

# Nitish vision: Big projects on anvil for health sector

**AMBITIOUS** CM orders roadmap for projects completion within timeframe; nursing colleges in all medical college hospitals; PMCH to be developed to handle patients with severe ailments

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**PATNA:** Chief minister Nitish Kumar on Thursday initiated a slew of announcements to improve health delivery system in Bihar, which included setting up of five new medical colleges in the state and upgradation of the Patna Medical College Hospital (PMCH), Indira Gandhi Institute of Medical Sciences (IGIMS) and the Nalanda Medical College Hospital (NMCH) to international standards.

Presiding over a high level meeting of the health department, the chief minister declared that nursing colleges would be opened in all the medical college hospitals. At present there are nine medical colleges in the government sector in Bihar.

He directed that the PMCH should be so developed that it can handle patients suffering from severe ailments. He asked the department mandarins to prepare a roadmap and complete the projects within a scheduled time frame.

He said ANM schools would be set up at all subdivisional headquarters, while para medical institutes would be established in all districts.

Expressing concern over the non-availability of medicines in state run health facilities, the CM directed the department to make arrangement for regular supply of the formulations, particularly life saving drugs, to all hospitals at the earliest. If there were any obstruction in maintaining the supply chain, then they should be removed as early as possible, he directed.

The CM said the existing four-



■ Chief minister Nitish Kumar with health minister Tej Pratap Yadav and others at a review meeting, in Patna on Thursday. SANTOSH/HT

## SLEW OF MEASURES

- Five new medical colleges to be opened to improve bed ratio
- Upgradation of PMCH, NMCH and IGIMS to world standards
- Nursing colleges to be opened in all teaching medical institutions
- ANM schools to be started at all subdivisional headquarters
- Incessant supply of medicines to hospitals to be ensured
- 10-bed ICUs in district hospitals with all modern facilities
- Modernisation of APHCs on anvil with necessary infra
- Special team to track truant doctors and punish absconders
- A cell at state health society to monitor all infra projects
- GPS fitted ambulances to be provided to patients
- Special incentive for doctors working in remote places
- Compensation to kin of kala-azar patients to cover wage loss

bed intensive care unit (ICU) wards in district hospitals would be upgraded to 10-bed ICU wards and additional primary health centres (APHCs) would have facilities for conducting radiology and pathology tests.

Kumar announced that the existing 212 community health centres (CHCs) in the state would be modernized and equipped with the latest medical equipment. He

asked the department to ensure ready availability of doctors and paramedical staff in the CHCs.

He said as per the guidelines of the Medical Council of India (MCI), doctors and nursing staff would be posted in all the medical institutions. He categorically told the department officials to ensure full attendance of doctors at their work places and directed them

to initiate firm action against absconders. A state level team would be constituted to keep a track of the truant doctors, who would make periodical inspections of the hospitals.

To make the centrally sponsored Janani Bal Suraksha Yojana more effective, the CM directed to pay ₹1,400 to the beneficiaries without any delay. The patients would be paid the amount before their discharge from the hospitals, he added.

De-addiction centres would also be set up at all district headquarters. He asked the officials to prepare a blue print for the project and implement it within a scheduled time frame.

For quick transportation of patients to health centres, he instructed the department to make arrangement for GPS fitted ambulances.

A cell would be constituted in the state health society under the supervision of its executive director to monitor the functioning of all the above mentioned projects for their effective operation.

In a major decision, the CM directed the department to adequately compensate kala-azar patients and their attendants at designated hospitals. To compensate for their wage losses, they would be provided minimum fixed wages. This would help eradicate incidence of the disease prevalent in many districts in Bihar, he said.

He also asked the officials to evolve measures to provide incentives to doctors working in remote areas.

Health minister Tej Pratap Yadav, chief secretary Anjani Kumar Singh and principal secretary health, RK Mahajan were also present at the review meeting.