

**Rajendra Pratap Gupta** President & Member Board of Directors

March 11, 2012

Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad Union Minister for Health & Family Welfare Government of India. Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi – 110108.

Reference : Contract Employees under NRHM & Exclusion of Wine from FSSAI

Dear Shri Azad ji,

In the above quoted reference, I wish to draw your attention to the above mentioned two important issues .

Firstly, the status of contract employees under the NRHM: Over the last few months, I have got thousands of emails on my blog about the future of employees working under NRHM. People have been asking me about their future after putting in 10-15 years under NRHM? The people fear that if their services are terminated after March 2017 (when the 12<sup>th</sup> five year plan ends), people would have become *over aged* for the government jobs and their careers would be ruined!

It is expected that the government will either regularize these workers in the 12<sup>th</sup> five-year plan or work out the proportionate payments as pensions for the number of years put in service of 15 years and above. Also, it would be great if the services of these contract workers are regularized with deliverables fixed for each worker / cadre

**FSSAI (Food Safety & Standards Authority of India).** It is learned from the FSSAI workshops that, 'Wine' has been included under FSSAI. It is an unexpected and an unfortunate step for India. We are not sure what kind of 'message' is the government giving to 100's of million youths of this country by putting 'Wine' under Food Safety & Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)? Does it imply that consumption of wine is now being considered safe and recommended for consumption by the Indian population ? or is it the handiwork of some foreign lobby groups? Hoping that the corrective steps would be taken immediately.

Appropriate actions should be initiated post the discussion with the stake holders

Yours truly,

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## **Disease Management Association of India**

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## CC:

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