Report on Internal Assessor cum Service Provider's Training on National Quality Assurance Standards (NQAS)



Organized By

State QA Team, NHM Nagaland
with technical support from
Regional Resource Centre for North-eastern States, Guwahati, Assam

23rd to 25th November 2021 Venue: Seminar Hall, Hotel Vivor, Kohima, Nagaland

A. Introduction and Background

National Quality Assurance Standards were launched for improving the Quality of Care (QoC) in public health facilities in 2013 for District Hospitals. Standards for Community Health Centres (functional as FRU's) and Primary Health Centres (with beds) rolled-out in the year 2014. Subsequently, Quality Standards for Urban PHC's were developed in 2016. NQAS Standards have attained International Accreditation from International Society for Quality in Healthcare (ISQua). At National level, these standards have been recognized by the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDA) for empanelment of hospitals.

Implementation of National Quality Assurance Programme in the North-eastern States has been closely monitored and supported by Regional Resource Centre for Northeast States (RRC-NE) in coordination with National Health System Resource Centre (NHSRC) since the launch of the programme in November 2013. A pool of assessors has been created in each state for undertaking the assessment of the health facilities, identification of gaps, analysis of the identified gaps, prioritization, action planning for closure of the gaps so that quality of the services provided in our public health facilities can be improved and they may be taken up for National certification.

A three-day Internal Assessor cum Service Provider Training was organized in Hotel Vivor, Kohima by State QA Team, NHM Nagaland with the technical support from RRC-NE to increase the pool of assessors in the state. RRC-NE extended support by drafting the agenda, providing study materials & taking sessions on various areas of concerns of NQAS & conducting exercises on various topics like Prescription Audit, PSS & Quality tools during the training. Training program was spread into 21 topics and 5 practical exercises for hands on experience on various methodologies of the assessment. Post training, participants were made to undergo a qualifying exam on NQAS Internal Assessors certificate program and then followed by a group discussion with SNO-QA, SC-QA, DPM's and other facility representatives on NQAS implementation in public health facilities of the state of Nagaland.

B. Objectives and Participants.

The main objectives of the training are as follow:

- 1. To impart understanding of the basic concept of Quality Assurance Standards and how to implement them in public health facilities.
- 2. To acquaint the participants with Area of Concerns, Standards, Measurable elements, Departmental Checklists and Scoring System.
- 3. To support the public health facilities for achieving National Quality Assurance Standards Certification.

Training was facilitated by following Resource Persons:

- 1. Sh. Anupjyoti Basistha, Consultant QI, RRC-NE
- 2. Dr. Vinaya RSL, Consultant QI, RRC-NE
- 3. Dr. Antoly Suu, Deputy CMO, Dimapur
- 4. Ms. Vethipralu Lohe, SPM-QA, NHM, Nagaland

Participants: Total 52 (Fifty-Two) participants including State Nodal Officer - QA, State QA Consultant, Quality Managers, Officials from Nagaland State AIDS Control Society, Deputy Director – Health & Family Welfare, DPM's – QA, Medical Officers from various health facilities of Nagaland state have attended the training.

Participant list along with the Post Training Evaluation Report is enclosed in Annexure – II.

C. Inaugural Session

At the very onset of 3 days SPT Program, the State Nodal Officer for Quality Assurance Dr. Thanghoi Lam welcomed officials from DoH&FW, Nagaland & the participants who have come from various facilities and the resource persons from RRC-NE to the three days Internal Assessor cum Service Provider training program. Followed by the inaugural address of SNO-QA, Mission Director, NHM, Nagaland, Dr. I Talitemsula Jamir addressed the participants of the program & stressed the importance of QA Program in uplifting of public health facilities.

