



## ABSTRACT

National Rural Health Mission – Constitution of Village Health and Water Sanitation Committee – Orders – Issued.

### HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (EAP II-2) DEPARTMENT

G.O. (Ms) No.79

Dated: 8.3.2007

Read:

- 1 From the Joint Secretary to Government of India, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, New Delhi, D.O No. P.170/8/23/2006 – RHS, dated 5.11.2006.
- 2 From the Mission Director, State Rural Health Mission, State Health Society, Letter No. 377/SRHM/P3/2007, dated 6.2.2007.
- 3 From the Joint Secretary to Government of India Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, New Delhi, D.O. No.M.11013/48/2005-PA, dated 2.2.2007.

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### ORDER:

Under National Rural Health Mission, Village level Health and Sanitation Committees are to be formed for improving the Health status of the community by placing the responsibilities in their own hands through empowerment. Involving the PRI leaders, informal leaders, NGOs, SHGs, People's Organisations, Health, Nutrition and other development sectors through convergence of activities and services will enhance service utilization, ownership of Health and other development institutions at village level. Hence there is a commitment to constitute Village Health, Water and Sanitation Committee in every Panchayat and to provide an untied grant of Rs.10,000/- annually to this committee. This committee has to be under the umbrella of Panchayat Raj Institutions, while bringing together health with the key determinants of health viz. water and sanitation under National Rural Health Mission. The Government of India have therefore requested to constitute the Village Health, and Sanitation Committee.

2. Based on the guidelines issued for constitution of Village Health and Sanitation Committee, by the Government of India, and as approved in the Executive Committee Meeting held on 13.12.2006, the Mission Director, SRHM has requested the Government to issue order for constitution of Village Health and Sanitation Committees for 12,619 Village Panchayats. Further the Mission Director has requested to permit to draw the untied fund of Rs.10,000 for 12,619 Village Panchayats and release it to the Director of Public Health and Preventive Medicine. The Director of Public Health and Preventive Medicine may be authorised to redistribute it to Village Health, Water and Sanitation Committee through District Health Society concerned. The Mission Director

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has further requested that a separate bank account may be opened for this purpose. The Director of Public Health and Preventive medicine may be requested to conduct the orientation training and to maintain the accounts as required.

3. The Government have examined the proposal of the Mission Director, State Rural Health Mission and decided to accept it. The following orders are issued as approved by the Executive Committee:-

(i) The Government direct that the Village Health, Water and Sanitation Committee be constituted for 12619 village panchayats in correlation with the development committee of the panchayat with the composition of the following members.

Sl. No	Designation	Status
1	Village Panchayat President	: Chairperson
2	Village Health Nurse (VHN)	: Member
		: Secretary
3	Health Inspector	: Member
4	SHG women Representative – 1 (to be nominated by the Chairperson in rotation for one year)	: Member
5	Anganwadi Worker – 1 (to be nominated by the Chairperson in rotation for one year)	: Member

The functions of the Village Health and Water Sanitation Committee are indicated in the Annexure to this order.

(ii) The Mission Director SRHM is permitted to draw and release the entitled fund @ Rs.10,000 for 12619 Village Panchayats to The Director of Public Health and Preventive Medicine, Chennai, as and when fund is received from the Government of India.

(iii) The Director of Public Health and Preventive Medicine is authorized to redistribute the amount annually at the rate of Rs.10,000/- per Village Health, Water and Sanitation Committees through District Health Society concerned.

(iv) A Separate bank account be opened in a Nationalised Bank and the Village Health, Water and Sanitation Committee Chairperson and Village Health Nurse are empowered to operate the bank a/c jointly and to incur the expenditure for the Health, Water and Sanitation activities of the village for the approved activities as per Government of India guidelines with the approval of the Committee.

(v) The Director of Public Health and Preventive Medicine is directed to issue instructions for the proper maintenance of account, audit etc. as required.



(vi) The Director of Public Health and Preventive Medicine is also directed to conduct orientation training to the Committee as per Government of India guidelines.

(BY ORDER OF THE GOVERNOR)

V.K. SUBBURAJ  
SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To

The Mission Director, State Rural Health Mission, Chennai - 6.

The Director of Public Health and Preventive Medicine, Chennai - 6.

✓ All Deputy Directors of Health Services.

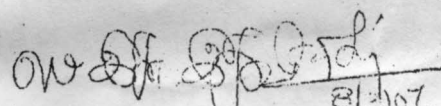
All District Collectors.

The Accountant General, Chennai 18

Copy to

The Senior Personal Assistant to Hon'ble Minister for Health, Chennai - 9.

