

**MINUTES OF THE REGIONAL LEVEL REVIEW MEETING OF
NATIONAL AYUSH MISSION (NAM) HELD AT CHANDIGARH ON
09.01.2018**

A Regional level Review Meeting of National AYUSH Mission (NAM) was held at Chandigarh on 09.01.2018 under the Chairmanship of Vaidya Rajesh Kotecha, Secretary, Ministry of AYUSH.

The State representatives from Punjab, Uttarakhand, Haryana, Jammu & Kashmir, NCT Govt. of Delhi, and Chandigarh participated in the review meeting. The list of participants is at **Annexure-I**.

At the outset Dr. A. Raghu, Dy.Adv.(Ayur.) delivered the welcome address. He briefed about the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National AYUSH Mission (NAM) along with its progress since its inception and also emphasized that the main motive of the workshop is to review the progress made by the States in the implementation of NAM and hurdles experienced by the States during its implementation so as to streamline the implementation of the Mission to achieve the desired outcome.

While delivering the inaugural address Joint Secretary, Shri Roshan Jaggi, mentioned that the main focus of National AYUSH Mission is to promote the AYUSH system of medicine in the States with the objective to integrate the AYUSH System with existing health system and improve the accessibility of the AYUSH healthcare to the public. JS (RJ) highlighted that while implementing the scheme, the State Governments must focus more on outputs and outcome of the Mission. JS also mentioned that such type of workshops as well as interactions between the Ministry and the implementing institutions is providing an opportunity to know the bottlenecks and difficulties experienced during the implementation of the scheme. It is also important to identify the good practices of the States, which can be replicated in other States also.

JS (RJ) also mentioned that in the latest health policy emphasize has been given on how different system could be integrated. Further, Goal No. 2 & 3 of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) also highlighted the issues of integration. He mentioned that under NAM Ministry mainly supports the States for Co-location of AYUSH facility at Primary Health Centres (PHCs)/ Community Health Centres (CHCs)/ District Hospitals (DHs), increase of infrastructure by providing assistance for setting up of upto 50 bedded integrated AYUSH Hospitals & Colleges, strengthening of Pharmacy & DTL so that the issue of standardization of ASU&H drugs and cultivation of medicinal plant can be better addressed so that Quality ASU&H medicines can be provided to the public. It was mentioned by him that sustained supply of raw material is very important for quality supply of drugs and increase in cultivation also support livelihood of farmers. He also mentioned about the need of strengthening of the institutions/Departments in the States, as administrative setup with sufficient staff in the States is very important for effective implementation of the scheme.

JS (RJ) highlighted on following points for better implementation of the scheme:

1. Appropriate Administrative setup in the States/UTs.
2. States/UTs have to focus on timely reporting of Physical / Financial progress under NAM scheme, as it is very essential with respect to the monitoring of the scheme.
3. It is observed that States/UTs are unable to utilize released Grant-in-aid and same is lying pending with States which creates hurdles, in better implementation of the scheme. Budget flows is not smooth and that transfer of grants from State treasury to AYUSH society and from there to implementing agencies are being delayed which is not desirable for progress of the scheme.
4. JS(RJ) informed the States shall expedite the ASHA/ANM training, since ministry has already completed National Level Training of Trainers (ToT) programme for Trainees of the States and training cost has already been approved for the States in their SAAP of the year 2017-18. So, States are required to complete the process of training for one third of ASHAs/ANMs as available in their States.

Shri. Franklin L. Khobung, Director, Ministry of AYUSH in his presentation highlighted that AYUSH is a sun rising sector and needs attention of the State Govt. for its progress. AYUSH can play good role for health facilities available in rural & hilly areas through integration and it will boost mainstreaming of AYUSH in healthcare system. He mentioned in detail the National AYUSH Mission (NAM) and its activities and the progress made by States under the Mission. He also mentioned that NAM has been extended upto year 2020 by the Cabinet and Budget provision might be enhanced for this scheme. Further, he has raised his concern that past experience of parking of funds creates doubt about absorption capacity of States/UTs and it is really very big challenge for the mission. He mentioned that Niti Aayog is very specific about the outcome of the scheme. He also informed that Ministry is under process of developing of NAM portal on which State can directly upload their progress about NAM scheme. Director (FLK) also raised the issue of disparity of Salary of AYUSH doctors under NHM and requested that States/UTs have to address the issue of disparity of salary. It is also suggested that States have to prepare their State Annual Action Plan (SAAP) as per their felt need and forward to Ministry of AYUSH by February for the subsequent year so as to enable the Ministry for early approval of the Plan.

