

Effective Technical Monitoring and Efficient Budget Handling

The year 2017 will be a year of “**technical monitoring of performance of health programs together with efficient handling of budget in the Ministry of Health and Sports (MoHS)**”. Budget will be appropriately and rationally allocated while reducing wastage and misappropriation. The reason behind this is that Myanmar is not a rich country and therefore we need to achieve more output and outcome with a reasonable amount of money invested.

To obtain this scenario, we have to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of budget handling processes, both the government budget as well as the financial support received from outside agencies, organizations and development partners. This will be supplemented by conducting effective internal review and technical assessment of programs regularly. Every level of health care service professionals must have this notion deeply ingrained in their minds. Allocation of budget must also follow the principles and practice of “**Good Public Health Ethics**”. We need to think collectively and rack our brains to achieve to this end. There are several avenues that we can contemplate: such as efficient and effective procurement of supplies and equipment, built-in monitoring system and proper management of budgetary aspect of several health programs of MoHS.

The need to increase financial knowledge and handling of budget adhering to existing rules and regulations of the government as well as conforming to international standards and criteria is desirable. The best way to achieve the points alluded above is to share knowledge and experiences of good financial management among the staff of MoHS. The ultimate objective, however, is to obtain big dividends using the least amount of budget. Concerned financial and budget experts from MoHS should lead the show under close supervision and guidance of senior officials of MoHS. Composite monitoring and evaluation of health programs will be carried out throughout the year using check-lists, Focus Group Discussions and other appropriate means.

(Excerpt from one of the speeches delivered to health staff by Dr Myint Htwe, Union Minister for Health and Sports)

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