/ FORWARDED BY ORDER /

  
SECTION OFFICER 8/3/07

## ANNEXURE

### FUNCTIONS OF VILLAGE HEALTH, WATER AND SANITATION COMMITTEE.

- (a) Every village panchayat with the population of upto 1500 can form Village Health Water and Sanitation Committee.
- (b) The Committee should work along with the Development Committee of the Panchayat on matters relating to health, water and sanitation.
- (c) The Committee can have special invitees as required to enable them to function better and achieve the goals. Special invitees can include other elected representatives of the panchayat, including Panchayat Union or District Panchayat, any official connected with the issues, any individuals the Committee decides to invite.
- (d) The Committee can form sub-committees as required and include in it special invitees as members.
- (e) The Committee should try to have all hamlets represented and covered in its members / special invitees / sub-committees.
- (f) The Committee will meet every month and the chairperson may himself /herself call, meeting of the committee any time and on the receipt of such requisition, from the members.

### Orientation and Training

Every Village health, water and sanitation committee after being duly constituted will be oriented and trained to carry out the activities specific to the Villages to meet the NRHM goals.

### Village Health Fund

As a part of NRHM the GOI have provided to each Village health, water and sanitation committee Rs.10000/- annually as Untied grant with the intention to enable local action and ensure that public health activities at the village level receive priority attention.

The fund could be used for any of the following indicative funds can also be utilized for any other activity related to determinants of health as approved by the committee activities:

- a) For any village level public health activity like cleanliness drive, sanitation drive, school health activities, ICDS, Anganwadi level activities household surveys etc.,
- b) Emergency transportation of poor patients.
- c) The untied grant is a resource for community action at the local level and shall only be used for community activities that involve and benefit more than one household.
- d) Nutrition, Education & Sanitation, Environmental protection, Public Health Measures shall be key areas where these funds could be utilized.
- e) For emergency transportation of high risk pregnant women and newborn children



- f) Every village is free to contribute additional grant towards the Village Health, Water and Sanitation Committee.
- g) The untied grant is a resource for community action at the local level and shall only be used for community activities that involve and benefit more than one household.
- h) For creating awareness, Prevention and Control of Vector borne diseases such as Dengue Chikungunya, Malaria etc., at the PHCs and Sub-Centres.

#### **Maintenance of Bank Account**

The Village Health & Sanitation Committee fund shall be credited to a bank account to be opened in a Nationalised bank which will be operated with the joint signature of Village Health Nurse and the Chairperson of Village Health, Water and Sanitation Committee.

At the district level the fund flow will be from the District Health Society through District Project Management Unit to the Block Medical Officer and to the Village Health, Water Sanitation Committee.

The Village Health, Water and Sanitation Committee shall maintain a register of funds received and expenditure incurred. The register shall be inspected from time to time by the Sector Health Nurse, Community Health Nurse, PHC Medical Officers, and Gram Panchayat.

#### **Monthly meeting**

Atleast one meeting per month should be conducted. One third of the member are the quorum for the meeting. Minutes to be recorded properly by the VHN

#### **Roles and Responsibilities of Village Health, Water and Sanitation Committee**

1. Assessing, analyzing, prioritizing and developing area specific health plans for each village / habitations.
2. Building awareness on key issues on health and determinants of health
3. Community mobilization
4. Community resource mobilization
5. Facilitating the delivery of RCH outreach services
6. Promoting community involvement in disease prevention activities
7. Community monitoring of referral compliance of high risk mothers and high risk newborn
8. Emergency transportation of high risk mother and newborn
9. Surveillance and notification of communicable diseases for organizing control measures
10. Promoting Family Welfare services with special focus to Nori Scalpel Vasectomy
11. Ensuring the provision of protected drinking water
12. Encouraging the unreached to avail the basic services
13. Demand generation for basic services

14. Community analyses of causes of infant deaths and maternal deaths and taking necessary action to prevent them.
15. Contacting medical emergency and referral control room in case of emergencies / arranging for vehicle
16. Community surveillance for prevention of female infanticide/ foeticide
17. Facilitating birth and death registration
18. Facilitating the identification and distribution of cash benefits to the eligible beneficiaries under Dr. Muthulakshmi Reddy maternity benefit scheme, JSY, Female child protection scheme etc
19. Facilitating growth monitoring and feeding of ICDS children and ante natal mothers
20. Full support and follow up to all health interventions and needs in the area
21. Community monitoring of utilization of basic services like
  - Conduct and utilization of monthly immunization clinics
  - Daily water chlorination
  - Availability of ORS packets
  - Conduct of BCC meetings
  - Weighing of new born children
  - Regular school attendance of every child
  - Cash benefits to all beneficiaries

#### Reports and reviews

1. Every Village Health, Water and Sanitation committee needs to maintain updated household survey data to enable need based interventions
2. Village Health, Water and Sanitation Committee will maintain a register with complete details of activities undertaken, expenditure incurred etc., and produced for public scrutiny whenever required.
3. The physical performance and financial report of the VHW&SC to be reviewed monthly by the concerned PHC Medical Officer and Block PHC Medical Officer and Panchayat.
4. Block level panchayat committee will review the functioning and progress of activities undertaken by the Village Health, Water and Sanitation Committee

The District Health Mission shall periodically guide, supervise and review the functions of Village Health, Water and Sanitation Committees by developing suitable mechanism.

V.K. SUBBURAJ  
SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

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OW 07.07.2013  
SECTION OFFICER 8/3