

नेपाल स्वास्थ्य व्यवसायी परिषद् Nepal Health Professional Council

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नेपाल स्वास्थ्य व्यवसायी परिषद्
Nepal Health Professional Council

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Minister for Health and Population
Ramshahpath, Kathmandu, Nepal

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Date: April 2009

Message

It brings me pleasure to learn that Nepal Health Professional Council (NHPC) is bringing out the *Smarika* (Souvenir), first of its kind, in the history of the council. I am happy to know that the council has registered over thirty three thousand health professionals of different disciplines and level.

Government of Nepal formed after the historic "*Jana Andolan 2062/063*" has placed highest priority in the health of the Nepalese people. As a result, the interim constitution of Nepal has enshrined the health as "**fundamental right**" of the people, and Government has taken various bold decisions in this regard despite various challenges. Accordingly, various policies and programs formulated are now being implemented. Definitely, there are challenges, but there are opportunities as well. I understand the NHPC registered health professionals has been playing crucial role in making these initiatives successful wherever they are - in villages, towns or cities of mountain, hill and *Terai*. And, I take this opportunity to acknowledge their contribution.

I understand that there is need for the amendment of NHPC Act-2053 as to make it well fit in the country's changed scenario. However, despite of transitional situation in the country, the present council body is doing its best in both health professionals' name registration and quality assurance in the production of health professionals in the country. The various actions/initiatives taken by the council to improve the status health profession education and health service delivered by the health professionals including the publication of this "*Smarika*" (Souvenir) deserves high grade appreciation. Being the "first" of its kind in the history of NHPC, this *Smarika* will definitely be a historic document for all health professionals as well as others concerned.

Once again, I call upon all health professionals to contribute in the health of Nepalese people, and in turn, in building the New Nepal.

Wishing a happy and prosperous New Year 2066,

Mr. Giriraj Mani Pokhrel
Minister of Health & Population



Government of Nepal

Ministry of Health and Population

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Ramshahpath, Kathmandu
Nepal.

April 2009

Message

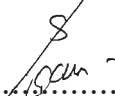
It gives me pleasure to know that Nepal Health Professional Council (NHPC) is bringing out the first *Smarika* (Souvenir) especially on the eve of New Year 2066 compiling information about various works done and initiatives taken by the council till date. As the documentation is very important, I am sure that the information compiled in this *Smarika* will be highly useful for all concerned. I thank the council for publishing this *Smarika*.

I am happy to know that the council has registered over thirty three thousands health professionals of over twelve different disciplines. In fact, NHPC registered health professionals are the one who are playing crucial role in providing health services at grass root level (through HP and SHP setting). Now, it is planned to place the PCL laboratory workers and radiographers at PHCC to provide the diagnostic services. Also they are equally involved in the higher level as well as in private and non-governmental sectors as part of skill-mixed team. Government is working on human resources for health in view of changed context and their retention in rural areas.

It has been realized that NHPC Act-2053 needs amendment to make it well fit in the country's changed scenario and some work has also been initiated in this regard. I know, however, that the present council body is doing its best in both health professionals' name registration and quality assurance in the production of health professionals in the country. I happy that the council has organized over dozens of workshops/consultative meetings during last two-and-half year period and half of them were conducted in support of WHO. This reflects the actively the council has been functioning and deserve appreciation.

Health has been declared as "fundamental right" of the people. In this context, I call upon all fellow health workers to contribute to the extent possible in building the new Nepal by contributing in health of Nepalese people.

Happy New Year 2066,


.....

Dr. Digha Singh Bam

Secretary, MOHP



Preface

For the first time, in 2020 BS (1963) Nepal Medical Council (NMC) was established to register the names of medical and dental doctors (MBBS and BDS). Later, in 2053 BS (1996) Nepal Nursing Council was established that began to register the name of nurses. In the same year Nepal Health Professional Council (NHPC) was also established. NHPC then began to register the name of health professional other than medical/dental doctors and nurses. During the last one decade, NHPC has achieved many things and is trying its best to do the same in the changed scenario of the country.

NHPC registers health professionals of all disciplines other than medical doctors (MBBS and BDS) and nurses as has been stipulated in the NHPC Act 2053. These include General Medicine (PCL and TSLC only), Health / Medical Laboratory Sciences, Public Health, Radiography / Imaging, Radiotherapy, Rehabilitation (Physiotherapy), Operation Theatre and Allied Health Science, Anesthesia, *Ayurveda*, Naturopathy, *Unani*, Homeopathy, Speech and Hearing, Perfusion Technology and others. Up till now (end of *Chaitra* 2065), over thirty four thousands health professionals of various disciplines and levels (*Taha*) have been registered. Of them, 830 are in *Pratham Taha* (Bachelor and above), 2,835 in *Dwitiya Taha* (PCL/Intermediate Level) and 30,726 in *Tritiya Taha* (TSLC).

