HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE DEPARTMENT Notes on Emergency Management Ambulance Services

Government have decided to implement Emergency Management Ambulance Services Scheme with Public Private Partnership across Tamil Nadu and issued orders. The Emergency Management Research Institute(EMRI), Hyderabad experienced in this activity in several States have been selected and a Memorandum of Understanding was signed on 6.5.2008 before the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu.

In the First Phase, 198 Ambulances were handed over to the E.M.R.I., Hyderabad.

They are in the process of airconditioning and refurbishing them with emergency management equipments. This Scheme will be inaugurated in Chennai by the Hon'ble Chief Minister during the course of this month and extended to the Districts step by step.

The skilled man power required to implement the Scheme are being recruited and trained by the EMRI. In each ambulance besides the Driver, trained Emergency Management Technicians to provide emergency medical care will be available. This ambulance service will be available for all kinds of emergencies and services will be totally free of charge. During transportation required emergency management medical advise will be rendered by the Emergency Medical Professionals to the Emergency Management Technicians in the ambulance.

A Centralised Emergency Control Room is being established temporarily in the campus of the K.G. Hospital for Women & Children, Triplicane, Chennai at a cost of Rs.1.85 Crores. The EMRI will provide the technical equipments, software, etc. in that Building and the Control Room is likely to start functioning shortly.

In the meanwhile, the Hon'ble Minister for Health, Thiru. M.R.K. Panneerselvam visited the EMRI Centre at Hyderabad on 7.8.08 to see about the emergency management system functioning there. During his visit, Thiru.V.K.Subburaj, IAS., Principal Secretary to Government, Thiru. P.W.C. Davidar, IAS., Special Secretary to Government and Selvi Apoorva, IAS., Special Secretary to Government of Health and Family Welfare Department and Medical Officers from Tamil Nadu Health Systems Project also participated. Lead Partner, EMRI, Thiru. Subramaniam was present then.

The Emergency Management Service will be managed by the EMRI with required technical inputs and software. The ambulance services will be monitored by GPS System. There will be a Supervisor at District level and all District level Supervisors will be controlled by the supervisor at State level who will monitor the vehicles. Further, they will inspect the Hospitals and facilitate them into the Scheme with required MOD.

The temporary Emergency Management Response Centre will function from Chennai. Medical emergencies, fire accidents, Police and other emergencies will be attended to by this service from Toll Free Number 108. Emergency services will reach within half-an-hour of dialing the emergency number to render first-aid and then to transport to the Hospital. The patient will be given proper treatment in time to save his

life. Training to the required persons are in progress.

For the Emergency Management Service proposed above, Government have allotted Rs.22.89 Crores for the first year towards buildings, technical equipments, etc. and Rs.8.38 Crores have been paid to EMRI so far. For administrative expenses, salary, fuel, medicine, maintenance, insurance, advertisement, etc. Rs.13.13 Crores have been allotted against which Rs.9.5 Crores have been given by the National Rural Health Mission as its share.

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