Dr. D. C. Katoch, Advisor (Ayurveda), Ministry of AYUSH in his presentation highlighted the issues and concerns of Quality Control of ASU & H Drugs in the States. He also emphasized the need of having qualified ASU Licensing authorities in the States/UTs. He mentioned that licensing, manufacturing, marketing, enforcement etc. all these issues regarding regulations of quality control of ASU&H drugs comes under the preview of respective State Govts. Therefore, States/UTs have to focus on it and seek financial assistance as per the provision of NAM scheme for strengthening of

enforcement mechanism of State Govt. States are required to appoint qualified Drug Inspector for enforcement of regulatory provisions and Analyst for the drug testing laboratory. He has raised his concern regarding misleading advertisement which has been uploaded in Grievances Against Misleading Advertisements (GAMA) Portal administered by Department of Consumer affairs. Further, he has mentioned that States are requested to send the name of Nodal Officers so that representation of misleading advertisement may also be forwarded to him to resolve the issue. States are also requested to provide the list of GMP drugs manufacturing unit available and functioning in their States.

Ms. Kavita Tyagi, Consultant, National Medicinal Plant Board (NMPB) made a brief presentation on Medicinal Plant component under NAM and the progress made by the States in this regard.

Vaidya Rajesh Kotecha, Secretary AYUSH highlighted the issue of parking the funds at various levels & also highlighted the difficulties as faced by Ministry during the approval of scheme by EFC. He mentioned that States/UTs have to plan effectively for the implementation of scheme. It is also highlighted by him that although there is no comparison between NHM & NAM but achievements of NAM in such a small budgetary provision is quiet remarkable & satisfactory. Secretary AYUSH highlighted the issue of disparity of salary of AYUSH doctors under NHM and requested that States/UTs has to address this issue and also forward the action taken report to the Ministry regarding it. He has requested to the States that subsidy related issues have to be addressed by them and they have to transfer the subsidy amount to the account of beneficiary through DBT. With regard to smooth implementation of medicinal plant component he has mentioned that the State Medicinal Plant Board has to work under State AYUSH Department. Principal Secretary, Punjab enquired that whether there is any possibility of convergence of AYUSH wellness centre with proposed concept of Sub centre as Health & Wellness Centre of department of health. Mission Director, NHM & NAM, Kerala raised the issue of District AYUSH society and suggested its formation for better implementation of NAM.

Officials of each State made their presentation highlighting the progress made by the State under National AYUSH Mission for their respective State giving a detail account on the administrative structure for implementation of NAM, progress of fund flow & utilization of grant, progress of 50 bedded integrated AYUSH Hospital, etc. A detail review meeting between the Ministry and the State Officials on the implementation of the Mission was an important part of the discussion that also include steps to be taken for improving the performance of the States.

Punjab

Director (Ayurveda), Punjab in his presentation discussed the progress made by the State under National AYUSH Mission highlighting the different activities of NAM. **It has been observed that 90% of funds released by Ministry under NAM in last three years are still lying pending in treasury. In this regard the representative of**

the State informed that they are under process of release. Deputy Adviser (Ay), Dr. A. Raghu mentioned that States/UTs have to report their progress to the Ministry as per the prescribed format of up to 7th March of every month. NMPB representative of Punjab State mentioned that funds of NMPB component has to be directly released to implementing agency for its better implementation. Director (Ay) Punjab suggested that under NAM scheme funds has to be directly released to AYUSH society, so that delay from treasury to State AYUSH society may be avoided. Vaidya Ravindra Vatsyayan as External resource person of Ludhiana has raised the issue of vacant posts of Govt. Ayurvedic colleges of Punjab and requested that it has to be addressed by the State Govt. as well as Govt. of India. Secretary AYUSH suggested that State has to submit proposal for Strengthening of college under Centre of Excellence (CoE) Scheme. It was suggested during the meeting that State has to submit the proposal of **Medicinal Plant Component through SAAP** for the year 2017-18.

