



आराधना पटनायक, भा.प्र.से.

अपर सचिव एवं मिशन निदेशक (रा.स्वा.मि.)

Aradhana Patnaik, IAS

Additional Secretary & Mission Director (NHM)

Dear Sir/Madam,

As you are aware, the Government of India has undertaken several measures to ensure the delivery of Quality healthcare and is committed to providing patient-centered services. This commitment is exemplified through initiatives like the **Labour Room Quality Improvement Initiative (LaQshya)** and **National Quality Assurance Standards (NQAS) certification**, which is being rolled out nationwide.

In this context, a directive was issued to all States and Union Territories (UTs) via DO Letter No. NHSRC/18-19/QI/01/LaQshya dated 25th March 2022, prioritizing the attainment of *LaQshya* certification for Medical College hospitals, District Hospitals, First Referral Units (FRUs), and high-case-load Community Health Centers (CHCs).

Furthermore, DO Letter No. Z-18015/13/2023-NHM from the Secretary of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, dated 3rd February 2024, emphasized achieving NQAS certification for all public health facilities by December 2026, with an intermediary target of 50% NQAS certification by December 2025.

In light of the above, the Government of India has decided that **all facilities providing Comprehensive Emergency Obstetric and Newborn Care (CEmONC) and Basic Emergency Obstetric and Newborn Care (BEmONC) must strive to achieve both LaQshya and NQAS certifications, irrespective of their case load. However, all other facilities (Basic), whether designated as delivery points or not, must attain NQAS certification only.**

For clarity on categorizing facilities into CEmONC, BEmONC, and Basic, States/UTs are requested to refer to the *Surakshit Matritva Aashwasan (SUMAN)* guidelines issued by the Government of India.

With regards.

Yours sincerely,


(Aradhana Patnaik)

To

Addl. Chief Secy. / Pr. Secretary / Secretary (Health) - All States/ UTs

Copy to:

1. PSO to Secretary (HFW)
2. JS(RCH) , MoHFW, GoI
3. JS(Policy) , MoHFW, GoI
4. Addl. Commissioner (Maternal Health) , MoHFW, GoI
5. ED, NHSRC
6. Mission Director - All States/UTs
7. State Maternal Health Officer - All States/UTs
8. State QA Nodal Officer - All States/UT