



ABSTRACT

Implementation of Occupational Health Services for Unorganized (Informal) sector workers in all 32 districts of Tamil Nadu with the existing Mobile Medical Units – Permission – Accorded - Orders - Issued.

Health and Family Welfare (EAP II-2) Department

G.O (Ms) No.291

Dated :26.06.2019
Vigari, Aani- 11
Thiruvalluvar Aandu 2050

Read:

1. G.O(Ms)No.219, Health and Family Welfare (P) department, dated: 11.7.2012
2. G.O(Ms)No.171, Health and Family Welfare (F) department, dated: 10.5.2017
3. From the Mission Director, State Health Society letter Ref. No. 7598/NHM/P2/2017, Dated: 14.02.2019.

ORDER:

In the Government Order first read above, the Government of Tamil Nadu have issued orders for constitution of State Level Co-ordination Committee, State Level Technical Committee and District Level Co-ordination Committee for prevention and control of Silicosis.

2. In the Government Order second read above, the Government of Tamil Nadu have issued orders for creation of an 'Occupational, Social and Environmental Health Wing' in the Directorate of Medical and Rural Health Services, Chennai with an objective to oversee activities relating to the screening and management of occupational and environmental diseases in the secondary care institutions under Directorate of Medical and Rural Health Services.

3. In the letter third read above, the Mission Director, National Health Mission has stated that, the orders issued in Government Order first read above is restricted to prevention and management of only one occupational disease i.e., silicosis while several other occupational diseases still remain unattended. Further, the mandate of Government Order second read above is restricted to secondary care hospitals only, primary care and tertiary care institutions under Directorate of Public Health and Preventive Medicine and Directorate of Medical Education are not included. A public health intervention/ program has to be implemented at all 'levels of care' namely, primary, secondary and tertiary care levels so as to make it complete and full-fledged. Restricting a public health program like occupational health to secondary care institutions alone would not yield overall desired outcomes. To ensure coordinated inter-sectoral action to address the issues of occupational and environmental health determinants and strengthen the health system of the State, National Health Mission, Tamil Nadu had conducted a consultative meeting and after due deliberations, decided to integrate Occupational Health Services into the existing health system. The proposed strategy for establishment of Occupational Health Services in the State is mentioned below:-

- (i) Occupational health will be treated as a 'Public Health priority' and will be integrated into the existing health system utilizing existing resources including Human Resources.

- (ii) National health Mission to provide additional financial support for occupational health Services and converge with other Government departments whenever necessary.
- (iii) Expanding the scope of G.O (Ms) No. 219, Health and Family Welfare (P1) Department, dated: 11.07.2012 from Silicosis to several other occupational and work-related diseases.
- (iv) Expanding the scope of G.O (Ms) No. 171, Health and Family Welfare (F) Department, dated 10.05.2017 from Secondary care institutions of Directorate of Medical and Rural Health Services to Primary Health Care and Tertiary health care facilities of Directorate of Public Health and Preventive Medicine and Directorate of Medical Education respectively.
- (v) All Mobile Medical Units, on Saturdays of every week and on one working day in the first week of the month, should be utilised for conducting camps in areas where unorganised sector people are working like Quarries, Brick kilns, Rice Mill, Fisher men areas not covered in regular FTP of Mobile Medical Unit, Salt pan areas, Palm product workers, construction sites, sanitary workers etc.
- (vi) To establish Occupational Health Clinical Services through Directorate of Medical Education with the medical specialties of Thoracic Medicine / General Medicine, ENT, Dermatology, Ophthalmology and Orthopedics in all 22 Medical College Hospitals and through Directorate of Medical and Rural Health Services in 13 District Head Quarters Hospitals in non-medical college districts utilizing the existing resources including human resources. These would be the Referral Units.
- (vii) The Deputy Directors Health Services of 42 HUDs are responsible for ensuring implementation, supervision and monitoring of outreach occupational health services including health education, screening and follow-up services through Mobile Medical Units.
- (viii) Since most of the Occupational Health illnesses are related to Respiratory and Skin issues, The Deputy Director (TB) and Deputy Director (Leprosy) will make their respective contribution to Occupational Health Services Program in their respective districts through timely identification, referral and follow up. The Deputy Director (TB) under Directorate of Medical and Rural Health services would facilitate referral of occupationally induced respiratory diseases. Likewise, the Deputy Director (Leprosy) under Directorate of Public Health and Preventive Medicine will also facilitate referral of occupationally induced skin disorders.
- (ix) School Health teams will include screening camps for early identification and referral in Government aided schools located nearby Quarry areas, Brick Kilns, Blue Metal quarries, Cement factories and other dust prone and industrial polluting areas as per local situation as school children in such areas are at risk and prone to occupational health hazards
- (x) The District Program Officer (NCD) to coordinate with institutions under Director of Public Health and Preventive Medicine, Director of Medical and Rural Health Services and Director of Medical Education for effective delivery of occupational health services.
- (xi) Converge with Department of Labour and Department of Geology and Mining for effective implementation.

