No. 4
Status of implementation of NRHM in the states

The committee was appraised of the progress of NRHM in the states. The EPC noted that in 2005-06 Rs. 6310.55 crore was released to the states for various activities out of the RE allocation of Rs. 6318.60 crore. Secretary (HFW) indicated that :

- a) the fund flow needs to be monitored.
- b) the training of ASHA and the storage of training material should be monitored at the ground level.
- c) the proposal for universalisation of JSY be formulated and placed before the next EPC.
- d) the augmentation of infrastructure in the NE states be accelerated.

It was decided that during 2005-06, funds shall be released to states out of NRHM Flexipool allocations on basis of the cabinet approval for pending approval of the State PIPs subject to clearance from the Finance Division.

Agenda Item No. 5

Status of Task Groups under NRHM

The committee noted the progress of various task groups under NRHM.

Agenda Item No. 6

Progress of Intersectoral convergence under NRHM

The Committee noted the progress of Intersectoral Convergence particularly, co-location of AYUSH practitioners and defining the relationship of PRIs with the Village Health Committees, Sub-centers and PHCs. It was agreed that the Department of AYUSH be informed of all the meetings of the State Health Missions so that an AYUSH representative could also attend the meeting.

Agenda Item No. 7

Approval of Health Melas as an advocacy tool under the NRHM for all Parliamentary Constituencies.

The Committee noted the utility of Health Melas as an advocacy tool in EAG states where they were well received and appreciated the proposal to

expand them to all parliamentary constituencies. It was decided to approve the funding of the Health Melas through NRHM Flexipool as per the existing approved guidelines and financial norms @ Rs. 8 lakh per constituency for a three day Mela. The detailed modalities for the sanction will be worked out by the department in consultation with the IFD.

Agenda Item No. 8

Approval of funding support to SHRC, Chattisgarh for Distance Learning Course

The Committee agreed to support the Distance Learning Course proposed by the SHRC, Chhattisgarh to the extent of Rs. 24,79,000/- out of the NRHM fund subject to ensuring synergy with the existing courses of similar type run by the NIHFV & other similar institutions and also assessing the demand for such courses.

The Meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chairperson and Members of the EPC.