

MINUTES ON THE STATE LEVEL WORKSHOP ON RSBY HELD ON 15 OCTOBER 2008

On October 15, 2008, the state level workshop on Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana was held at Hotel Tulip, Raipur.

During his welcome address, the Health Secretary opined, the scheme will provide social protection to 10 lakh BPL families living in six pilot districts and later on across the state. The scheme will reduce out-of-pocket expenditure consequent to diagnostic and curative services during sickness.

Subsequently, Mr. Anil Swarup, Director General (Labour Welfare), took over the proceedings. He expressed surprise with the fact that the scheme is being launched at such a late phase while the state is having a large section of BPL population.

This scheme based on business model, unlike other schemes launched earlier, where all the stakeholders as the service provider, the insurance company etc. have direct benefits, would take proactive role in making this scheme successful. This business model of the scheme also obviates the government of any monitoring activity. Being a cashless scheme with e-transaction, it needs very good understanding of the stakeholders and involvement. This would strengthen the public health system by bringing cash. Nevertheless, it is very simple to the beneficiaries.

He further stressed upon the need for an accurate BPL family database, pivotal to launch the scheme, work for which is in progress. Moreover, the state needs to generate sufficient awareness among the beneficiaries for the scheme to ensure its success. He opined that the development of BPL database and organization of district level workshop be run parallel.

For a comprehensive understanding of the scheme, he suggested visits to Gujarat and Haryana where the scheme is running quite successfully. He also answered the questions raised by the participants.

Thereafter, the Memorandum of Understanding between the Centre and the State has been signed by Director General Labour Welfare and Health Secretary respectively.

Dr. Nishant Jain made a presentation explaining the roles of each stakeholder. According to him, the role of District Key Managers and Field Key Officers holds the key for success of the scheme.

Representatives of the smart card agency, Alankit group, made a video presentation about the whole process from the point of card distribution to availing of services, which provided an audio-visual message to the audience.

The workshop ended on a positive note with stakeholders expressing their full commitment for making it successful in Chhattisgarh.

The major decisions arrived at the end of the day are:

1. The BPL database for the six districts shall be developed as quickly as possible.
2. The District Key Managers and Field Key Officers be appointed quickly, so that district level workshop can be held for smooth operationalisation of the scheme.
3. The contract with Oriental Insurance Company should be signed within a short span of time for planned smart card distribution.
4. The nodal set up be established shortly for overall functioning and monitoring of the scheme.

List of Participants:

1. Mr. Anil Swarup, Director General, Ministry of Labour and Employment
2. Mr. R S Vishwakarma, Secretary, Department of Health and Family Welfare, Chhattisgarh
3. Mr. Ajay Pandey, Special Secretary, Department of Health and Family Welfare, Chhattisgarh
4. Mrs. D S Ahluwalia, Mission Director, NRHM
5. Dr. B S Sarva, Director, Department of Health and Family Welfare, Chhattisgarh
6. Dr. K R Antony, Director, State Health Resource Centre, Chhattisgarh
7. Dr. Subhash Pandey, State Polio Officer
8. Dr. R R Sahni, Joint Director and Nodal Officer for RSBY
9. Dr. K K Srivastava, Joint Director, NRHM
10. Mrs. Urmila Goswami, Under Secretary, Ministry of Labour and Employment
11. Mr. G P Bhatia, Deputy Welfare Commissioner, Chhattisgarh
12. Dr. Kamlesh Jain, Senior Programme Coordinator, State Health Resource Centre, Chhattisgarh
13. Dr. J P Mishra, Consultant, GTZ
14. Dr. Nishant Jain, Consultant, RSBY, GTZ
15. Mr. Urya Nag, State Programme Manager, NRHM
16. Dr K Madan Gopal, consultant, SHRC
17. Dr. Surendra Gupta, Nodal Coordinator, RSBY, State Health Resource Centre
18. CMHO, of six pilot districts
19. Representatives from Oriental Insurance Company
20. Representatives from various NGOs
21. Other concerned officials for RSBY