Director (FLK) highlighted that construction of approved 50 bedded hospital has to be expedited and States has also facilitate ASHA/ANM training programme. Director (Ay), Punjab informed that relevant details like DPR with cost estimate, Commitment for creation of post, certificate regarding right of ownership of land with respect to approved 50 bedded integrated AYUSH hospital will be provided within 10 days. He has also raised his concern about difficulty regarding authentication of Aaddhar number and capturing of mobile numbers of the patients visiting OPDs & IPDs facilities. This issue was also discussed with other State representatives and found that they are also facing same challenge. **In this regard it was decided in the review meeting that Ministry may take up this issue with DBT Mission. However, in the mean time State has to report details regarding Number of patients visited to different health facilities. It was also suggested by Director (Ay) Punjab that manpower component of Co-located AYUSH facility of PHCs/ CHCs/ DHs has to be provided under NAM. Principal Secretary, Medical Education Department, Govt. of Punjab** who was present in the meeting. He looks after the Department of AYUSH as well was appraised to expedite the release of fund lying with State Finance Department so that approved works could be got executed without further delay.

Uttarakhand

Principal Secretary, AYUSH, Uttarakhand in his presentation discussed the progress made by the State under National AYUSH Mission highlighting the different activities of NAM. State representative informed that they have submitted U.C of Rs.15.00 Crore. It is suggested by the Director (FLK) that State has to reconcile the submitted UC with NAM division of Ministry of AYUSH. DIR (FLK) has requested that State Govt. has to furnish Detailed Project Report (DPR) along with cost estimate of the proposed Unani College for which token money of Rs. 25 lakhs has already been approved by Ministry of AYUSH. He also suggested that State Govt.

Uttarakhand is required to expedite the process of construction of 50 bedded hospital which was approved during year 2011-12. Dr. Kavita Tyagi has informed that State has to release NMPB share to the implementing agency at the earliest. Shri C.M.Seth as external resource person has suggested that species with production details is required to be reported to Ministry of AYUSH. Further, he highlighted that for better implementation of NMPB activity good coordination is must between implementing agency of NMPB and AYUSH directorate. He also suggested that technical guidelines regarding Medicinal Plant component has to be prepared by the Govt. of India and same is required to be uploaded on NAM portal.

Secretary, AYUSH, Uttarakhand suggested that a dedicated treatment protocol has to be developed by the Govt of India. Further, he also emphasized to develop guideline and course curriculum with regard to Yoga Educational Intuitions. So that, good quality of education may be provided to the students who are willing to make their career as a Yoga Instructor. Secretary, AYUSH informed that Quality Council of India (QCI) has already designed Yoga Instructor Courses/Module. He also mentioned that research activity for medicinal plant component may be done through universities. However, with regard to standard treatment guideline he informed that it is already available along with Panchkarma treatment guideline on Ministry's website. Further, Secretary, AYUSH suggested that if possible, State Govt. of Uttarakhand has to provide some research related information of Yoga to Ministry of AYUSH because Uttarakhand is one of the most important State which is conducting various research activities in Yoga. NMPB representative of the State made separate presentation for NMPB and highlighted their good practices as carried out by them in the field.

Chandigarh

Dr. G. Dewan, Director Health-cum-Director AYUSH, Chandigarh in his presentation discussed the progress made by the State under National AYUSH Mission highlighting the different activities of NAM. State representative informed that drawing of 50 bedded hospital of Sector-34, Chandigarh is completed which has been assisted by Ministry of AYUSH. In this regard Director (FLK) suggested that State has to expedite the process of construction of work and also submit commitment for creation of regular posts and certificate regarding right of ownership of land for the approved hospital.

Delhi

Dr. Hema Kolhe, Deputy Director (ISM), NCT of Delhi in her presentation discussed the progress made by the State under National AYUSH Mission highlighting the different activities of NAM. With regard to AYUSH Society State representative informed that it has not been formed since Cabinet disapproved it. Secretary AYUSH raised his concern about the pending UCs. In this regard State representative informed that they will submit UC within one month for released Grant-in-Aid under NAM.

Haryana

Dr. Ghulam Nasir, In charge NAM, Haryana in his presentation discussed the progress made by the State under National AYUSH Mission highlighting the different activities of NAM. It is informed by the State representative that they are going to change the location of 50 bedded hospital to Hisar district which was earlier approved for Panchkula district since Govt. of India has proposed a National Institute of Ayurveda in Panchkula District. Further, with respect to approved Unani College. State representative informed that DPR of the said college has been finalized and it will be sent to the Ministry very soon. Director FLK suggested that State has to submit DPR of 50 bedded hospital & Unani College to the Ministry at the earliest. It was asked during the meeting that State has to provide the functionality Status of Kurushetra pharmacy and activities carried out in it. Further, with regard to pending UCs State representative informed that UC will be submitted upto 31st March 2018.

