



NIPI

Promoting Health In India



STRIDING INTO 2022 WITH INNOVATION
& DIGITAL SOLUTIONS

NIPI Newsletter (October-December 2021)



One more year of unease amidst perseverance concludes with even a greater resolve! All of us undertook multipronged efforts to hopefully see the end of COVID-19 pandemic in 2020. However, the world, including us, was struck even harder in 2021. Yet, we as a nation stood taller, did not lose hope and made even a stronger commitment to end COVID-19. Among the multiple efforts by MoHFW were development of COVID-19 vaccine & roll-out of vaccination programme and leveraging of technology to strengthen service provision in health programs.

In 2021, the Norway India Partnership Initiative (NIPI) continued to support the national and state governments in the COVID-19 fight along with implementation of activities envisaged under the RMNCHA+N. As a stakeholder in healthcare, the past year has taught us that innovations can speed up and drive us all closer to our goals despite obstacles. NIPI, with innovation at the center of our efforts, supported Government of Madhya Pradesh in piloting decision support system for Community Health Officers (CHOs) managing Health & Wellness Centers (HWCs) to improve maternal and child health services and also piloted a Chatbot to empower health workers in communities to screen and manage paediatric COVID-19 suspected cases as per Gol protocols.

NIPI continued to support Rajasthan, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha and Jammu & Kashmir in achieving LaQshay certification for health facilities, assessments at Newborn Stabilization Units (NBSUs), Special Newborn Stabilization Units (SNCUs) in Odisha and Bihar, respectively, as well as Home Based Care of the Young (HBYC) in Madhya Pradesh NIPI also supported the state governments of Jammu & Kashmir, Bihar and Madhya Pradesh in showcasing its excellent work in the Global Digital Forum organized in December 2021, how digital technology and Artificial Intelligence powered tools are aiding frontline workers as well as administrators in making timely decisions in the COVID-19 fight.

As we conclude the year, this edition provides glimpses of NIPI supported work during October-December 2021.

Wishing All a Happy and Safe New Year, 2022!

Glimpse of our key activities from October - December 2021



Engaging and Empowering Families in Newborn Survival at Public Health Facilities in Bihar

Family Participatory Care (FPC) provides a platform in which a family is encouraged and empowered as the constant care provider, in addition to available health staff, to supplement the care of a sick newborn in the nursery as well as at home, following discharge from the health facility. At present, FPC is being promoted in facilities with Special Newborn Care Units (SNCU) to ensure that the infant gets best care from both, family as well as the facility staff. Strengthening of FPC has long been recognized as being instrumental in strengthening newborn care practices across the continuum of care.

The Norway India Partnership Initiative (NIPI) is providing technical support to State Health Society Bihar (SHSB) in strengthening FPC at facilities with a designated SNCU for few years. From 7-8th October 2021, SHSB organized a state level workshop to review the progress of SNCUs in the state. NIPI with other development partners extended the technical support during this workshop. Inaugurating the workshop, the Additional Executive Director, SHSB briefed participants regarding the importance of quality of care and how vital the functioning of a SNCU becomes in improving critical care practices at public health facilities in the state.

NIPI utilized this opportunity to orient the participating SNCU personnel on FPC. Nearly 100 participants, including SNCU in-charges, deputy superintendents of facilities with operational SNCUs and staff nurses from state's 35 SNCUs were oriented on the FPC model and the package.

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“ NIPI Team is providing technical support to State Health Society Bihar (SHSB) in strengthening Family Participatory Care (FPC) at facilities with a designated Special Newborn Care Units (SNCU). ”



Mr. Gaurav, STL, NIPI being felicitated in SNCU Review meeting



Bolstering Capacity for Emergency Maternal and Child Health Services through First Referral Units (FRUs) in Bihar

First Referral Units have been recognized as key to ensuring availability and strengthening Emergency Maternal and Child health services. It has long been an important goal of the State Health Society, Bihar to strengthen the network of FRUs in the state to ensure provision of quality services to expecting mothers, especially in time of emergency. To reach it, one FRU should be setup per 500 thousand population in the state; 217 in total as per the 2011 Census. However, only 149 FRUs were identified till now. The State Health Society, Bihar with technical support from NIPI has identified 69 secondary level health facilities from various districts to be setup as FRUs, increasing the total FRU strength in the state to 218.

