## **Press Release**

## Capacity Building Workshop for Regional Offices of Health & Family Welfare from 30<sup>th</sup> January to 01<sup>st</sup> February, 2019.

A three Day Capacity Building Workshop for Regional Offices of Health & Family Welfare (ROHFWs) from 30<sup>th</sup> January to 01<sup>st</sup> February, 2019 was inaugurated by Dr. Preeti Sudan, Secretary (H&FW), at Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi. The inaugural session began with a welcome address by Dr. S. Venkatesh, DGHS who expressed his gratefulness to the Secretary (H&FW) for having agreed to organise the meeting under her aegis. In his opening remarks DGHS emphasized upon the crucial role played by RoHFWs in the control of Nipah and Zika outbreaks in Kerala and Madhya Pradesh/Rajasthan respectively. He said that clarity in roles of Regional Directors is required for contributing effectively and efficiently to National Programmes and new initiatives of Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MoHFW).

At present 19 ROHFWs are operational in the country for over 40 years and 10 more offices are needed to ensure proper coverage of states. Secretary (H&FW) urged for greater coordination of ROHFWs with MoHFW & Technical Officers of Dte.GHS for better functioning of system. She appreciated the role played by Regional Offices in coordinating with State Authorities, the recent example being the floods in Kerala in 2018.

Secretary (H&FW) interacted with Regional Directors and asked the Regional Directors to involve themselves in State activities and become part of State conversations through State specific Whatsapp groups of Deptt. of Health & Family Welfare. She exhorted Regional Directors to extend requisite technical supports to state agencies in implementation of National Programmes. She also emphasised that the tour programmes of officers from MoHFW are to be communicated to Regional Directors for their involvement and participation in the review activities conducted in the State. She desired that a circular in this regards may be issued.

Secretary (H&FW) asked for greater involvement and focus of ROHFWs on operationalizing Health and Wellness Centres (HWCs) under Ayushman Bharat and advised them to approach concerned authorities in States in expediting posting of trained mid level providers in all states. Secretary (HFW) also reminded Regional Directors that they are eyes and ears of the Government they should play their role effectively. While reviewing UP and Bihar, she advised the Regional Directors to work on containment of JE/AES and immunization in Uttar Pradesh; control and elimination of Kalaazar in endemic districts of Bihar; and combating HIV/AIDS in Nagaland.

Following is the link to Photo:-

http://dghs.gov.in/FrontPhotoGallery.aspx?CategoryId=34