

Major Events & Achievements

(April, 2020)

1. Progress under Flagship Programmes:

1.1. Ayushman Bharat Health & Wellness Centers (AB-HWCs): Approvals for more than 1,03,000 Ayushman Bharat – Health & Wellness Centres (AB-HWCs) have been accorded. Out of these, as reported by the States/UTs on the HWC portal, 39,605 HWCs have been operationalized till 1st May, 2020.

1.2. The progress under Ayushman Bharat – **Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PMJAY)** in the month of April, 2020 is as under:

Metric	Up to 31.03.2020	Up to 29.04.2020	Progress
E-Cards Issued*	12,44,77,584	12,45,65,389	87,805
Hospital Admissions	95,07,555	9803383	2,95,828
Amount Authorized for Hospital Admissions	12945.4 crore	13193.5 Crore	248.1 crore
Hospitals empanelled	20,853	21,276	423

NOTE: The above information relates to beneficiaries supported under PMJAY in alliance with state schemes. *E-Cards Issued includes 4.68 crore state cards for PMJAY beneficiaries made by states using their own IT systems.

1.3. Under Kayakalp, internal assessment, peer assessment, and external assessment held for 31,355 facilities, 18816 facilities and 7739 facilities respectively. A total of 3969 facilities awarded Kayakalp award. This data is received from all the States/UTs for FY 2019-20 except for Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Chandigarh & Lakshadweep.

2. COVID-19 Pandemic:

2.1. Following guidelines related to COVID-19 Pandemics have been issued (i) Dialysis services; (ii) Maintenance of essential services; (iii) Planning and utilization of Emergency COVID-19 Response Plan funds; (iv) Guidance note regarding Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Package (PMGKP) Insurance Scheme for health workers along with FAQs regarding the Scheme; (v) Daily data report w.r.t. establishment of standalone COVID-19 public health facilities was collected till the portal was stabilized and (v) Helped processing the documents to secure UNICEF, ADB, AIIB and JICA grants/loans.

2.2. Guidelines issued to all States/UTs on 11th April 2020 about TB related services under National TB Elimination Programme (NTEP) during countrywide lock-down due to COVID-19 Pandemic, reiterating therein that all Microscopy centers, Rapid molecular testing laboratories, Culture and DST Laboratories as well as the Reference laboratories under NTEP are to ensure uninterrupted services.

2.3. All States/UTs have been requested to ramp-up the existing COVID-19 testing capacity across the country, using CBNAAT as well as Truenat platforms available under National TB Elimination Programme.

2.4. Chief Secretaries, DG&IG (Prisons) of all States/UTs have been informed vide Special Secretary (Health) vide DO Letter dated 17.04.2020 regarding Workplace policy framework for TB & Operational Guidelines on HIV and TB interventions in Prisons and other closed settings.

2.5. A Video conference was held on 20th April, 2020 with all State/District TB officials and WHO consultants to review the status of TB services during COVID-19 Pandemic and further Advisory issued to all States/UTs on 27th April, 2020.

2.6. A video conference was held on 27th April 2020 to engage and seek valuable inputs of TB stakeholders on consultation to discuss Global Fund assistance as part of COVID-19 Response Mechanism (C-19RM).

2.7. In view of the critical situation arising out of COVID-19 pandemic, no survey field work of 5th round of National Family Health Survey could be undertaken in the States/UTs.

2.8. National AIDS Control Organization (NACO) has issued advisory/instructions on 'preventive measures to be observed for HIV infected pregnant women seeking care under NACP' to all health functionaries associated with providing HIV care on 21st April, 2020 and 'Oral Substitution Therapy (OST) Strategy during COVID-19' to all State AIDS Control Societies (SACS) on 24th April, 2020.

2.9. A review meeting of various components of NACO was held on 30th April, 2020 to review the work done under National AIDS Control Programme (NACP) during the COVID-19 scenario and way forward.

2.10. A virtual meeting was held on 8th April, 2020 (i) to get a status update of elimination of mother-to-child transmission (EMTCT) services during COVID-19 scenario, (ii) to develop a guidance note on continuation of EMTCT services focusing on operational aspects.

2.11. A series of National Distance Learning Seminars (NDLS) for all staff from District AIDS Prevention and Control Unit (DAPCU) was conducted on 8th and 9th April, 2020. The main objective of the seminar was to (i) share knowledge about the current status of the COVID-19 infection in India & the world and (ii) share the NACO advisory for COVID-19 as well as. The seminar was attended by officers from NACO, State AIDS Control Societies (SACS), DAPCU, Technical Support Units (TSU) and members from development partners.

2.12. A virtual platform conference was organized on 11th and 17th April, 2020 to assess availability of blood units in different states in view of the reported shortage from some states due to COVID-19 related lock down, and necessary steps needed to be taken in future in order to maintain sufficient stock of blood in the Blood centers and in the state.

2.13. Advisory has been shared with all the States/UTs regarding uninterrupted supply of the MDT to all the on treatment leprosy affected patients during lockdown period.

2.14. Following advisories/ orders etc. have been issued in connection with Central Government Health Scheme (CGHS):

2.14.1. Advisory to empanelled hospitals and CGHS rate for COVID-19 Testing.

2.14.2. In view of the extension of lockdown period due to COVID-19, the validity of the CGHS Card expiring on 31st March, 2020 has been extended till 31st May, 2020 i.r.o. CGHS pensioner beneficiaries contributing on annual basis and Central Government serving employees superannuating on 31.03.2020 and thereafter as per terms and conditions contained in Office Order dated 27.04.2020.

2.14.3. Reimbursement of OPD medicines: Special Sanction in view of COVID-19 till 31st May, 2020. The CGHS Wellness Centres are functional and CGHS beneficiaries also have the option to collect medicines through CGHS Wellness Centres as per normal practice, instead of purchasing from market.

3. Legislative measures and regulation:

3.1. The Ministry has deferred/ suspended Rule 8, Rule 9(8) and Rule 18A(6) of the Pre-Conception and Pre-natal Diagnostic Techniques (Prohibition of Sex Selection) Rules, 1996 until 30.06.2020 vide GoI Gazette Notification dated 04.04.2020, in view of the emergency situation arisen due to COVID-19 Pandemic. This will have retrospective effect i.e. from the date of the lockdown, till 30.06.2020.

4. Miscellaneous:

4.1. The G20 Health Ministerial Meeting and 3rd Health Working Group meeting of G20 held virtually on 19th April, 2020 and 17th – 18th April, 2020 respectively

4.2. Hon'ble Minister of Health and Family Welfare on 9th April, 2020 reviewed the current Status of Blood Transfusion Services in the country and had an overview on current stock status of blood and blood components in various States.

4.3. Hon'ble Union Minister of Health & Family Welfare addressed all WHO field Staff (NPS, TB, CVHOs NTDs) & the Senior Officials from all States/UTs through video conferencing on 15th April, 2020.

4.4. A virtual meeting was held on 7th April, 2020 to closely monitor blood stock status in light of recent media reports of shortage of blood. The meeting was attended by officers from NBTC and State Blood Transfusion Council (SBTC).

4.5. A Task Force has been set-up on 3rd April, 2020 by the Central TB Division in the Ministry to finalize the methodology for verification of claims by District/ State/ UT for awards under Sub-National Disease Free Certification for Tuberculosis.

5. Minimum Government, Maximum Governance: Nil.