Quality assurance of health professionals is one of most important task of NHPC. For this purpose, NHPC has made and implemented “minimum requirements” for different programs of different levels being run under the universities and Council for Technical Education and Vocational Training (CTEVT). Present council actively involved in making revising the existing curriculums of universities/institutions and CTEVT. Though, it has not been materialized yet, it also took initiative to amend the council act to add the provision of “licensing exam” and others. Based on the findings of monitoring visits of the institutions running health

professional education programs across the country and “performance gap” of the graduates, council has also added some criteria in existing minimum requirements. It is interesting note here that mgmt committee members of some of the institutes short of fulfilling minimum requirement came to council claiming that the report of the inspection team was bias. But when they were advised to fulfill the requirement within seven days and apply for re-inspection, in their application for re-inspection, they requested for the postponement of re-inspection as they were still in the process of preparation

NHPC has also made the “code of ethics” for the registered health professionals of different disciplines and levels to make the services delivered by them ethical, systematic, qualitative as well as legal.

Despite all these, as has also been indicated in other reports, still deficiencies were noticed during field visits. Some of the shortcomings observed during the field visits of training institutions and service delivery sectors are shown in this *Smarika* also. The shortcomings found at training institutions were communicated to affiliating university/CTEVT for necessary action(s). Aiming to correct shortcomings and improve the quality in health professional education, NHPC has also taken “interaction initiative” to interact with the management/ principals of different institutions in seven places across the country. But, because of some unfortunate and unavoidable circumstances incidents (*Talabandi* and *Tod Phod*, it could be organized only in four places (Biratnagar, Nepalgunj,

Butawal and Pokhara). This initiative has been appreciated not only by the participants of the meetings but also members of Nepal Medical Council and others. It is hoped that this initiative will bring good results in days to come.

Some of the programs like BScMLT/BMLT were not being run in the country due primarily to the less number of students (ten) per batch. In that also, Institute of Medicine has been taking only six students. Thus, many people are acquiring the degree from foreign countries. But, graduates of some of the foreign country institutions are of low quality. With an aim of making the program cost effective and sustainable, the number students per batch per year has also been increased in some programs but without compromising in the quality.

Present council also took the initiative of working together (*Saha Karya*) with other stake holders (universities, institutions, CTEVT as well other professional organizations). It also tried its best to make the activities of council as inclusive and transparent as possible. Despite of that council had to face some unfortunate incidents like *Talabandi* and *Tod Phod*

Present council body could not meet for more than one year (*Saun* 22, 2063 to *Bhadau* 9, 2064) due to the lack of council members for quorum. However, council tried its best in improving the quality of health service by improving the quality of health professionals and took firm stand on it though council had to face some kind of hurdles/disturbances. Up

till now, council could conduct various interactive/consultative workshops/meetings and other activities as has been shown in the *Smarika*.

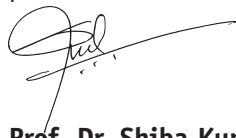
Though documentation very important, up till now there is no compiled document about the activities council since its establishment. Therefore, council decided to compile the activities of the council including some unfortunate incidents that took place during recent past and publish in the form of *Smarika*. This *Smarika* provides information as shown in the content. It is believed that this document will be useful for all concerned.

I take this opportunity to thank honorable Minister of Health and Population Mr. Girirajmani Pokhrel and Secretary Dr. Dirgh Singh Bam for their kind message. I also wish to thank all my fellow council members and registrar for their active role in various activities of the council carried out during last two and half years. Despite of my coming as Chairman, council could not meet almost for more than one year due to the insufficient number of members required for quorum. I am sincerely thankful to President of *Nepal Swasthya Prabidhik Snagh* Mr. Bhaktiman Subba for his important role (recommendation of three members to Government of Nepal) in making the council functional (with this it became possible to fulfill the quorum). I thank all experts including the legal advisor who kindly spared their valuable time and gave

expert opinion needed for various activities of council. Similarly, I also thank all professional organizations for their participation and thoughtful inputs at the workshops / meetings organized by the council and also for their delegation with constructive suggestions. I also thank all staffs of the council including the *Anasandhan tatha Tahakikat Adhikari* for their sincere and honest working. Last but not the least I would like to extend my sincere thanks to WHO Nepal country office, WHO Expert Prof. Dr. M. Huq and staff Mr. Silas Rai for generous support/cooperation in conduction various workshops/consultative meetings related to quality assurance of health professionals and to the mass media for their news coverage regarding to NMPC's activities.

Finally, I call upon all my fellow health professionals to contribute to the extent possible in building the new Nepal by contributing in the "health" of Nepalese people.

With best wishes to all fellow health professionals,



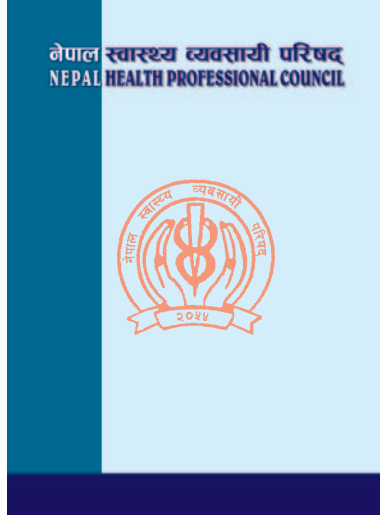
Prof. Dr. Shiba Kumar Rai

PhD (Medicine), DMSc

M Vidhya Bhushan Ka, Kha & Ga (all 3 classes)

Chairman

30th April, 2009 Kathmandu, Nepal



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