D. Technical Session

Topic	Briefing of the Session
	Day 1 (23-11-2021)
Overview of National Quality Assurance Program and Assessment Protocol	Mr. Anupjyoti Basistha, Consultant, Quality Improvement, RRC-NE started the session by welcoming all the participants to the 3-day training program. The first session, an overview of National Quality Assurance
	Program has been explained thoroughly which covered the concepts of Quality & its various definitions, development of National Quality Assurance Standards & its Implementation framework at state & district level, key features of NQAS, Measurement system of National Quality Assurance standards, Measurable elements & checkpoints. It also included overview of scoring methodologies and protocols.
Standards for Service Provision, AoC-A and Standards for Patient Rights, AoC-B	Dr. Vinaya RSL, Consultant QI, RRCNE conducted the session on the first two Areas of Concern i.e., Service Provision and Patient Rights.
	He explained about the availability of functional services & facilities in the hospital which will be made available to the end users under various areas & departments of the facility along with other support services.
	Patient rights includes rights of patients to access information about the services, user friendly signages, confidentiality of their information which are provided with privacy & dignity without any physical and financial barrier which also includes patients' right for grievance redressal and to take informed decisions regarding their treatment plan.
3. Standards for Inputs, AoC-C	Mr. Anupjyoti Basistha explained this area of concern which has 7 standards from infrastructure to performance of staff which includes the structural part of the facility based on the standard guidelines of Indian Public Health Standards (IPHS) for different levels of facility.
4. Group Activity: Identifying Standards	This session on Group activity was about identifying the standards and the corresponding area of concern. During the exercise, one key word was given to each participant and was asked to identify the standard and the area of concern.
5. Standards for Support Services, AoC-D	This session was taken by Dr. Vinaya RSL where he explained the importance of support services which are backbone of the facility. This session included the detailed discussion on the maintenance & calibration of equipment's, inventory management & dispensing of drugs, safe environment, upkeep of facility, 24X7 water and power supply, Laundry, FnB Services, Accounts & Finance management, Contract Services and Statutory requirements.
6. Standards for Clinical Services, AoC-E	Ms. Vethipralu Lohe, SPM-QA, NHM, Nagaland took the session on first part of Standards for Clinical Services. She explained the
(Std. E1 - Std. E9)	importance of clinical services & their importance the first set of nine standards of Clinical Services are concerned with those clinical processes that ensures adequate care to the patients which includes registration, admission, consultation, assessment, continuity of care, nursing care, identification of high risk and vulnerable patients, prescription practices, safe drug administration, maintenance of records and discharge from the hospital.
7. Standards for Infection Control, AoC-F	Mr. Anupjyoti Basistha explained the infection control practices and protocols to be followed in public hospitals which usually have high occupancy where these measures become more critical to avoid cross infections, nosocomial infections, and their spread. This section includes infection control program to curb the incidence of nosocomial infections, hand hygiene practices & antisepsis std. practices for personal protection, processing of equipment & instruments, environmental control, and biomedical waste management in the facility. A video on Infection Control Practices was also shown to the participants.

8. Overview of "Gunak Application" and its uses	Dr. Vinaya RSL spoke on the overview & usage of 'GUNAK' application which is a quality assessment application developed by NHSRC for the assessment of quality programs like NQAS, LaQshya and Kayakalp through digital checklists available in the app at various levels of assessments like internal, external and peer assessment of facilities and for identification of gaps.
	Day 2 (24.11.2021)
9. Standards for Specific Clinical Services, AoC-E (Std. E10 - Std. E16)	Day 2 (24-11-2021) Dr. Antoly Suu, Deputy CMO, Dimapur took this session & explained in detail the 7 standards for specific clinical Services from E10 to E16 which included the standards for services like Intensive care treatment, Emergency clinical processes, ambulance, MLC Cases & Disaster preparedness & its management, Lab and radio diagnostics, Blood bank, Anaesthesia, OT & Established procedures for end-of-life care & death.
10. Standards for RMNCHA Services, AoC-E (Std. E17 - Std. E23)	Dr. Antoly Suu, Deputy CMO, Dimapur took this session & explained in detail the 7 standards for specific clinical Services from E10 to E16 which included the standards for services like Ante natal care & its processes, Intra natal care, post-natal care of mother & new-born, care of new-born, infant and child as per guidelines, abortion & family planning, ARSH Guidelines & providing national health program as per respective OG's.
11. Standards for Quality Management, AoC-G12. Internal Assessment, Root Cause Analysis, Action Planning & Prioritization of Gaps	This session was taken by Mr. Anupjyoti Basistha where he discussed eight standards on Quality Management system which are creating quality teams in the facility, employee satisfaction, implementation of internal & external quality assurance system – EQAS, SOP's & work instructions, Process mapping, Quality Policy, Objectives, Patient Satisfaction Survey etc. various MUDAS – wastes in hospital processes were also discussed.
13. Outcome Indicators and KPI's,	Then he discussed about the importance of Internal assessment, Gap analysis, Prioritization, and action planning. Gap Analysis by using "fish bone diagram" and "why why" technique was explained in detailed with examples. He then explained the prioritization of gaps by using 'PICK' chart & 'PDCA' Cycle. Dr. Vinaya RSL explained the four areas of measures for quality
AoC-H Patient Satisfaction Survey	- Productivity, Efficiency, Clinical Care & Service Quality in terms of measurable indicators and to have a system to measure the indicators and meeting the benchmarks. Later few indicators like ALOS, BOR, Rate of Surgeries, C-section Rate, OT Utilization Rate, SSI Rate have been explained with formulas to calculate the KPI's & examples on how to measure & analyse these indicators were also briefed to the participants.
14. Prescription Audit	The session on Prescription Audit was taken by Mr. Anupjyoti Basistha where he explained importance and need of conducting prescription audits on monthly basis in the facilities, he also focused on prescription form, its contents, effects of inadvertent prescription of drugs and Adverse drug reactions.
	Day 3 (25-11-2021)
15. Quality Tools - PDCA, 5S, Mistake Proofing etc.	Mr. Anupjyoti Basistha has discussed the use of quality tools like Bar chart, Histogram, Fish bone diagram, Pie charts and PDCA Cycle, Workplace management/5S, Etc., in process improvement activities to improve the quality in public health facilities.
16. Exercise on Prescription Audit & Patient Satisfaction Survey	An exercise on prescription audit was conducted by giving samples of prescription form to all the participants and they were told to fill 'YES' or 'NO' to the corresponding attributes of the prescription form then RRC Team members discussed the analysis, identification of low scoring attributes and to develop the corrective action and preventive action on the low scoring attributes of the audit exercise.

