



सौरभ जैन, भा.प्र.से.
संयुक्त सचिव

SAURABH JAIN, IAS
JOINT SECRETARY



भारत सरकार
स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय
निर्माण भवन, नई दिल्ली-110011
Government of India
Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi-110011

D.O. No. Z.18015/27/2022-NHM-II(Pt-3)
Dated 21st April, 2025

Dear *Mission Director,*

As you are aware, the National Quality Assurance Standards (NQAS) have been developed through a consultative process, incorporating program guidelines, Indian Public Health Standards (IPHS), and other relevant frameworks. Adherence to these quality standards, and meeting the certification criteria are mandatory for obtaining NQAS certification.

Recognizing the diverse healthcare needs across States/UTs, NQAS allows flexibility in customizing the checklists based on state specific requirements. In this context, NHSRC often receives multiple requests from the States/UTs for customizing the number of departments in the checklist for NQAS certification for Community Health Centres (CHCs).

As per the IPHS 2022 guidelines, CHCs are generally 30-bedded facilities categorized into:

- **First Referral Unit (FRU) CHCs**, which are mandated to have specialized services provided through physicians, surgeons, obstetricians, paediatricians', anaesthesiologists', secondary-level surgical services (elective & emergency), and a Blood Storage Unit.
- **Non-FRU CHCs**, which are not mandated to provide above mentioned services, but they are desirable.

Therefore, it is expected that all CHC level activities would compulsory be assessed in nine departments namely OPD, IPD, Laboratory, Labour Room, OT, Accident & Emergency, Auxiliary Services, Pharmacy, and General Administration.

In addition, FRU CHCs will be assessed in three mandatory departments: Radiology, Blood Storage Unit, and Newborn Stabilization Unit (NBSU). Hence, to ensure uniformity, States/UTs are requested to adhere to following points.

1. Line listing of all CHCs functioning as FRU & Non-FRU CHCs.
2. For Non-FRU CHCs, minimum of 9 departments must be included.
3. Customization, once approved, will remain valid for two years.

Thanking you,

Your sincerely,

[Signature]
(Saurabh Jain) 21/4/25

To
Mission Director NHM-All State/UTs

Copy to:
State Nodal Officer QA-All State/UTs