4. The Mission Director, State Health Society has also stated that, in order to deliver specialized Occupational Health services through Mobile Medical Units, it is necessary to provide special equipment. Hence a detailed proposal was included in Programme Implementation Plan 2019-20 for providing funds for equipment, printing of screening tool questionnaire and IEC. The Government of India in Record of Proceedings 2019-20 has approved Rs 48 lakhs for strengthening 64 Mobile Medical Units of 64 blocks identified by concerned Deputy Director of Health Services in 32 districts to provide occupational health services.

| FMR | Particulars | Unit Cost (Rs. in lakhs) | Quantity/ Target | Budget (Rs. Lakhs) | Gol Remarks | Approved Budget (Rs. in Lakhs) |
|---------|--|--------------------------|------------------|--------------------|--|--------------------------------|
| 2.1.2 | National Mobile Medical Vans (smaller vehicles) and specialized Mobile Medical Units | - | - | 48.00 | - | 48.00 |
| 2.1.2.2 | Opex | 1.50 | 32 | 48.00 | Ongoing activity. Rs. 48.00 lakhs approved | 48.00 |

The detailed break-up for the approved amount is mentioned below:

| Item | Unit cost (in lakhs) | Number of units (blocks) | Total (Rs. in lakhs) |
|--|----------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|
| Equipment (Electronic Peak Flow Meter) | 0.25 | 64 | 16 |
| Printing of screening tool questionnaire | 0.25 | 64 | 16 |
| IEC | 0.25 | 64 | 16 |
| TOTAL | | | 48 lakhs |

The equipment will be currently supplied for 64 Mobile Medical Units covering 32 districts @ 2 Mobile Medical Unit per district as a pilot project, and in a phased manner, similar necessary equipment will be provided for screening through all other balance Mobile Medical Units in the state in future. Further, the Mission Director, State Health Society has stated that, the above proposal have been placed and approved in 37th Executive Committee meeting held on 11.2.2019.

5. The Mission Director, National Health Mission has therefore requested the Government to issue necessary orders in this regard.

6. The Government have examined the proposal of the Mission Director, National Health Mission and have decided to accept it. Accordingly, the Government issue the following orders:-

- (i) Permission is accorded to the Mission Director, National Health Mission for planning, coordinating, financing, monitoring and evaluation of Occupational Health Services for unorganized sectors in the State, at various levels as follows:-

| State Level | Mission Director, National Health Mission Tamil Nadu | Director, Health & Preventive Medicine | Director of Public Health & Rural Health Services | Director of Medical Education | |
|-------------|---|--|---|---|---|
| | Planning, financial support and evaluation of Occupational Services for unorganized workers | financial and health for sector | -Implementation of primary care level Occupational health services through MMUs as an outreach service. | Provide, screening, diagnostic, curative and rehabilitative (medical) Occupational Health services in all institutions under their control. | Provide, screening, diagnostic, curative and rehabilitative (medical) occupational health services in all institutions under their control. |

