Subject: Guidance Note on India COVID-19 Emergency Response and Health System Preparedness Package

Reference:


(2) Letter No. V.14013/01/2020-B(NHM)-Part V dated 7th April 2020 from AS&MD

This is in continuation to the earlier communication about centrally funded ‘India COVID-19 Emergency Response and Health System Preparedness Package’. We have released funds under immediate response of this package which is for phase 1 up to June 2020.

The India COVID 19 Emergency Response and Health Systems Preparedness Financial Package (hereafter referred as COVID package) is intended to build resilient health systems to support preparedness and prevention related functions that would address not only the current COVID 19 outbreak but also future outbreaks in our country. The interventions in this package will be implemented under the National Health Mission, thereby leveraging the existing resources for health systems strengthening to further strengthen and develop health systems, thereby ensuring complementarity. The States/UT's should prioritize resource allocation appropriately to districts and medical colleges based on the stage of the outbreak in a particular district, at the same time, taking into consideration the resources that will be required in the future to tackle COVID-19.

In this regard, the "NHM Guidance Note on India COVID-19 Emergency Response and Health Systems Preparedness Package" is attached herewith. This document enumerates key activities which relates to screening, testing, undertaking community surveillance, strengthening /establishing Dedicated COVID-19 treatment and isolation facilities, creating infrastructure and provision of supplies for infection control, engaging additional HR, and capacity building which can be undertaken with the help of this package. The note also has a section on the fund flow mechanism, approval and procurement process and audit. It is important to note that an untied fund for Rs. 1 Crore is provided for per district to enable district to undertake emergency activities related to COVID response.
The attached guidance note and annexures will help you to plan and enhance your preparedness for tackling the COVID pandemic. In case you have any query, please feel free to write to me. The States/UTs need to fully utilize the funds available and implement all the required activities with regular booking of expenditure. Let me assure you that our team is available whenever you require any support.

With warm regards

Yours sincerely,

(Vandana Gurnani)

To,

- Additional Chief Secretary/Principal Secretary/ Secretary (Health and/or Medical Education) of all States/UT
- MD,NHM -all states/UTs

Copy submitted for necessary information to:
- Secretary, MOHFW, Govt. of India
- Secretary, DEA, Govt. of India
- SS and DG, MOHFW, Govt. of India
- SS (Health), MOHFW, Govt. of India
- AS & FA, MOHFW, Govt. of India
- All JSs and EAs, MOHFW, Govt. of India
- ED, NHSRC
- DDG(NTEP), MOHFW, Govt. of India