17. Process Mapping	In this session, Mr. Anupjyoti Basistha explained the process mapping, its purpose, its importance, series of steps involved in the process mapping, symbols used for representation of various activities while mapping the process, pointing out the bottle necks in a process, removing nonvalue adding activities from the process. Few examples of process mapping charts of different hospital activities were explained to make the participants to understand this quality tool.
18. Exercise on Process Mapping	A group exercise has been conducted on process mapping where the participants have been told to map the process of certain activities of a hospital like registration process, admission process, labor room activities etc., and they were told to present to the audience and to explain it by highlighting the value & nonvalue adding activities, bottlenecks they are facing in the process. Mr. Anupjyoti Basistha has coordinated this activity.
19. Status & Road Map for NQAS Implementation in the state	Dr. Thanghoi Lam, SNO-QA, Nagaland has briefly explained the state action plan of QA related activities as per the approval in ROP 2021-22. He also spoke about the status of shortlisted facilities for NQAS & LaQshya program in the state and urged the officials to adhere to timelines to complete the assessments in time.
20. Post training evaluation	RRC - NE Team has conducted a post training evaluation of the participants with an objective type of question paper where answer sheet will be filled by participants, and this is followed by providing feedback on the 3 days training program.

E. Roadmap for FY 2021-22:

NQAS												
Assessments		2021					2022					
Months	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
State level												
Assessments &												
Certification of												
DH's (2)												
State level												
assessment and												
certification of												
PHC's (5)												
Baseline												
assessment of												
PHC's, all DH's												
and SDH/CHC's												
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Months	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
Internal												
Assessment of all												
facilities												
Peer Assessment of												
all facilities												
External												
Assessment of												
selected facilities												

F. Valedictory & Closing Ceremony:

The training program concluded with Dr. Thanghoi Lam, SNO-QA, NHM, Nagaland explaining Status & Road map for NQAS implementation in the state followed by closing remarks & vote of thanks from officers of DoH&FW, Nagaland.

