A Report

Group Discussion with Key Stakeholders

Meeting No. 1:
Date: 23/01/2019 Time: 2.00 p.m. Venue: Milk Cooperative Society Hall, Vaniyampara.

One of the group discussions with stakeholders as proposed under the project was carried out at Vaniyampara on 23/01/2019. The key agenda of the meeting was to share the findings of the survey carried out by Jananeethi among the selected users of hospital and also to share the findings of the KASH analysis. For these purpose LSG members from the Pananchery Panchayth including the President, Vice President, Health Standing Committee Chairperson, local member from the ward where the hospital is situated were personally met and invited for the discussion. Other than the president all other key members from the panchayth attended the meeting. President got a last minute change in her official schedule and she couldn’t turn up for the discussion. But she promised to have a meeting at her office once the election to LOKSABHA is declared. Until then she is quite busy with her official programmes.

Along with the LSG members Medical Officer of the Hospital, Health Inspector and HMC members from the hospital attended the discussion. Apart from the official members we have invited prominent personalities of the locality who can involve effectively
in the development of hospital. They were identified by Jananeethi as members who are suitable to be included in the Health Watch for PHC Vaniyamapara.

The meeting was presided over by Mr. Abubakker Vice President of the Grama Panchayath. Ms. Shiny Verghese Health Standing Committee Chairperson delivered the welcome address. Dr. Sajala medical officer of the Vaniyampara PHC was the Chief Guest. The meeting was started with a brief introduction by Adv. Sunilkumar on the context and importance of the meeting and what are the expectations of the meeting. Following the introductory note Ms. Jayashree of Jananeethi made a presentation on the survey results. After the presentation the floor kept open for discussion. Vice president explained the various projects initiated at the instance of Panchayath for the development of the hospital. He also mentioned that 60 Lakh have been allotted from the M.L.A fund for the infrastructure development of the Hospital. Mr. Shaji General Manager of Vaniyampara Rubber Estate near to which the hospital is situated explained the importance of the hospital considering the large number of population which the hospital caters. He also promised complete support for the development of the hospital including the possibility of giving land for the development of hospital. Other participants of the meeting shared their valuable suggestions for the development of the hospital and areas to be prioritised while developing the hospital. Many of the participants pointed to the fact that it is important to have a master plan before any development that takes place in the hospital. Adv. George Pulikuthyil from Jananeethi summed up the discussion by reminding the participants about the importance of having a dream about the hospital and to think beyond the routines. The details of the suggestions emerged during the discussion were noted down for follow-up. Details of the participants were collected and information kit prepared under the project was distributed among the participants. At the end, Adv. Sunilkuamar briefed the audience about the plan to form the health watch for the hospital and solicited cooperation from all and he extended vote of thanks to all the participants.

Meeting No. 2:
Date: 29/01/2019 Time: 2.00 p.m Venue: Ollukkara Block Panchayath Hall.

In the similar line of the stakeholder meeting at Vaniyampara another stakeholders meeting was organized for CHC Vellanikkara with the same agenda. But this meeting was organized on larger scale compared to the earlier meeting taking into account the large area the hospital caters. Since it is a block panchayath it covers four grama panchayaths under its jurisdiction. Hence when we invited the participants to the meeting we tried to bring representation from each area to
address this requirement. The meeting was inaugurated by Block Panchayath President Ms. Umadevi. During her inaugural address she described various steps taken by the block panchayath in order to uplift the hospital into a real Community Health Centre. She also mentioned about the upcoming meeting with the Health Minister at Thiruvananthapuram to bring attention to the burning issues of the hospital especially the lack of land for the development of the hospital. It is after this meeting a team lead by local M.L.A met Health Minister of Kerala and which became a grant success considering its outcome. The meeting was presided over by Vice President Mr.Chandran and welcome address was delivered by Rajani Janardhanan the Health Standing Committee Chair person.

Dr. Jayanthi, Medical Superintendent of the CHC made a small presentation about the status of the hospital and appreciated our initiative to make the CHC is a model hospital. She also presented a building plan which was later presented before the Health Minister during the meeting with minister. This has ultimately lead to the allocation of Rs. Two Crore in the state budget for the development of the CHC. After the official session Adv. Sunilkumar briefed the audience about the context and objectives of the meeting. After this briefing the survey results was presented by Ms. E. Jayasree of Jananeethi. After the presentation the floor was kept open for discussion. Valuable suggestions and comments made by the participants were codified for future action plan. At the end of the meeting Adv. Sunilkumar shared the idea of forming health watch for the CHC and requested their wholehearted cooperation and support for the initiative. Details of the participants were recorded and information kit was distributed among the participants. Meeting was concluded with a vote of thanks extended by Adv.Sunilkumar.

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