| District Level | District Program Officer (NCD) | Deputy Director Health Services | Joint Director Health Services (13 DHQHs) | Dean (22 MCHs) |
|----------------|---|---|---|---|
| | - To coordinate Occupational Health activities for effective implementation | - Ensuring implementation, supervision and monitoring of outreach occupational health services including health education, screening and follow-up services through MMUs. | -Establishment of Occupational Health clinical services in the DHQH -Provide institutional level Occupational Health Services in all other institutions under their control. | -Establishment of Occupational Health Clinical services in the Medical colleges -Provide institutional level Occupational Health Services in all other institutions under their control. |
| District Level | | Deputy Director (Leprosy)- all districts | Deputy Director (TB) – all districts | |
| | | To make respective contribution to Occupational health Services Program through early identification, referral and follow-up for skin disorders | To make respective contribution to Occupational health Services Program through early identification, referral and follow-up for respiratory disorders | |

- (ii) The Mission Director, National Health Mission is also permitted to integrate Occupational Health Services in TB elimination and Leprosy eradication programs for early identification, referral and follow up and to converge with Department of Labour and Department of Geology and Mining for effective implementation of Occupational Health services.
- (iii) Permission is accorded to the Director of Public Health and Preventive Medicine as follows:-
- To conduct outreach Occupational health services for unorganized sector workers through all Mobile Medical Units, on Saturdays of every week and on one working day in the 1st week of the month for unorganized sector workers.
 - To integrate outreach camps near schools through existing RBSK team in dust prone areas for early identification and timely referral as a part of School Health Program.
- (iv) Permission is accorded to the Director of Medical and Rural Health Services to establish 'Occupational Health Clinic' in 13 District Head Quarter Hospitals of Ariyalur, Cuddalore, Dindigul, Erode, Krishnagiri, Namakkal, Nagapattinam, Ramnad, Tiruvallur, Tiruppur, Perambalur, Virudunagar, Nilgiris utilizing the existing resources under the coordination of General Physician/ Chest Physician.
- (v) Permission is accorded to the Director of Medical Education to establish 'Occupational health clinic' in 22 Medical College Hospitals viz., Rajiv Gandhi Government General Hospital Chennai, Kilpauk, Stanley, Omandurar, Thanjavur, Vellore, Villupuram,

Dharmapuri, Kanchipuram (Chengalpet), Kanniyakumari, Karur, Pudukkottai, Sivagangai, Theni, Thiruvavarur, Thoothukudi, Thiruvannamalai, Coimbatore, Madurai, Salem, Trichy, Tirunelveli utilizing existing resources in coordination with Thoracic Medicine Department.

7. This order issue with the concurrence of the Finance Department vide its U.O.No.26383/Health-I/2019, dated: 21.06.2019.

(BY ORDER OF THE GOVERNOR)

**BEELA RAJESH
SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT**

To

The Mission Director, National Health Mission, Chennai - 600 006.

All the District Collectors.

The Director of Public Health and Preventive Medicine, Chennai – 600 006

The Director of Medical Education, Chennai – 600 010

The Director of Medical and Rural Health Services, Chennai – 600 006

The Director of Medical and Rural Health Services, (ESI), Chennai – 600 006

The Labour and Employment Department, Chennai – 600 009

The Chief Inspector of Factories, Chennai – 600 005

The Commissioner of Labour, Chennai – 600 006

The Commissioner, Department of Geology and Mining, Chennai – 600 032

The Member Secretary, Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, Chennai – 600 032.

The Accountant General (A&E), Chennai - 600 018. (2 copies)

The Accountant General (Audit), Chennai - 600 018

The Pay and Accounts Officer (South), Chennai – 600 035.

The Pay and Accounts Officer, Madurai – 625 001.

The District Treasury Officer concerned.

The Sub Treasury Officer concerned.

Copy to:

The Special Personal Assistant to Minister (Health and Family Welfare), Chennai – 600 009.

The Finance (Health-II/CMPC-II/BG-I) Department, Chennai - 600 009.

Health and Family Welfare (Data Cell) Department, Chennai - 600 009.

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//Forwarded by Order//

La Vinga
11/7/19
SECTION OFFICER