Annexure I: Agenda of the IA cum SPT

Time	Topic	Resource Person					
	Day-01 (23 rd November 2021)						
09:00 am - 09:30 am	Registration	State Team					
09:30 am - 09:45 am	Inaugural Address	State Representative					
09.45 am10.45 am	Overview of National Quality Assurance	Anup Basistha					
	Program and Assessment Protocol	Consultant-QI, RRCNE					
10:45am -11:00 am							
11.00am - 11:45 am	Standards for Service Provision, AoC-A	Dr. Vinaya RSL					
	Standards for Patient Rights, AoC-B	Consultant-QI, RRCNE					
11:45am – 12:15 pm	Standards for Inputs, AoC-C	Anup Basistha					
10.15		Consultant-QI, RRCNE					
12.15pm – 1:30 pm	Group Activity: Identifying Standards	RRC-NE/State Team					
1:30 pm – 2:15 pm	Lunch	5 111 501					
2:15 pm – 3:00 pm	Standards for support Services, AoC-D	Dr. Vinaya RSL Consultant-QI, RRCNE					
3:00 pm – 3:45 pm	Standards for Clinical Services, AoC-E	Ms. Vethipralu Lohe					
	(Std. E1 - Std. E9)	SPM-QA, NHM, Nagaland					
3:45pm – 4:00 pm	Tea						
4:00 pm – 4:45 pm	Standards for Infection Control, AoC-F	Anup Basistha					
		Consultant-QI, RRCNE					
4:45 pm – 5:00 pm	Overview of "Gunak Application" and its	Dr. Vinaya RSL					
	uses	Consultant-QI, RRCNE					
	Day-02 (24th November 2021)						
09:00 am - 09:30 am	Recap	Anup Basistha					
200		Consultant-QI, RRCNE					
9:30 am- 10:15 am	Standards for Specific Clinical Services,	Dr. Antoly Suu					
	AoC-E	Deputy CMO, Dimapur					
10.15 11.00	(Std. E10 - Std. E16)	Die Arabalis Cour					
10:15 am – 11:00 am	Standards for RMNCHA Services, AoC-E	Dr. Antoly Suu					
11:00 am- 11:15 am	(Std. E17 - Std. E23) Tea	Deputy CMO, Dimapur					
11.15 am-12.15 pm	Exercise on Area of Concern A, B and C	RRC-NE Team					
•		RRC-IVE TEATH					
12.15 pm – 1.15 pm	Standards for Quality Management, AoC-G	Anup Basistha Consultant-QI, RRCNE					
1:15 pm – 02.15 pm	Lunch						
2:15 pm. – 03.15 pm	Internal Assessment, Root Cause Analysis,	Anup Basistha					
	Action Planning & Prioritization of Gaps	Consultant-QI, RRCNE					
3:15 pm. – 04.15 pm	Outcome Indicators and KPI's, AoC-H	Dr. Vinaya RSL					
	Patient Satisfaction Survey	Consultant-QI, RRCNE					
4:15 pm – 4:30 pm	Tea						
4:30 pm – 5:30 pm	Prescription Audit	Anup Basistha					
		Consultant-QI, RRCNE					
	Day 3 (25th November 2021)						
09:30 am- 10:00 am	Recap	Anup Basistha					
10.00		Consultant-QI, RRCNE					
10:00 am- 11:00 am	Quality Tools - PDCA, 5S, Mistake Proofing	Anup Basistha					
11.00 11.15	etc.	Consultant-QI, RRCNE					
11:00 am -11:15 am	Tea	Dr. Minarra DCI					
11.15 am- 11:45 am	Exercise on Prescription audit and	Dr. Vinaya RSL					
11.45 pm 12.20 pm	Exercise on Patient Satisfaction Survey	Consultant-QI, RRCNE					
11:45 pm –12:30 pm	Process Mapping	Anup Basistha Consultant-QI, RRCNE					
12:30 pm –1:15 pm	Exercise on Process Mapping	Anup Basistha					
12.30 piii - 1.13 piii	Lationse on Frocess Mapping	Consultant-QI, RRCNE					
01:15 pm – 02:00pm	Lunch	Oorisuitant-Qi, IXIONE					
02:00 pm-2:30 pm	Status & Road map for NQAS implementation	Dr. Thanghoi Lam					
02.00 pm-2.00 pm	in the state	SNO-QA, NHM Nagaland					
2:45 pm – 3:45 pm	Post Training Evaluation	RRC-NE Team					
3:45 pm- 4:00 pm	Valedictory & Tea	THE TOURT					
5.45 pm 4.00 pm	valculatory & rea						

