Dear All,

I am pleased to share with you that the Central Govt. has increased the current financial year resource envelope for every state/UT on account of the greater requirement of financial resources by each state/UT to tide over the exigencies because of COVID-19 pandemic and to strengthen the health systems to tackle this situation.

In this regard, the details of additional resources over and above the NHM resource envelope for the FY 2019-20 allocated and released to your State/UT for the containment, management and treatment of COVID-19 cases under Health System Strengthening (HSS) pool of National Health Mission is attached herewith. Copies of the release orders may be accessed from the NHM website. I request you to make sure that the funds so allocated are provided to the State Health Society along with the commensurate state share.

As you are aware, the Ministry has already authorized the Executive Committee of the State Health Society to re-appropriate available resources to meet the need for funds for implementation of COVID-19 control and management activities vide Joint Secretary (Policy)’s letter numbered D.O. NO. Z-18-10/NHM-I/Part, dated 15th March 2020, with details of new FMR codes for COVID-19 management. In view of the urgency in this matter, and in order to maintain uniformity, the following procedure may be followed by the states for utilizing these additional funds available under the NHM for COVID-19 management:

1. The additional resources provided in FY 2019-20 (as per annexure enclosed) may only be used for undertaking activities for management of COVID.

2. The States/UTs may prepare an action plan for management of COVID-19 for utilizing these funds including all the activities approved by re-appropriation of funds by the Executive Committee of State Health Society for management of COVID-19. The action plan would include the provisions for development of COVID-dedicated facilities, development of ICUs/HDUs and isolation facilities, hiring of additional HR, incentives to Community Health Volunteers and ASHAs, procurement of essential items such as ventilators, PPEs and masks, training and capacity building, provision of oxygen supplies, IEC, strengthening of help lines, hiring and operation of additional ambulance, contact tracing, surveillance and community outreach, and any other activity/task/item that may be necessary.

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Based on this action plan, given that the NHM framework provides the flexibility to allocate state share to initiatives depending on priority, the states may allocate funds from state share for meeting the financing needs of the action plan for COVID-19 management to the extent possible.

It may be noted that all the financing needs for COVID-19 management may be appropriately reflected under the relevant COVID FMR code communicated vide letter of JS(Policy) referred to above.

The action plan for these additional funds so prepared may be approved by the Executive Committee of the State Health Society and implementation of various activities may be taken up. The approval of Executive Committee of the State Health Society will be sufficient for the purpose of implementation and no confirmation from NHM shall be necessary for the same. It may be noted that:

i. This dispensation is available only for approval of the COVID management plan and re-appropriation of funds wherever necessary for COVID-19 management.

ii. A copy of the plan so approved by the Executive Committee should be sent to MOHFW, Govt. of India within next 15 days.

Any expenditure on account of implementation of activities under the COVID-19 Action Plan may only be made under the designated FMR code as approved under the plan.

With warm regards

Encl: As stated

Yours sincerely,

(Vandana Gurnani)

To,

Mission Directors, NHM-all states/UTs

Copy submitted for necessary information to:

i. ACS/PS/Secretaries (Health, Medical Education)- all states/UTs

ii. JS (Policy), MOHFW, Govt. of India

iii. EA (PN), MOHFW, Govt. of India

iv. PPS to Secretary, MOHFW, Govt. of India