

Health Cube's transformative Impact on Pradhan Mantri Surakshit Matritva Abhiyan (PMSMA)

Despite existence of outreach platforms such as Village Health Sanitation and Nutrition Day (VHSND), presence of trained health workers such as ASHAs and ANMs at different levels and the availability of 'Free ' health services, the desired coverage and quality of maternal health services is still a matter of concern, especially in rural areas. While India has made considerable progress in the reduction of maternal and infant mortality, every year approximately 44000 women still die due to pregnancy-related causes and approximately 6.6 lakh infants die within the first 28 days of life.¹

Government of India has

launched the Pradhan Mantri Surakshit Matritva Abhiyan (PMSMA) with the objective to provide quality ANC to every pregnant woman across the country. PMSMA is a fixed day strategy, every month across the country during which a woman can access complete ANC care range. Under the campaign, a package of antenatal care services is to be provided to the beneficiaries on the 9th day of every month at the desired government facilities to ensure that every pregnant woman receives at least one check up in the 2nd / 3rd trimester of pregnancy.

In Bhagalpur also, this initiative PMSMA has been started in respective PHCs, Referral

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Name of the Block	Total number of children immunised in Jan & Feb'18
Jagdishpur	1104
Shahkund	597
Sanhaura	694
Kahalgaoon	1285
Pirpainti	873

Hospitals and District Hospitals. To make this programme more successful, AIPAD has collaborated with the District Health Society (DHS) for the initiative of using health cube during ANC checkups on the PMSMA day of every month. Since AIPAD works in close collaboration with the health department, therefore the team

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In the SPOT light

(This column features positive & impactful initiatives contributing to the success of the AIPAD Program)



Health Cube Saving Lives

AIPAD has been organising health camps on PMSMA days using health cube device with the objective of identifying high risk pregnancies and combating maternal deaths. During our PMSMA camps in Shahkunda block, Nanki Devi, one of the patients, was diagnosed with hepatitis B positive. Being identified as one of

the high risk case, the patient was immediately referred to the district hospital for further treatment and required medication through the rigorous efforts of AIPAD team. Through health cube such critical cases are being identified and referred. It is not only combating maternal deaths, but also providing safe motherhood to pregnant women.



discussed the idea with the MOICs and BHM of the blocks of using health cube on PMSMA days. Health cube enables the ANMs to conduct various diagnostic tests such as like HIV, Syphilis, Blood Glucose, Malaria, etc. in a quick and hassle free process, which otherwise are not conducted in a normal ANC checkups at Anganwadi centres. The idea behind using this device was to provide essential and vital diagnostic tests during the ANC check ups so that the high risk pregnant patients can be identified and duly referred, thereby achieving the central objective of PMSMA.

AIPAD team conducted health camps using the health cube device on 9th February 2018 in the PHC Shahkund and Pirpanti. Trained ANMs along with technical support Engineers of Health Cube were present in the camps. The overall process of ANC check ups has changed with the usage of health cube during PMSMA days. In a normal ANC check up at AWCs or on a PMSMA day, only basic tests such as weight and blood pressure are conducted by a single ANM, which not only takes a lot of time but also fails at the objective of identifying high risk pregnancies. NHM recommended tests such as HIV, syphilis, Haemoglobin etc are hardly ever conducted that leads to higher numbers of maternal deaths. Many a times, patients are left undiagnosed due to availability of a single



Health camps using health cube device on PMSMA day

ANM adhering to a larger population.

But with the AIPAD health camps, 10-12 counters are created in a single PHC equipped with the same number of ANMs and respective devices for conducting ANCs. This initiative is not only amplifying the overall ANC process by ensuring availability of maximum number of trained ANMs and providing essential diagnostic tests, but also reaching out to a wider population in a quick and hassle freeway. ANMs are empowered

to conduct the diagnostic tests themselves with the help of health cube device and only high risk pregnancies and women with complications are referred to the higher institutions and doctors. Doctors are able to devote more time to cases which needs immediate attention, therefore making the whole process more efficient and effective.

Around 141 pregnant women were diagnosed at PHC Shahkund and 211 pregnant women at PHC Pirpanti through the health cube device. After observing the outreach of these camps and the number of women getting diagnosed, entire health department really appreciated the work of AIPAD and motivated the team to organise such camps on every PMSMA day in other blocks as well.

Staff Training on Annual School Development Plan (SDP)

Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education, 2009 (RTE Act) is a landmark legislation in the area of education and has made various provisions to ensure quality education for all children in the age group of 6-14 years. Specific provisions have been made for democratization of schools and for parents and local communities to play their due roles in shaping and running of the schools in the form of School Management Committees (SMC) (known as

Vidayalya Shiksha Samiti (VSS) in Bihar). Seventy five percent of the VSS members are parents of the children attending schools and rest of the members are teachers and PRI representatives.