Jammu & Kashmir

Dr. Wahidul Hassan, In charge officer, Jammu & Kashmir in his presentation discussed the progress made by the State under National AYUSH Mission highlighting the different activities of NAM. Secretary AYUSH has raised the issue of approved 50 bedded hospital & college building. In this regard State representative informed that court case has been made so the construction work of these approved activity have been hampered. In this regard JS (RJ) suggested that this issue should be urgently followed by State Govt. with High Court otherwise progress of the scheme will be hampered and the continuous disuse of building will make it unfit for further use. With regard to pending UCs State representative informed that it will be submitted at the earliest. As far as regarding NMPB proposal is concerned it was suggested that State has to forward it through AYUSH Department.

Secretary AYUSH has raised his concern about non-receipts of UCs with respect to grant of Rs. 10 Crores released by CCRAS which was sanctioned for creation of infrastructure to support research programme at Govt. Ayurveda College Jammu. The Said grant-in-aid was released by CCRAS during the year 2012-13. In this regard State representative could not produce any satisfactory reply & assured that they will follow up this matter expeditely. Secretary AYUSH, expressed his displeasure about the non-presence of Senior Officers from the State in the meeting and retreated that, this tendency needs to be discouraged.

Medicinal Plants Component of NAM

The State Officials from Uttarakhand, Jammu & Kashmir and Haryana made separate presentations on various activities undertaken under medicinal plants components. During the discussions of NMPB Officials and State Agencies on medicinal plants following points were emanated for consideration:-

1. To develop the region wise markets/ “Mandies” for sale and purchases of medicinal plants to ensure buy back intervention for farmers.

2. To develop more post-harvest techniques for sustainable harvesting and processing units like storage, godowns, District Collection Centres (DCC)/ Rural Collection Centres (RCC) for collection.
3. To develop the quality planting material through establishment of nurseries and maintain their quality.
4. To organise buyer seller meet for the farmers, stakeholders, researchers/ scientist, industry people (manufacturers) etc. for awareness among the farmers .
5. To submit the SAAP for the FY 2018-19 before February, 2018 to the SAS for future activities and to allocate adequate financial resources for this component.
6. To establish processing units for value addition along with safe herbal chain and coordinate with industry.
7. A standard to be established for Medicinal plant and certification is required for raw material of medicinal plants and products.
8. To focus the availability of planting material, germplasm and develop the agrotechnologies of some important Medicinal plants and aware the farmers about these technologies.
9. Lack of coordination between State AYUSH Society and implementing agency.
10. Procedural difficulties needs to be streamlined as its impact on the outcome is substantial since plantation is a seasonal weather-linked activity.
11. Implementing agency needs to have good implementing framework to ensure coordination and synergy with farmers.
12. Dr. VP Bhatt, Scientist HRDI, Uttarakhand has suggested that more plant species of high altitude which are highly demanded to be included in the NMPB prioritized plants list.

Best Practices(Kerala)

A presentation on best practices in the State of Kerala was made by Mission Director NHM & NAM, Kerala. He highlighted following initiatives taken by the State of Kerala for the development of AYUSH and promotion of AYUSH Healthcare;

- Kerala has a separate Department for AYUSH with a separate Secretary for AYUSH and dedicated Mission Director NAM who is also looking after NHM. Due to this there is good coordination between NAM & NHM.
- The State has a Separate Director for Ayurveda and Homoeopathy.
- The State has Regional/State level stand-alone AYUSH facilities as well as District and lower level AYUSH Hospitals and Dispensaries.

