

Major Events and Achievements

(September -2021)

A brief report for the month of September, 2021 is as follows.

1. Progress of Flagship Programmes:

1.1. Approvals for about 1.5 lakh Ayushman Bharat – Health & Wellness Centres (AB-HWCs) have been accorded. Out of these, 78,069 Health & Wellness Centres have been operationalized till 29th September, 2021.

2. Legislative and Regulative measures:

2.1 In September 2021, Food Safety and Standards Amendment Regulations, 2021 were notified in respect of Health Supplements, Nutraceuticals, Food for Special Dietary Use; Food for Special Medical Purpose; Functional Foods and Novel Foods; Labelling and Display w.r.t. labelling of Multi-Source Edible Oil and revision of labelling requirements for sweeteners; Tolerance limits of micronutrients; Vegan Foods; Manufacture, sale, store or exhibit for sale; warning on the label of Pan Masala Products and nomenclature of various breads; Approval for Non-Specified Food and Food Ingredients; and Foods for Infant Nutrition.

3. Indo-US Health dialogue:

3.1 4th Indo-US Health Dialogue, hosted by India was held on 27-28th September 2021 at the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi. During the 4th Indo-US Health Dialogue, following two MoUs were signed:

(i) An MoU was signed between Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India and the Department of Health and Human Services of the United States of America concerning cooperation in the field of Health and Biomedical Sciences.

(ii) An MoU was signed between ICMR & NIAID (NIH) for cooperation on an International Center for Excellence in Research (ICER) in Chennai, India.

4. Miscellaneous

4.1 Integrated RMNCAH+N Counselling Manual was released by Hon,ble HFM on the occasion of World Patient Safety Day on 17th September 2021.

4.2 The activities of fifth round of National Family Health Survey (NFHS-5) are in progress. These had got delayed due to nationwide pandemic and the subsequent lockdown situation. The survey is being conducted in an estimated sample of 6.09 lakh households. Under NFHS-5, information has been collected on key areas of family welfare, maternal and child health, fertility, certain communicable and non-communicable diseases etc. IIPS made a presentation on key findings from NFHS-5 and its policy relevance on 1st September, 2021 in the presence of Hon'ble Minister for Health & Family Welfare. The preparatory activities of NFHS-6 have also been initiated.

4.3 International Week of Deaf People was observed during the period 24.09.2021 to 29.09.2021 under the National Programme for Prevention and Control of Deafness (NPPCD). A symposium in hybrid mode was also conducted by Central Health Education Bureau on 24.09.2021 under the chairmanship of Hon'ble MoS for Health and Family Welfare.

4.4 Vide Hon,ble HFM's D.O. letter dated 18th September, 2021 all the Chief Ministers and LGs of States/UTs have been requested for strict implementation of COTPA, 2003 provisions in schools.