Karnataka Jnana Aayoga
(Karnataka Knowledge Commission)
Government of Karnataka

March 19, 2016

Sub: Amendment-1: Establishment of KJA Task Force for developing Karnataka Public Health Policy (KPHP)

- As per the recommendation of Dr Devi Shetty, Chair of KJA TF-KPHP and Dr Alex Thomas, Member-Secretary of TF-KPHO, the following experts are to be included as Members:
  - Principal Secretary, Dept. of Medical Education, GoK
  - Director, Dept. of Medical Education, GoK
  - Joint Director, Health Planning and Finance, Dept. of Health and Family Welfare
  - Vice-Chancellor, Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences (RGUHS)
  - Dr. Devadasan, Director, Public Health Institute, Bengaluru

- In partial modification to the Karnataka Jnana Aayoga Office Order-11: PHP: 2016 dated January 25, 2016, this is notify that the above Members are hereby included in Task Force – thus, Task Force will now have following composition:
  - Dr. Devi Shetty, Narayana Hrudayalaya/Member, KJA - Chair
  - Ms. Kiran Mazumdar – Shaw, Chairman, Biocon Ltd - Member
  - Dr. Isaac Mathai, Chairman, Soukya Holistic Centre - Member
  - Dr. C. N. Manjunath, Director, Sri Jayadeva Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences & Research - Member
  - Dr. Srinath Reddy, Public Health Policy Institute - Member
  - Dr. Mukund Rao, Member-Secretary, KJA - Member
  - Mr. Darshan Shankar, TDU - Member
  - Ms. Soujanya, Project administrator, KHSDRP - Member
  - Dr. Alex Thomas, Executive Director, AHPI - Member-Secretary
  - Principal Secretary, Dept. of Medical Education, GoK - Member
  - Director, Dept. of Medical Education, GoK - Member
  - Joint Director, Health Planning and Finance, H & FW - Member
  - Vice-Chancellor, Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences - Member
  - Dr. Devadasan, Director, Public Health Institute, Bengaluru - Member
  - Ms. M. Jayashri - Convenor

- This amendment issues with the approval and under authority of Chairman, KJA.

(Mukund Rao)
Member-Secretary, KJA

To,

- All Members and Convenor of KJA TF-KPHP

Copies for information to:

- All Members of KJA
- Chief Secretary of Government of Karnataka
- Additional Chief Secretary, Higher Education Department, GoK
Sub: KJA Task Force for developing Karnataka Public Health Policy (KPHP)

1. Public health encompasses the science and management for promoting good health, preventing diseases, providing affordable and quality healthcare through state-coordinated efforts and informed choices of society, organizations, public and private, communities and individuals in the state. A good means of health-care based on health indicators and health analytics goes a long way in state’s responsibility on health for its citizens - encompassing a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being, apart from the absence of disease or infirmity. Equally critical is the availability of good quality and affordable health-care – hospitals, health facilities and experts across the state so that every citizen is assured of excellent health services, at affordable costs.

2. Karnataka state is one of the pioneer states in the country in providing comprehensive public health services to its people. The state has already made considerable progress in providing comprehensive health care and a delivery system consisting of curative, preventive, promotive and rehabilitation health care, to the people of the state.

3. The Hon’ble Minister of Health has had discussion with KJA regarding the need for a policy approach for public health services. Hon’ble Minister has mentioned some major areas that needs to be addressed and bridged in public health services. Gaps in the equity and accessibility of health services, both in public and private sector, and its availability, in rural and urban areas needs to be urgently addressed. Thereby, a health divide that is afflicting society and the challenges in access to good and affordable health care needs to be bridged. In addition, there is also the issue of non-standards, in costs and health-care methods, in provision of health services through various mechanisms – which calls for a transparency and also for citizen redressal mechanisms to be positioned. The larger issue is also of adequacy of health facilities for the young and growing population in the state – there is a need to ingest in modern and innovative health facilities/infrastructure that can serve all segments of society and the state efficiently.

4. The Hon’ble Minister of Health has requested KJA to develop a Karnataka State Public Health Policy (KPHP) – which can recommend specific actions towards development and availability of improved, affordable, equitable and transparent health services in the state. The concern of the Hon’ble Minister is also to ensure that citizens have a redressal mechanism for availing health services – a Health Ombudsamen that can adjudicate any specific cases that citizens may bring about on accessed/availing health services.

5. With above perspective and to develop the KHHP, a KJA Task Force (TF) is hereby constituted with following Members:
   - Dr Devi Shetty, NH/member, KJA - Chair
   - Ms Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw, Chairman, Biocon Ltd - Member
   - Dr Isaac Mathai, Chairman, Soukya Holistic Centre - Member
   - Dr CN Manjunath, Director, Sri Jayadeva Institute of Cardiovascular Sciences & Research - Member
   - Dr Srinath, Public Health Policy Institute - Member
6. The TOR of the KJA Task Force is two-fold - one, formulate and bring out a comprehensive report on the Karnataka Public Health Policy (KPHP) AND two, recommend specific steps for positioning a Health Services Ombudsman as a mechanism for bringing transparency and redressal of complaints in availability/accessibility of health services in the state.

7. Towards preparing the detailed policy report/recommendations, the Task Force may undertake wide consultations, especially with government agencies/industries/academia, across the state and holistically study all aspects of health services. The outcomes can then be internalized by the Task Force into a report. Once the report is developed by the Task Force it may be presented to KJA for formal endorsement/approval. The KPHP can then be formally submitted by KJA to Government of Karnataka (GOK) for implementation actions.

8. Other experts, as identified/approved by Co-Chairs and Member-Secretary, KJA, may be co-opted to the Study Group and/or invited for specific meetings, as required. For the demonstrative exercises, if other agencies/departments are required to be involved, the same may be taken up by Co-Chairs, in coordination with KJA. As an engagement with UAS industries, Co-Chairs may invite specific industries, as required, for specific meetings and consult with them.

9. Specific budget has been approved/earmarked by KJA for the Task Force activity. The expenses of the Task Force would be met from this approved budget of KJA. For administrative purposes, the expenses for meetings, any travel/fees/honorarium and any other meeting expenses etc could be met from KJA funds, as per KJA procedures, allocated for the Task Force activities. Funds related to this activity will be expended upon approval of Co-Chairs of Task Force and as per procedures of KJA.

10. The term of the Task Force will be for a period of 3 months from the date of issue of this order.

11. This order issues with the approval and under authority of Chairman, KJA.

(Mukund Rao)
Member-Secretary, KJA

To,

All Members of the KJA Task Force on KPHP

Copies for Information to:

- Personal Secretary to Minister for Health and Family Welfare – with a request to kindly bring this to the notice of the Hon’ble Minister
- All Members of KJA
- Chief Secretary of Government of Karnataka
- Principal Secretary, Dept of Higher Education, GOK