

No. 90029/FTS/O/MOS(SB)/2012
Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
Office of Minister of State
(Shri Sudip Bandyopadhyay)

Nirman Bhavan, New Delhi.
Dated: September 13, 2012.

Subject:- Suo motu disclosure on official tour of Shri Sudip Bandyopadhyay,
Hon'ble Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare -
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The undersigned is directed to refer to Department of Personnel & Training, Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions O.M. No. 1/8/2012-IR dated 11.9.2012 regarding suo motu disclosure of official tours of Ministers and other officials and to disclose the details of recent visit of Shri Sudip Bandyopadhyay, Hon'ble Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare to Yogyakarta, Indonesia as under.

Shri Sudip Bandyopadhyay, Hon'ble Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare, led a delegation which included Shri P.K. Pradhan, Secretary (Health & Family Welfare), Shri R.K. Jain, Additional Secretary, Shri S.K. Rao, Joint Secretary and Dr. A.C. Verma, his Private Secretary to Yogyakarta, Indonesia for attending the 30th Meeting of the Health Ministers of South East Asia Region (SEARO), WHO and the 65th Regional Conference of SEARO between 4-7, September, 2012.

In the Conference, a number of important health sector issues were discussed which inter-alia included Antimicrobial Resistance, Ageing and Health, International Health Regulations, 2005, and the issue of Universal Health Coverage. There was also a special session on Poliomyelitis, during which the achievements of India in keeping the country free from Polio during the last 19 months was greatly appreciated by WHO and the member countries.

Yogyakarta Declaration on Ageing and Health was adopted, a copy of which is enclosed. This was the first and only foreign visit of Hon'ble Minister since he assumed charge.

Details regarding expenditure incurred for the visit is not maintained in this office. The same may be available from IH/IC/Cash Sections of the Ministry/Dte.GHS/PAO, Cab. Sectt. or the High Commissions concerned.



(Harish Kumar)

Addl. Private Secretary to Minister of State for Health & F.W.

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(for uploading in MOHFW website)

DRAFT

Yogyakarta Declaration on Ageing and Health 2012

Thirtieth Meeting of Ministers of Health of Countries of the WHO South-East Asia Region, Yogyakarta, Indonesia, 4 September 2012

We, the Health Ministers of Member States of the WHO South-East Asia (SEA) Region, having participated in the Thirtieth Health Ministers' Meeting in Yogyakarta, Indonesia, noted with concern that an estimated 142 million people, or 8% of the population of the WHO SEA Region, are above the age of 60 years, that this number will continue to increase and by 2025 the estimated proportion of the population over 60 years will be twice that of 2000, and by 2050 will have further increased to three times the proportion of 2000.

Recognizing that elderly people are a precious social asset and have the potential for active and constructive contribution, and that an increase in the proportion of older populations will require health care and social support systems to adapt to meet this emerging challenge;

Appreciating the efforts being made by Member States and partners in the SEA Region to adopt a holistic and multidisciplinary approach to promote healthy ageing in the Member States;

Recognizing that it is imperative that national governments invest in appropriate policies and strategies in order to ensure improved health in the cycle of ageing;

Aware that ageing is a life-long and an inevitable process, and that the process of ageing begins even before a person is born, right from the mother's womb; and that healthy ageing requires effective disease prevention and health promotion through the life course;

Considering that longer life is associated with chronic diseases and disabilities in old age, thereby affecting the overall quality of life and posing a challenge for families, communities and national governments;

Acknowledging that older women outnumber and outlive older men, a ratio that will continue to increase;

Noting that the economic effects of ageing on health care and social support systems, as well as on ensuring the independence, quality of life and normal activity level of older persons, concern policy- and decision-makers, and nongovernmental and some sections of the private sectors;

- 10) advocating for healthy lifestyles including healthy diets, physical activity and health measures to reduce the disease burden of old age;
- 11) strengthening appropriate clinical and diagnostic capacity at all levels of health facilities to address the health problems of the very old, as well as their long-term care;
- 12) encouraging basic and operational research in all aspects of ageing and health, and facilitating incorporation of evidence-based best practices into the national programmes;
- 13) instituting, as appropriate, legal frameworks to ensure the health entitlements of the elderly people; and
- 14) participating in regular intercountry consultative processes to monitor, evaluate, review and discuss issues related to ageing and health, taking into account events and developments at the international level.

We, the Health Ministers of Member States of the WHO SEA Region, urge all Member States as well as the WHO Director-General and the Regional Director for South-East Asia to continue to provide leadership and technical support in building partnerships between governments, the United Nations agencies and the relevant global health initiatives, and with academia, professional bodies, nongovernmental organizations, related sectors, the media and civil society, to advocate jointly and follow up effectively on all aspects of this Yogyakarta Declaration on Ageing and Health.

Yogyakarta, 4 September 2012