These new facilities have been selected based on various criteria such as distance from district headquarter, remote area, new CHC building, sanctioned manpower at these CHCs, etc. Till recently one of the biggest constraints for SHS in expanding the number of FRUs in the state has been the required infrastructure and manpower. This has also been a challenge in sustaining functionality of already recognized FRUs. However, in the last few years, health infrastructure has been bolstered to meet the rising demand by upgrading old facilities as well as sanctioning of new buildings. Alongside, the required health workforce has also been recruited thus paving way for setting up of FRUs at these newly identified facilities.

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“ NIPI Team facilitated two important sessions during the workshop to operationalize FRUs: first on NMR strategy and role of FRUs and the second on key indicators to monitor progress of FRUs. ”



| Sri Keshawendra Kumar, AED, SHSB

OUR WORK IN THE STATE



Strengthening First Referral Units: NIPI supported training of newly notified FRU representatives

Ensuring evidence based high impact innovations for care of small and sick newborns: NIPI facilitated State Level Training of Trainers on FPC at NMCH Patna



Orienting District and Block Level Officials on Operational Aspects of HBYC Program in District Jamui

Participating in Common Review Mission (CRM) of Government of India: NIPI team visited district Lakhisarai along with MD NHM to monitor of preparations for CRM





Developing a Decision Support System for delivering evidence-based MNCH Care under 'Ayushman Bharat' in Madhya Pradesh

Government of India launched "Ayushman Bharat" to provide accessible, affordable and equitable health care for all communities and realize the goal of health for all. Under the initiative, Health and Wellness Centers (HWCs) are being setup across the country manned by a new cadre of health worker – the 'Community Health Officers' (CHOs). CHOs are serving as the bridge between communities and the health facilities and provide comprehensive primary care.

The National Health Mission (NHM), Madhya Pradesh in collaboration with Norway India Partnership Initiative (NIPI) has developed a Decision Support System (DSS) for CHOs. This is a "client centric decision support system" that will support CHOs in patient management at HWCs. As majority of CHOs are new in their roles, carry minimal clinical experience and limited capacity in complex decision making, the tool will empower them to provide evidence-based Maternal Newborn and Child health care services. The DSS is a smart device (mobile/tablet) based, user-friendly application. It supports a CHO in effectively practicing evidence-based care and managing clients, including children and mothers.

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OUR WORK IN THE STATE



Strengthening community processes: NIPI Facilitated training session for newly selected Block Community Mobilizers

Taking care of the young ones: HBYC training of ASHAs in District Narsingpur



Orienting CHOs on HBYC and HBNC during induction training organized by LN Nursing College Bhopal

Ensuring evidence-based MNCH Care under Ayushman Bharat: CHOs using DSS Application for screening under 5 children at HWC







Accelerating Quality of Maternal Services through LaQshya in Rajasthan

The Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India, launched the quality certification program- LaQshya in 2017. The aim of the initiative is to reduce maternal and newborn morbidity and mortality by Improving quality of care around birth in Labour Rooms (LRs), Maternal Operation Theatres (MOTs) Government of Rajasthan is working proactively in ensuring all its high delivery load facilities achieve LaQshya certification at the earliest. NIPI is providing technical and programmatic support to all stakeholders at the state and facility level in the process of reaching LaQshya certification. A major role being played by NIPI is coordination for LaQshya at the state level and supporting the facilities in the scheduled internal and external LaQshya assessments, which include gap assessment using the prescribed set of service delivery standards, mentoring, monitoring through supportive supervision visits.

