

Minutes of Convergence meeting on Adolescent and Reproductive Health ARSH (NRHM) held at Hotel Donyi-Polo Ashok on 12th November 2012.

A convergence meeting on Adolescent and Reproductive Health (ARSH) was organized by National Rural Health Mission, Naharlagun was held on 12th November 2012 at Hotel Donyi-Polo Ashoka, Itanagar under the chairmanship of Shri Tape Bagra, Commissioner (Health & Family Welfare). The objective of the meeting was:

- Formation of committee for State, District and Block levels.
- Formation of state, district and block level monitoring teams.
- Explore linkages, both existing and possible, with the program of other stakeholders.
- Identification of nodal person from Education and WCD.
- How to implement WIFS & SHP in the State, District and Block levels.
- Lesson learnt if any.

The meeting was attended by

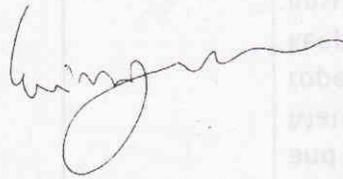
1. Shri Tape Bagra, Commissioner (Health & Family Welfare),
2. Shri Bidya Gadi, Mission Director (NRHM),
3. Dr. K Nishing, Director Health Services,
4. Mrs. N Ringu, Deputy Director, Women and Child Development,
5. Mrs. O Boko, Gender Coordinator, RMSA, Deptt. Of Education,
6. Shri Ganialen, Principal, SCERT
7. Dr M K Thakuria, MO, PHC ETALIN,
8. Dr. D Padung, Nodal Officer (NRHM)
9. Dr. A Perme Ete, SPO (M&E) cum Nodal Officer (Adolescent Health)
10. Staffs of NRHM office, Naharlagun.

In the welcome speech, Mission Director (NRHM) said that Women & Child Development & SSA along with the health Department plays an important role in shaping the rural society and hence, these Departments should work together so that the people all over the state and especially the Adolescents and the young children can avail all the facilities that are made with their well-being as the target.

Dr A Perme Ete, State Program Officer cum Nodal Officer (Adolescent Health) shared the over-view of School Health Program in Arunachal Pradesh, its focus, aims & objectives, Program implementation, maintenance of Registers & also formation of State mentoring and monitoring teams at both the state, District & block levels.

Dr D Padung, Nodal Officer (NRHM) gave an over-view about the Adolescent Anemia & Weekly Iron Folic Acid Supplement. He gave out facts like 51.2% of girls and 35% of boys in the age group of 15-19 years are anemic in Arunachal Pradesh. As the Anemia level is very high in the state, he highlighted

13.1	the objectives, targets, strategies, management structures, implementation of WIFS program. He also shared that Monday is to be declared as National WIFS Day as the children under the age of 10-19 years will be given Iron Folic Acid Tablets every Monday at the school. The month of February and August is to be identifies as De-worming Month as de-worming is to be done every 6 months. IFA tablets to be blue in colour and not red as it is identified as medicine. It is also to be told that IFA tablet is not medicine but nutritional supplements for the children so to have healthy health and mind.				
13.2	Shri Ganialen, Principal SCERT informed about the how awareness is brought in the schools through role plays, Folk dances and the students are given out information about sexual harassments, HIV/AIDS but nothing much is being told about the health of the Adolescent population. He said that he was happy that NRHM in collaboration with WCD & Education Department is taking steps on the health of the children. He also informed that as there is already nodal persons identified in the schools, these nodal persons can be appointed as nodal teachers for the better implementation of WIFS/SHP, in the state.				
13.3	Shri Tape Bagra, Commissioner (Health & Family Welfare) further carried forward the meeting saying that Iron Folic Supplement was already present since long time. As the program was failure, the Govt. of India launched new program where the concerned Departments like WCD, Education and Health works together & maintains data and statistics so that they have dependable data to plan out strategies and also to know the progress and failures. He also suggested that the concerned departments should plan out who all will be given the training as giving training to the entire population is not feasible and the training should be kept minimum 1 or 2 days. He also stressed that educating the people through Anganwadi, PRI, SSA teachers; NGO's who work for the women and children and those women or men from the community who are sincerely dedicated to work for the people should be enrolled. These agencies work with the rural people in close tandem hence, they should be brought into the picture to create mass awareness and to make the program a success. When the program is launched, it should reach to the people at ground level and that can be achieved by focusing more on block level, grass root level, CHC & PHC level. He also mentioned about the formation of committee as per guidelines and get it approved by the Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh & notify it.				
13.4	Dr D Padung, Nodal Officer (NRHM) suggested that having one particular person in-charge for a particular program makes it easier for the concerned person to keep a tab on the progress of the program & also for smoother functioning of the program. In regards to this, the Deputy Director, WCD has to say that one representative person from one particular Deptt. though may be a good suggestion, it may not be feasible in long run when that concerned person may be engaged in some other work & unable to attend the meeting. To sum it all up, the Commissioner (Health and Family Welfare) suggested that the Director of the concerned Department decide whom to send & appoint as the nodal officer so that the program is not hampered.				
13.5	Dr K Nishing, Director Health Services, said that due to failure of the program in the past, the Govt. of India has made new guidelines for its success and hence, we have to work accordingly with Slight technical modifications may be made with the guidelines so to suit the state. He requested all the stakeholders to cooperate & let the program be success.				
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Remarks about the program were given by the Commissioner (Health & Family Welfare). He said that

- it was first ever meeting on convergence hence, in order to make it a success further training to the District, Block level, ASHA, NGO's, SSA teachers, Anganwadi workers needs to be provided to them.
- The program needs to be publicised in such a way that the beneficiaries know about the facilities & services that are being provided to them by the Govt. Of India to make them healthy and fit person.
- This program aims at taking care of a child from childhood itself as maximum growth of body and mental health takes place during this time. And when maximum care is taken at this period, the child grows up to be healthy person and perform properly. This is the most constructive phase of life. It is the foundation to have good and healthy citizen of the country.
- Follow up of the meeting should take place as, it helps in knowing the flow of the program and also to know the loop-holes of the program and work upon it and to get it approved by the Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh & notify it.
- When the program is in place with all the activities chalked out systematically then, a formal announcement can be made about the program.
- He lastly said that the meeting be fruitful and wished all the success.

The meeting concluded with vote of thanks by Dr K Nishing, Director Health Services.