Annexure II: Post Training Evaluation Report & Result Sheet

SI. No.	Name of Participants	Designation	Name of district/facility	Score (%)	Result
1	Achumthung Patton	Consultant	Nagaland Health Project	75.0	PASS
2	Akumjungla	Quality Assurance Manager		82.5	PASS
3	Watikumla Amlari	District Program Manager		85.0	PASS
4	Kereilhouvinuo Miachieo	Consultant	Nagaland Health Project	75.0	PASS
5	Menguzenuo Sachu	Consultant – IEC	Nagaland Health Project	72.5	PASS
6	Dr. Vezokholu Khamo	Medical Officer AYUSH	PHC, Athibung Peren	77.5	PASS
7	Dr. Jongroi L	Medical Officer	PHC, Thonoknyu	70.0	PASS
8	Dr. Akaholi V Zhimomi	DPM – QA	Zunheboto	77.5	PASS
9	Bokaho T John Yeptho	Medical Officer	DH, Zunheboto	77.5	PASS
10	Aosangla Longkumer	M&E Assistant – NHP	Directorate of Health & Family Welfare	80.0	PASS
11	Jentinochet Amri	Asst. Director	Nagaland State AIDS Control Society	80.0	PASS
12	Dr. M Nukshi Sangla Jamir	Deputy Director	Nagaland State AIDS Control Society	80.0	PASS
13	Thejavituo Kire	Medical Officer	DH, Longleng	75.0	PASS
14	Dr. Avika P Jimo	Medical Officer, AYUSH	DH, Peren	77.5	PASS
15	Dr. Martha	DVBO	CMO Office, Kiphire	67.5	PASS
16	Dr. Alo A Ayeh	Medical Officer	PHC, Panso	67.5	PASS
17	Avika Yepthomi	Medical Officer	CHC, Aghunato	85.0	PASS
18	Ethrongli Sangtam	Medical Officer	PHC, Chare Tuensamg	80.0	PASS
19	Dr. Shevo Hiese	DVBC, Phek	CMO Office, Phek	67.5	PASS
20	Dr. Y Imlongchaba	Medical Officer	DH, Tuensang	77.5	PASS
21	P. Imtimongba Kechu	Medical Officer	CHC, Changtongya Mokokchung	80.0	PASS
22	Dr. Imlisenba	Medical Officer	IMDH, Mokokchung	85.0	PASS
23	Dr. Holiba A Anar	Medical Officer	DH, Kiphire	87.5	PASS
24	Kisheka V Achuml	Doctor	CHC, Pungro, Kiphire	87.5	PASS
25	Dr. Imnanoktsung Longchar	DPM-QA	CMO Office, Kiphire	87.5	PASS
26	Dr. Tinenlo James	DTO MON	District TB Centre, Mon	75.0	PASS
27	Renchamo Tungoe	Medical Officer	Sanis CHC Wokha	75.0	PASS
28	Azhie Mero	Medical Officer	DH, Phek	75.0	PASS
29	Dr. Vepfuhu Kezo	Medical Officer	CHC, Peutsero, Phek, NL	75.0	PASS
30	Nitovi Shikhu	Deputy Director	Health & Family Welfare, Nagaland	67.5	PASS
31	Pukhato Wotsa	Consultant - NHP	Directorate of H&FW, Nagaland Health Project	75.0	PASS
32	Dr. Maongkala	Medical Officer	PHC, Mongsenyimti, Mokokchung	85.0	PASS
33	C Hosea NS Lam	DPM	DH, Noklak	70.0	PASS
34	Imlinoba Changkiri	DPM-QA	Dimapur	75.0	PASS
35	Dr. K Manan Phom	Medical Officer	PHC, Yongnyah, Longleng District	80.0	PASS
36	Dr. Alemwapang O	Medical Officer	Nhak	80.0	PASS
37	Ms. Mununu Vero	DPM-QA	Tuensang	80.0	PASS
38	Dr. Renathung M Kithan	Medical Officer	Community Health Centre, Bhandari, Wokha	85.0	PASS