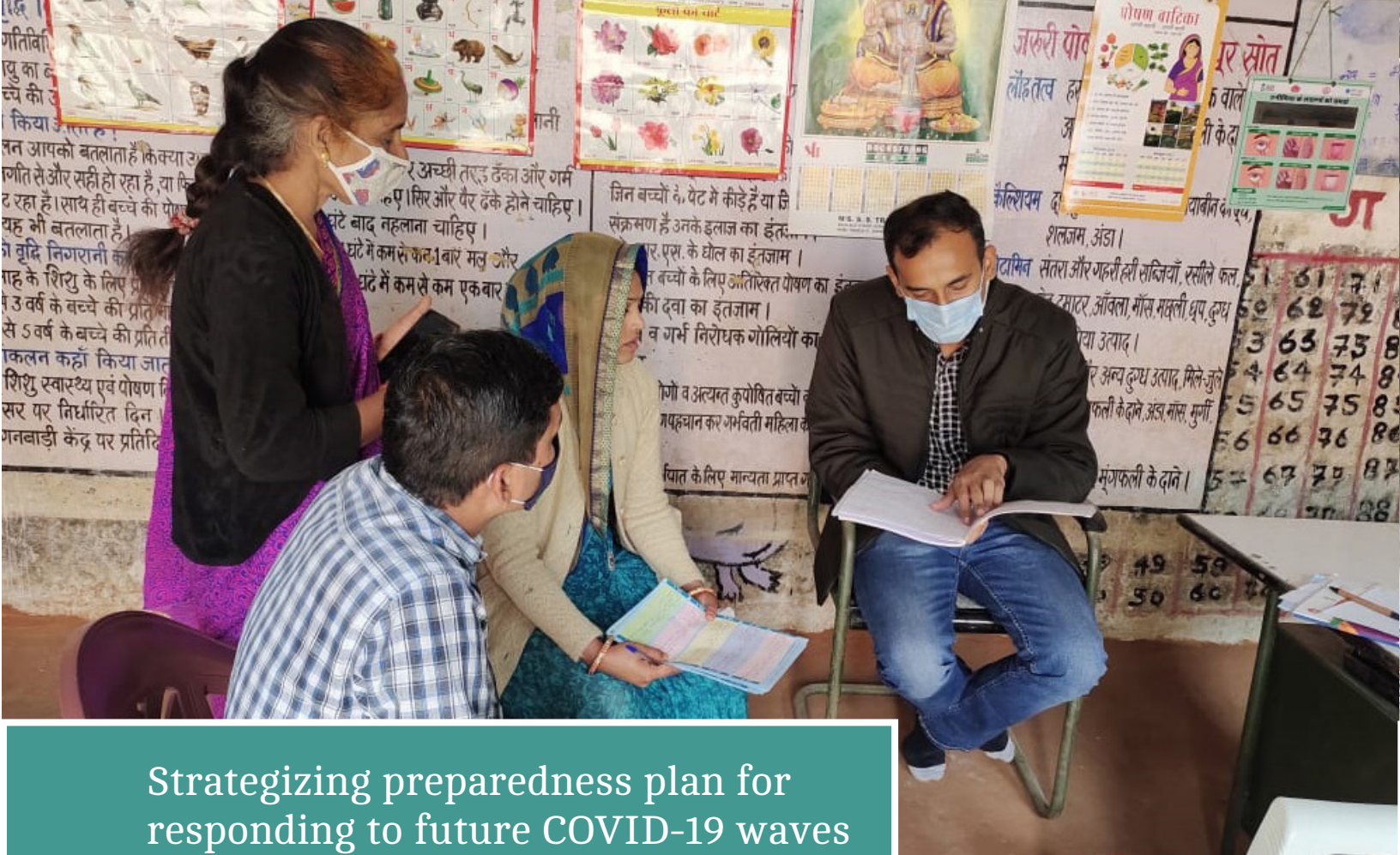
During the COVID pandemic, NIPI supported the state NHM to maintain continuity of key activities under LaQshya by organizing mock drills on virtual assessments of labour rooms and maternal OTs at the participating facilities. During these virtual assessments and mentorship sessions, the facility staff were oriented regarding preparations of areas covered under LaQshya assessment.

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“NIPI Team is supporting National Health Mission (NHM), Rajasthan to maintain continuity of key activities under LaQshya during the COVID-19 pandemic by organizing mock drills on virtual assessments of labour rooms and maternal OTs at the participating facilities.”



National LaQshya Assessment of CHC Chirawa, Jhunjhunu



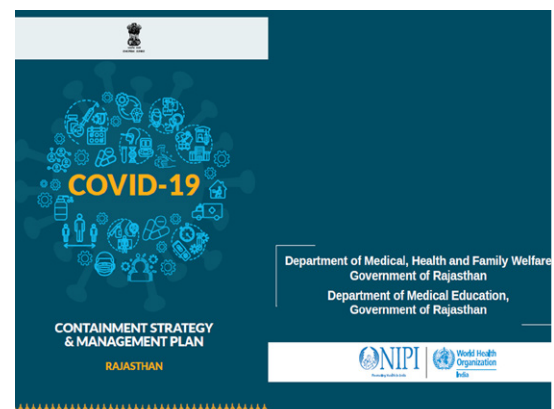
Strategizing preparedness plan for responding to future COVID-19 waves in Rajasthan