Every SMC is required to develop an annual School Development Plan (SDP), which is a comprehensive document covering each and every aspect of school related to its proper functioning, physical infrastructure access and coverage. To engage with the

school system, members of community need to develop technical skills like collection of relevant information, analysing it and finally designing appropriate interventions, basing on norms set in the RTE Act. But AIPAD during the initial years of its project identified through interactions and meetings with the VSS members that VSS was only formed on pen and paper. There were hardly any meetings happening and various relevant issues such monitoring of mid-day meals, infrastructural issues etc, were not being discussed at all. To address these issues and gaps within VSS members, AIPAD organised two back to back training sessions in the second and third year of its project and till now 377 schools across all the five blocks have formulated and submitted their SDPs supported by AIPAD.

AIPAD this year organised a training programme for the team members on the importance and formulation of SDP. The training took place on 16th February 2018 in AIPAD office, Bhagalpur. The objective behind organising this training was to equip the team members with the right knowledge and process of SDP formation, so that they can further help and guide the VSS and community members in understanding their roles and responsibilities. This programme

aimed at not only training the team about the process of SDP formation, but also aimed at inculcating an approach that believes in learning together as a community to achieve the higher goal of quality education. Education experts Mr. Uday Kumar and Mr. Prem Chandra from Accountability Initiative were invited to train the team.

The training programme started with Mr. Sanjay Yadav, programme manager, welcoming the experts and sharing the objectives of this training programme. Mr. Uday Kumar discussed the process of SDP in detail and the importance of the SDP in playing a crucial role in contributing towards quality education. The team was divided into groups of four and a hard copy of the SDP format was distributed among each group. Following that, each and every point on the format was discussed and explanations were provided to the team. IEC materials and audio visual presentations were used to educate the staff members. Mr. Prem Chand Kumar talked about the role and responsibilities of VSS members and also shared information about different grants like School Development Grant (SDG), School Management Grant (SMG) TLM, Scholarship, Poshak Rashi, Educational tour of students etc.



Our team participating in the SDP training programme

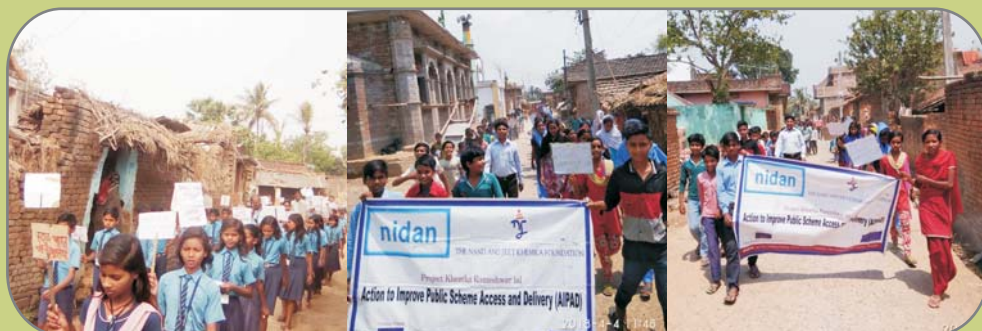
The whole process was very collaborative in nature where team members also equally participated in getting a deeper understanding of SDP formation. In total 26 people participated in the programme in which 18 were males and rest females. A vote of thanks was given by our project coordinator and MIS officer Md Farhan Ashrafi.

News Feed

Better Healthcare Facilities in Bihar soon:

Bihar Health Minister, Mangal Pandey, has announced that the essential drugs list will be revised to provide more free generic medicines in the government health facilities in the state. This list will include drugs for kidney, cancer, diabetes, hypertension and ophthalmology related disorders. The revised list will have 181 drugs as compared to present 172 drugs and will be provided at Sadar hospitals and primary health centres. (To read more, follow: <https://www.drugtodayonline.com/medical-news/nation/6809-better-healthcare-facilities-soon-in-bihar-mangal-pandey.html>)

AIPAD Through The Lens



प्रभात खबर
स्कूलों में नामांकन को लेकर चलाया अभियान

पिरपैती. प्रखंड के सरकारी स्कूलों में छात्रों की संख्या बढ़ाने के उद्देश्य से गुरुवार को रैली निकालकर अभिभावकों जागरूक किया गया. परसबन्ना पंचायत के मध्य विद्यालय के प्रांगण से एक रैली निकाली गयी, जिसमें छात्र-छात्रा, अभिभावक व ग्रामीण शामिल थे. इस अभियान में अभिभावकों व ग्रामीणों को बताया गया कि जिन बच्चों की आगनबाड़ी केंद्रों में पढ़ाई पूरी हो गयी है या जिन बच्चों की उम्र छह वर्ष हो चुकी है, उनके

अभिभावक जरूरी कागजात के साथ विद्यालय में यथाशीघ्र नामांकन करा ले और बच्चों को नियमित स्कूल भेजें. रैली का नेतृत्व प्रधानाध्यापक निलेश कुमार चौधरी, प्रभुनाथ कुशवाहा व राजेश कुमार कर रहे थे. रैली को सफल बनाने में आइपैड निदान के परियोजना संयोजक राजीव कुमार व सामुदायिक प्रेरक सुदीन रजक ने सहयोग किया. रैली में वाई सदस्य रूबी देवी, टोला सेवक नूतन रजक का सहयोग सराहनीय रहा.



Shiksha & Enrollment rallies in Shahkund, Pirpainti & Kahalgaon Blocks



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