

Date: 22.04.2020

Note for record on State Response Team Meeting at NHM and DHS Conference Room chaired by Shri. Sampath Kumar, IAS, Commissioner & Secretary, Department of Health & Family Welfare, Government of Meghalaya.

Important suggestions and recommendations

1. It was suggested that all the Shnongs should be informed about the people registered as Primary or Secondary contacts with the State Government to avoid stigmatization.
2. Information was received that Health workers in rural areas are not being allowed to stay in their respective villages due to fear among people leading to stigmatization.
3. There is a need to bring out positive stories pertaining to Covid 19 situation in state. An example in this regard could be the inspiring approach of Pomlakrai village.
4. A suggestion was made for an Expert Group to monitor the cases on a daily basis pertaining to following of protocol as well as on how a case is being treated
5. In order to motivate people to come forward for self reporting as well as to allay all fears pertaining to Covid 19, it was suggested that a voice note of the case be recorded and disseminated in social media platforms
6. There is a need to educate and prepare people for Home Quarantine, given the fact that in case of a surge, the capacity of the institutional quarantine centre will be exhausted. In this regard, it was suggested that the capacity of the community be strengthened . It was also recommended that a public message should be devised to dispatch this intimation
7. All persons with or without symptoms from the contact list will undergo RTD testing; Need to actively set up more sample collection centres. Active response of Mobile Medical Units is important for house-to-house sample collection
8. For meeting challenges pertaining to lack of vehicles to aid in sample collection, it was decided that DHS to give list of number of vehicles required and the same would be arranged at the earliest by the respective DCs.
9. Special emphasis is to be laid on proper collection of samples from persons

Key Decisions

1. Issue paid advisory for the public in the media at the earliest making them aware of the importance of the next 6 days, stating that anybody showing any kind of SARI symptoms to immediately report to the Headmen so that active testing may be exercised. This is to be done on priority basis
2. A decision was taken to share the names of primary and secondary contacts in confidence with the Rangbah Shnongs by the respective zonal team leaders/medical officers only on need basis to ensure effective monitoring and community participation and get assurance from them that they would not disclose the names at any cost
3. A VC will be held with the Government of Assam in order to learn from their best practices in dealing and containing the Covid outbreak in their state
4. A decision was made that Sodium Hypochlorite should be distributed in free provision kits for all persons who are prescribed to be under Home Quarantine/Isolation
5. It was also decided that after completion of 14 day mandatory quarantine period, the person would be strongly advised to monitor themselves for additional 14 days using a self reporting diary or an online app