Since the onset of COVID-19 pandemic, the state of Rajasthan has witnessed 8,921 deaths till 30th June 2021 amongst its 952,000 COVID-19 positive cases; a case fatality rate of 0.93%. Following the second COVID-19 wave, Government of Rajasthan constituted a state level committee to prepare Government's strategy to tackle any future COVID-19 waves in the state. This six-member committee- the COVID Committee is headed by the Commissioner, medical education and includes Additional Director IDSP, State Program Manager (NHM), a professor of PSM from Sawai Maan Singh (SMS) Medical College, WHO and Norway India Partnership Initiative (NIPI) representative. The COVID Committee has developed a COVID-19 Containment Strategy and Management Plan for Rajasthan. The purpose of this document is to provide guidance to all stakeholders to ensure concerted and coordinated response to the COVID-19 pandemic in the state as well as sustaining non-COVID activities during the pandemic and achieving the latter two through preparation of district level action plans. The document elaborates on strategies for early identification, containment and management of COVID-19 wave.

The strategy proposed in the document cuts across five domains of prevention, preparation, curative services, ancillary services and sustaining service provision and rests on seven pillars addressing the COVID threat in a holistic manner.

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“ NIPI Team's representative was appointed to the six-member COVID-19 committee setup by Govt. of Rajasthan to prepare state's strategy and plan to tackle any future COVID-19 waves in the state. ”





Releasing a COVID-19 testimonial book - “COVID KI KAHANI JANTA KI ZABANI” in Rajasthan

Once the COVID-19 pandemic began to soar back in March 2021, Rajasthan was first among states to implement population level preventive and containment measures. The Department of Medical & Health, Government of Rajasthan (DMHS-GoR) regularly monitored COVID-19 positivity rate and tracked COVID-19 positive cases across the state and initiated appropriate measures at the policy level as well as in the field. These timely actions, keeping the common citizen at the center, were integral in all decisions taken by the Government to limit the number of COVID-19 cases in the state.

During the second COVID-19 wave in 2021 in the state various district level initiatives were instituted by the DMHS-GoR also covering the private hospitals and non-governmental organizations in order to save lives and livelihood of COVID-19 patients and their families. These initiatives with supreme consideration to save human lives and alleviate any potential human suffering. The initiatives included, Emergency procurement and provision of Oxygen for medical institutions as well as citizens and accelerating establishment of Oxygen generation plants, free of cost testing and treatment of, including free drugs, of all COVID-19 patients at government facilities, regulating costs for COVID-19 testing and treatment at private hospitals, ramping up ambulance services, free of cost COVID-19 vaccination.

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“ NIPI Team, WHO and the DMHS-GoR captured the initiatives, resulting best practices as well as citizen’s perspective of various measures and services to tackle COVID-19 as testimonials in a book titled “COVID KI KAHANI JANTA KI ZABANI”. ”



OUR WORK IN THE STATE



NIPI supported Training on Family Participatory Care at RNT Medical College Udaipur

NIPI Rajasthan team welcoming New Director RCH



Monitoring of SNCU Baran during National Newborn week

NIPI conducting FPC assessment in district Churu





Strengthening Quality of Newborn-Care through FPC at SNCU in Odisha

Family Participatory Care (FPC) at Special Newborn Care Units (SNCUs) helps in developing competence and confidence of family members to provide essential care to infants in home settings after they are discharged from facility. FPC with Kangaroo Mother Care (KMC) as its integral part, is a low resource intensive and high impact intervention which improves the health of low birth weight infants and empower parents and families in actively caring their infants during facility stay under the guidance of trained staff nurses. Presently Odisha has 43 functional SNCUs across 30 districts where FPC has been introduced and is actively being practiced.

The Norway India Partnership Initiative (NIPI) has been providing technical assistance to the state of Odisha in strengthening FPC and conducting periodic assessments to ascertain quality in 10 aspirational districts. NIPI team recently concluded the second round of FPC assessment in October 2021 in the 10 SNCUs at district level hospitals in these aspirational districts.

A structured tool (questionnaire) was used to interview doctors and staff nurses at SNCUs and two mothers at each SNCU. An observation checklist was also filled for each SNCU and records were verified during the assessment. A total of 10 staff nurses, 10 doctors and 20 mothers were interviewed.

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“NIPI Team has been providing technical assistance to the state of Odisha in strengthening FPC and conducting periodic assessments to ascertain quality in 10 aspirational districts.”