- Govt. Ayurveda Research Institute for Mental Diseases (GARIM), Kottakkal - A premier institute in Ayurvedic mental health care in Govt. sector where authentic Ayurvedic treatment for mental disorders is available cost effectively.
- Govt. Yoga Naturopathy Hospital Varkala, Thiruvananthapuram- 50 bedded hospital situated in Varkala beach, famous for Natural springs having medicinal properties.
- JANANI - Govt. Homoeopathic Fertility Care Centre, Kannur
- FLOATING DISPENSARY @ Alappuzha- Isolated hamlets in backward regions of Alappuzha district which highly prone to communicable diseases and having less access to medical facilities due to poor road connectivity are benefited.
- Some innovative activities conducted under Flexipool Projects through Homoeopathy – Janani (Govt. Homoeopathic Fertility Care Centre, Aims at the cost effective management of infertility through homoeopathic medicines in a scenario where infertility treatment is becoming more stressful than the condition itself), Chethana, Sadgamaya (aims at comprehensive health of children with special emphasis on learning disorders and behavioral disorders), Seethalayam (ensures women and adolescent girl's health, social equity and empowerment), Ayushmanbhava (Homoeopathic management for prevention & control of non-communicable diseases), Tribal mobile medical unit (23 tribal settlement at Marayoor grama panchayath of Idukki district, Tribal Mobile Medical Unit by NAM visit in regular intervals at their settlements to provide treatments, counseling and dietary advices).
- Some innovative activities conducted under Flexipool Projects through Ayurveda- Mizhi (Medical Intervention at an younger age to prevent / reduce refractive errors.), Santhwanam (Ayurveda treatments to Endosulfan victims of Kasargode district), Snehadhara (Palliative care project at Kozhikode and Idukki districts), Medha (A Comprehensive project to the management of specially identified scholastic backwardness to the children), Pratheeksha (project with comprehensive multidimensional approach to the management of psychiatric disorders among mentally challenged children)

As per the discussion held during the review meeting it is observed that in some of the States both Governing and Executive bodies have not been meeting regularly and thus functions delegated to these bodies are not being performed at the desired level. In some States, the release of budget to implementing agencies is not done timely & undue delay in releasing budget is resulting in various components/ activities of approved SAAP, remaining unimplemented / partially implemented and budget remains unspent.

During the detailed review of the grant in aid provided under NAM and corresponding progress made by the states, the status as reported during the meeting is enclosed at

Annexure-II. Further, the pending UCs of erstwhile Centrally Sponsored Schemes were also discussed and that the States should work for early settlement of such unspent grant at the earliest. Also, it was discussed that the States shall expedite the process of submission of UCs at the earliest as there are explicit guidelines of Ministry of Finance to get UCs and audited reports duly certified by State Govt. with respect to the grant-in-aid released in previous year submitted to the Ministry before budget for next year is released.

The review of implementation of the approved activities of SAAP is not being held regularly and thus time bound implementation could not be ensured leading to delay in completion of the approved activities & parking of unutilized funds at different levels in the States. The reporting in the form of monthly, quarterly and annual physical and financial progress vis-a-vis the approved action plan to the Ministry is irregular. Submission of Utilization Certificate (including audited reports) by States to Ministry of AYUSH has been irregular despite regular reminder by Ministry of AYUSH. State wise position of pending UCs as on December, 2017 is as follows:

State	UC Pending (Rs. In Lakhs)
Punjab	615.51
Chandigarh	0.00
Haryana	793.38
Uttarakhand	507.21
Delhi	726.31
Jammu & Kashmir	1018.42

The Monitoring & Evaluation mechanism of works/ activities under NAM is poor and the monitoring and evaluation reports have not been received from State Governments. **Third party evaluation of works during the last 3 years is also required** to be taken up so as to have the feedback on output – outcome analysis and impact generated on ground vis-à-vis the objectives laid down under the Mission. It is pertinent to mention here that funds are provided to States for Monitoring & Evaluation activities and consultancy in SAAP. **The State AYUSH Societies are requested to make available the copy of minutes of meetings of Governing Body & Executive Body for record and reference of the Ministry of AYUSH**

Secretary AYUSH concluded the meeting and mentioned that such type of interaction gives us an opportunity to retrospect ourselves. Further, he also suggested that in future such type of video conferencing meeting on quarterly basis has to be carried out for better coordination between Ministry and States. It is also mentioned by him that State has to take prompt & pro-active exercise for smooth functioning of the scheme and reflect their issues to the Ministry without any hesitation.

The following points were summarized on the conclusion of meeting. The State representatives were asked to take up due follow up action:

1. Strengthening of Administrative setup of AYUSH in States/UTs.
2. Speedy utilization of funds / submission of UCs.
3. Timely reporting of physical/financial progress.
4. Compliance to the conditionalities of the approved SAAP.
5. Submission of SAAP by February 2018 for the year 2018-19.
6. Streamline NMPB implementation.
7. Integration of Health & wellness centres.
8. Timely completion of training of ASHAs/ANMs at State/UT level.
9. Strengthening of State pharmacies for availability of quality drugs on sustained basis in AYUSH health facilities.
10. Creation of Whatsapp group/NAM portal with all States/UTs in the group for better coordination and dissemination of information.