39	Epibenil Homtsoe	Medical Officer	DH, Wokha	85.0	PASS
40	Dr. Thomas Keppen	Deputy Director	Deputy Director DoH&FW, Nagaland		PASS
41	Khumrila Sangtam	Medical Officer	Tang PHC	62.5	PASS
42	Dr. Tinurenla Anichari	Deputy Director	NHM, Health & Family Welfare	75.0	PASS
43	Dr. Nounengulie Kire	Medical Officer	PHC, Piphema	82.5	PASS
44	Obed Sema	Junior Specialist	DH, Dimapur	82.5	PASS
45	Kekhriele – U Angahi	DPM-QA		72.5	PASS
46	Chenosin Yimchungru	DPM-QA		75.0	PASS
47	Dr. Chongya BL	Medical Officer	DH, Noklak	77.5	PASS
48	Ruokuovinuo Rachel	Medical Officer	CHC, Jalukie	82.5	PASS
49	Medophretuo Dzuvichu	Medical Officer - AYUSH	CHC, Viswema	75.0	PASS
50	Dr. Kuotho T Nyuwi	Medical Officer	DH, Mon	80.0	PASS

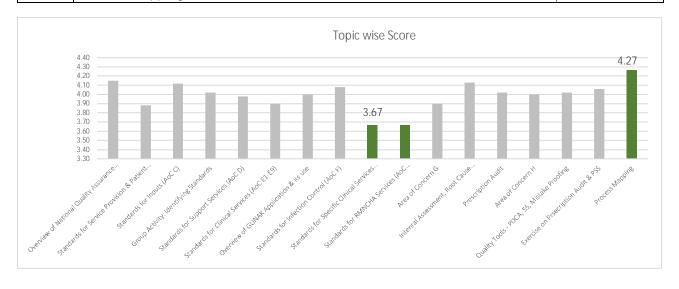
Total Participants appeared in the NQAS Internal Assessor's Certificate Test: 50
 Total Participants who cleared the NQAS Internal Assessor's Certificate Test: 50

• Pass Percentage: 100.00 %

• Average Score of the Test: 77.60 %

Annexure III: Training Feedback Analysis

SI. No.	Name of the Topic	Average Score
1	Overview of National Quality Assurance Program & Assessment Protocol	4.15
2	Standards for Service Provision & Patient Rights (AoC A & B)	3.88
3	Standards for Inputs (AoC C)	4.12
4	Group Activity: Identifying Standards	4.02
5	Standards for Support Services (AoC D)	3.98
6	Standards for Clinical Services (AoC E1-E9)	3.90
7	Overview of GUNAK Application & its use	4.00
8	Standards for Infection Control (AoC F)	4.08
9	Standards for Specific Clinical Services (AoC E10-E17)	3.67
10	Standards for RMNCHA Services (AoC E18-E23)	3.67
11	Area of Concern G	3.90
12	Internal Assessment, Root Cause Analysis, Action Planning & Prioritization	4.13
13	Prescription Audit	4.02
14	Area of Concern H	4.00
15	Quality Tools - PDCA, 5S, Mistake Proofing	4.02
16	Exercise on Prescription Audit & PSS	4.06
17	Process Mapping	4.27



Topics that were most useful as per the feedback received from the participants:

SI. No.	Topics	Nos. of Participants appreciated the session
1	Overview of NQAP & Assessment Protocol	07
2	Area of Concern A - Standards for Service Provision	10
	Area of Concern B - Standards for Patient Rights	09
3	Area of Concern C - Standards for Inputs	10
4	Area of Concern D – Standards for Support Services	09
5	Area of Concern E – Standards for Specific Clinical Services	12
6	Area of Concern E – Standards for RMNCH A Services	05
7	Area of Concern F – Standards for Infection Control	25
8	Area of Concern G - Standards for Quality Management	09
9	Area of Concern H - Outcome Indicators & KPI	12
10	Quality Tools - PDCA, 5S, Mistake Proofing	06
11	Internal Assessment, Root Cause Analysis, Action Planning &	12
	Prioritization	
12	Process Mapping	22
13	Prescription audit, Patient Satisfaction Survey & Exercises on Prescription Audit & PSS	15
14	Gunak Application & its uses	04

Trainers Score:

SI. No.	Name of the Trainer	Position	No. of topics taken	Average Score
1	Sh. Anup Basishta	Consultant - QI, RRC-NE	8	4.08
2	Dr. Vinaya RSL	Consultant - QI, RRC-NE	5	3.98
3	Ms. Vethipralu Lohe	SPM-QA, NHM, Nagaland	1	3.90
4	Dr. Antoly Suu	Deputy CMO, Dimapur	2	3.67
5	RRC - NE Team	-	1	4.02