Marching towards improved care of young ones in Odisha

Home Based care for Young Child (HBYC) was launched in 2018 with an aim to reduce child mortality, morbidity and improve nutrition status among children of the country. HBYC envisages additional five home visits of all children between 3 to 15 months by ASHA after 42 days of delivery. These home visits focus on a set of defined activities such as counselling for complementary feeding, growth monitoring, monitoring of early childhood development, childhood vaccination and WASH practices.

HBYC is being implemented in all 30 districts of Odisha, including the 10 aspirational districts. Norway India Partnership Initiative (NIPI) is providing Technical Assistance (TA) to Government of Odisha to strengthen HBYC implementation in the aspirational districts. NIPI is supporting the NHM team in assessing quality of HBYC implementation; first round was completed in April 2021 and 2nd round in Oct 2021. Two blocks in each aspirational district were selected at random for the assessments. During assessments, structured tools were used to conduct interview of health providers; ; ten interviews each of district nodal officer, Dy. Manager RCH, Asst. Manger ASHA; 20 interviews with Block Programme Managers; 34 interviews with ANM, 56 interviews with ASHAs and 100 interviews with mothers of children between 3 to 15 months were conducted.

[READ MORE](#)

“NIPI Team is providing Technical Assistance (TA) to Govt. of Odisha to strengthen HBYC implementation in the aspirational districts and is supporting the NHM team in assessing quality of HBYC implementation.”





Using an Innovative Approach for Cervical Cancer Screening in Odisha

Non-communicable Diseases (NCD) account for 71% of total deaths and are emerging as major public health concern across the globe. Cervical cancer is the 2nd most common form of cancer in women with an estimated 122,844 new cases and 67,477 deaths annually in India. India accounts for nearly one-third of the global cervical cancer deaths, with women facing a 1.6% cumulative risk of developing cervical cancer and 1.0% cumulative death risk from cervical cancer. Cervical cancer is one of the most preventable cancers today.

Evidence from the developed countries and around the world shows that screening to early detection and treatment reduces mortality from cancer. In most cases cervical cancer can be prevented through early detection. To screen cervical cancer at the community level, the NHM and Department of H&FW decided to pilot a project on “home based screening of cervical cancer using HPV kits” using NHM’s innovation fund. The pilot is being implemented in two urban areas of Cuttack and Bhubaneswar in the state.

In this context Norway India Partnership Initiative (NIPI) as a valued partner supported the state government in organizing an orientation meeting under the Chairmanship Additional Director, Urban Public Health (Ad-UPH) at Thoria Sahi, UPHC, Cuttack on 09.11.21.

[READ MORE](#)

“ NIPI team as a valued partner supported the state government in organizing an orientation meeting under the Chairmanship Additional Director, Urban Public Health (Ad-UPH) at Thoria Sahi, UPHC, Cuttack. ”





“SAMMPurNA” Evaluation to further Maternal and Child Survival in Odisha

SAMMPurNA, (Sishu Abong Matru Mrityu ra Purna Nirakarana Abhijan) is an Odisha specific strategy for reduction of MMR, NMR, IMR and U5MR implemented by the state during 2015-20. SAMMPurNA focuses on 15 low performing districts identified through a composite scoring index of critical health indicators which significantly impact survival of mothers and children.

Department of Health and Family Welfare tasked NIPI to undertake an assessment of SAMMPurNA strategy to understand the gains achieved under its various programme components. NIPI designed the evaluation & tools and oriented the evaluators including state officials and representatives of development partners like UNICEF, UNFPA and Jhpiego.

Assessments were conducted in three SAMMPurNA districts (Koraput, Mayurbhanj and Sundargarh) and three non-SAMMPurNA districts (Ganjam, Jajpur, Sambalpur) from 13-17th December 2021. Two blocks in each of the six districts were selected randomly for the assessment. Labour rooms and Village Health Sanitation and Nutrition Days (VHSND) were observed in all six districts and in-depth interviews with programme staff and frontline workers were conducted.

