F No. Z.15015/27/2021-NHM-I Government of India Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (National Health Mission)

Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi Dated the 6 December, 2021

To

Dr. Lakshmanam S., IAS, Mission Director (NHM), Government of Assam, Saikia Commercial Complex, Sri Nagar Path, G.S Road, Christian Basti, Guwahati-781005, Assam.

Subject: Regarding request to extend the domain of FMR (S.1.3) - Essential drugs for COVID-19 Management under ECRP-II – reg.

Sir,

With reference to the D.O. letter No. HLA. 301/2020/252 dated 09.12.2021 of the Principal Secretary (H&FW), Government of Assam on the subject mentioned above.

- 2. In this regard, it is to inform that the Guidance Note for ECRP-II circulated vide this Ministry's D.O. letter No. 7(32)/NHM-I/2021 dated 14.07.2021 supports for ensuring availability of essential drugs including buffer stock of drugs for COVID-19 management. Further, it is mentioned in Annexure-K of the Guidance Note (Guidelines for Buffer Stock Management of COVID-19 Drugs) that the suggestive list of drugs given in the Guidelines is dynamic and indicative and the States/UTs may suitably customize the list in accordance with their local needs and requirements for treatment / management of COVID-19 and its sequelae. Thus, the State Government may utilize the funds of Rs.34.00 Crores approved under FMR S.1.3 (Essential drugs for COVID-19 management) of ECRP-II vide this Ministry's letter of even number dated 13.08.2021 on other drugs (which are not mentioned in the sequelae. and its COVID-19 management of Guidelines)
- 3. However, the request for utilizing the approved funds of Rs.34.00 Crores for "Protective gears like PPE cover all kit, N-95 masks, Gloves, etc." and "ICU consumables like ET tube. Oxygen mask, NIV mask, etc." are not categorized as drugs and, hence, the proposal for incurring expenditure for these items under FMR S.1.3 (Essential drugs for COVID-19 management) is not agreed to.
 - 4. This issues with the approval of Competent Authority.

Yours faithfully,

(Elangbam Robert Singh)
Director (NHM-III)

Ph: 011-23062495

Copy to

- Principal Secretary (H&FW), Government of Assam
- SrPPS to AS&MD (NHM), MoHFW
- SrPPS to JS (Policy), MoHFW