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“ NIPI designed the evaluation & tools and oriented the evaluators including state officials and representatives of development partners like UNICEF, UNFPA and Jhpiego. ”



OUR WORK IN THE STATE



Interacting with CMHO, DPM, BDM, DDM, ANM & mothers during HMIS study in District Mayurbhanj and Bolangir

Evidence Building for demonstrating innovative approach for Cervical Cancer Screening in Odisha: Training of Health Staff Held in Cuttack



Supporting National Newborn Care Week: Mentoring visit along with NHM Officials to SNCU, NBSU & labour rooms of District Dhenkanal

Virtual orientation of CHOs in District Mayurbhanj





Streamlining Family Planning Supply Chain & Management in Jammu & Kashmir

Ministry of Health & Family Welfare launched Family Planning Logistic Management Information System (FPLMIS) in 2017. This is a web and SMS based mobile application to strengthen and streamline the Family Planning (FP) supply chain from the national level to the end users.

The application allows users to view stock availability of FP commodities at various stores and facilities manage to prevent any potential stock-outs and also allows timely redistribution of FP commodities amongst facilities to meet client demand as well as help reduce losses by preventing expiration. Users on the application can view and raise indent for select commodities, which in turn are issued by stores against raised indents. The application also enables real-time tracking and monitoring of the FP supplies and assists program managers to take appropriate and timely decisions.

Directorate of Family Welfare, J&K organized trainings on FPLMIS at the Divisional Level to train district level health officials; nearly 180 participants were trained in 6 batches, 3 each in Kashmir division (4-11th Dec 2021) & in Jammu division (13-15th Dec 2021). Participants in the training included the District Logistic Managers, Health Extension Educators and Junior Health Inspectors.

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“NIPI Team as the lead technical partner of the state govt. supported trainings on FPLMIS (Family Planning Logistic Management Information System) organized by the Directorate of Family Welfare, J&K.”



OUR WORK IN THE STATE



Monitoring Health Facilities and Schools along with NITI Aayog team in Aspirational District Kupwara

Improving Quality of Care Through LaQshya Program: Training of Health Staff on LaQshya Program at Government Medical College SMGSH Jammu



Improving Maternal Health Services: NIPI Supported NHM and DHS J&K in Conducting Situational Analysis of Maternal Health Services, Dissemination Meeting Held in Chairmanship of Additional Chief Secretary and MD NHM

Improving Quality of Care in Aspirational Districts: Assessment of Preparations in Government Medical College Baramulla for LaQshya Certification





#gdhf2021

Global Digital Health Forum

Improving Health Through Digital Transformation

Global Digital Health Forum 2021: Jammu & Kashmir, Bihar and Madhya Pradesh Transforming Health with Digital Solutions

The second virtual Global Digital Health Forum 2021, with more than 3,000 attendees from 110 countries, was organized from 6-8th December; a virtual event covering digital transformations in health care covering technology, data, processes, and organizational change either evolving existing practices or creating new ones. The forum brought together implementers, government stakeholders, digital health technologists, researchers, donors, and field experts from across the globe.

Three abstract submitted by state NHM representatives of Bihar, Jammu & Kashmir and Madhya Pradesh were accepted and presented under two conference tracks: 1) Stopping Infectious Disease & Preparing for Epidemics, and 2) Strengthening Digital Health Ecosystems. NIPI team supported the states in finalization, submission and presentation of the selected abstracts.

Mr. Choudhary Mohammad Yasin, the Mission Director of NHM, J&K made a presentation on leveraging DHIS 2 platform to facilitate data driven decision making in Jammu and Kashmir.

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Advancing Health Online



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Deloitte

“NIPI Team supported the states in finalization, submission, and presentation of the selected abstracts for the second virtual Global Digital Health Forum 2021.”





Fighting the COVID-19 pandemic

Jammu and Kashmir



NIPI supporting felicitation ceremony of COVID-19 Warriors. Flagging of 34 New ALS Ambulances and Launch of 108 Sahayakdoot Application by Honorable LG of J&K Sh. Manoj Sinha



COVID-19 vaccination monitoring along with NHM team in District Baramulla

Odisha



Digital Support System to Fight with COVID-19: Orienting Health Workers on Decision Support Chatbot for Pediatric COVID Case Management Developed by NIPi

Monitoring COVID-19 vaccination site in Block Lamtaput District Koraput



Madhya Pradesh



Presenting data analytics in State level review meeting on COVID-19 Chaired by MD NHM and supported by NIPI



Launching COVID-19 Calendar by Health Minister developed by NIPI

Participating in COVID-19 and Routine Immunization review meeting





A health initiative between Government of India and Government of Norway, the Norway India Partnership Initiative (NIPI) aims to innovate and scale up quality continuum of care for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health in India

CONTACT US

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