

Guidelines for Operationalization of Multi-Purpose District Mobile Ophthalmic Units under the National Programme for Control of Blindness

National Programme for Control of Blindness (NPCB) was launched in the year 1976 as a 100% centrally sponsored scheme with the goal of reducing the prevalence of blindness to 0.3% by 2020. Rapid Survey on Avoidable Blindness conducted under NPCB during 2006-07 showed reduction in the prevalence of blindness from 1.1% (2001-02) to 1% (2006-07). A provision of Rs.2506.90 crore has been approved by the Government for the implementation of the NPCB during the 12th Five Year Plan for activities upto the district and below level hospitals. Development of Multipurpose District Mobile Ophthalmic Units is one of the new initiatives introduced under the programme during the 12th Five year Plan with a view to further expand eye-care coverage in remote and underserved areas.

2. It has been approved to develop 400 Multipurpose District Mobile Ophthalmic Units in District Hospitals in a phased manner in the States/UTs during the 12th Five Year Plan. Preference will be given to remote/hilly areas including NE States and underprivileged regions to expand eye-care coverage.

Name of the scheme

3. Development of Multipurpose District Mobile Ophthalmic Units in the District Hospitals of States/UTs.

Objective of the scheme

4. The objectives of the Scheme are:
- i. To operationalize Multipurpose District Mobile Ophthalmic Units in district hospitals for improved access to eye care services.
 - ii. To further expand eye-care coverage.
 - iii. To make eye care services available in remote and underprivileged areas of the country.

Activities by the Multipurpose District Mobile Ophthalmic Units (MDMOU)

5. The activities to be undertaken by MDMOU are as follows:
- a. Screening Eye
 - b. School Eye Screening
 - c. Transporting patients from Screening Centers to the nearest District Hospital/Referral Centre for further management
 - d. On the spot refraction and provision of glasses
 - e. Diagnosis of diseases like Diabetic Retinopathy, Glaucoma, etc.
 - f. Display of IEC messages on its outer panels

No. of Units to be developed

6. It has been approved to develop 400 Multipurpose District Mobile Ophthalmic Units in District Hospitals in a phased manner based on the requirement projected in the Programme Implementation Plan (PIP) of respective States/UTs and approved by NPCB

during the 12th Five Year Plan. Preference will be given to remote/hilly areas including NE States and underprivileged regions to expand eye-care coverage.

Composition of the Multipurpose District Mobile Ophthalmic Unit

I. Manpower:

- a. Para-Medical Ophthalmic Assistant
- b. Driver and cleaner/helper

II. Mobile Van with following Specifications

7. A mobile van will be provided for the purpose with the NPCB logo and panels containing information about the programme. It will be a ten seater passenger carrier including driver and helper to accommodate a PMOA, six eye patients/school children. The space at the back of the van will be utilized for placing lens box, emergency tray and as store for spare essential material/items. The States will have the flexibility to decide the type of vehicle to be procured within the given budget. However, the model of the vehicle will be decided and procured by the State Health Society depending upon the geographic conditions and technical feasibility for the State. The State shall modify/fabricate the vehicle to accommodate the requisite ophthalmic manpower and ophthalmic equipments and eye patients/school children for refraction. DPM/PMOA concerned will ensure that equipments and other furniture/fixture are placed at appropriate places in the vehicle so that patients may not suffer any inconvenience. The drawings of the Vans are given in Annexure.

III. Essential equipment in Mobile Van:

8. The details of essential equipment in MDMOU are as follows:
 1. Battery Operated Torch (2)
 2. Illuminated Vision Testing Drum
 3. Illuminated hand held near vision testing drum
 4. Snellen & Near Vision Charts
 5. Trial Lens Set with Trial Frames (2)
 6. Streak retinoscope
 7. Stationary (Glass Prescription, OPD slips)
 8. Direct Ophthalmoscopes
 9. Tonometers (Schiotz)
 10. Binomags (binocular loupe)
 11. Epilation forceps, Xylocaine Eye drops 4%
 12. Ishihara color vision testing book
 13. Mini storage cabinet with lock facility.

Purchase procedure

9. The purchase of the vehicle will be made by the Purchase Committee of the State Health Society concerned at DGS&D rates from authorized dealers of standard manufacturers selected as per the prescribed purchase procedures by the Government.

Administrative aspects

10. The broad administrative of MDMOU are as follows:
- i. District Programme Manager (DPM) will be the Officer-in-charge at district level for the operational and monitoring aspects of the mobile unit.
 - ii. The Medical Officer in the Primary Health Centre of the area of the eye screening camp will remain available for facilitating the Eye camps.
 - iii. The local sub-centre staff and members of the village health committee will assist in the camp.
 - iv. The post of Driver and helper shall be filled up on contractual basis. NPCB will not be responsible for their salary etc. after discontinuation of this component of the Scheme

Financial Implications

11. Non-recurring assistance upto Rs. 30 lakh towards development of Multipurpose District Mobile Ophthalmic Unit will be provided by the Government under NPCB in following manner:

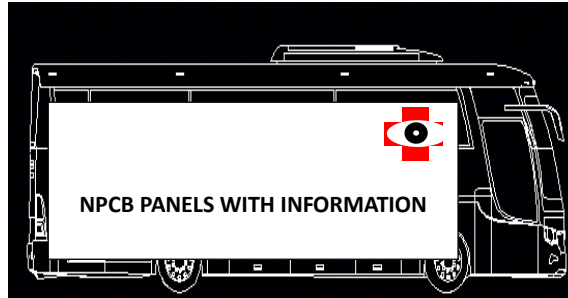
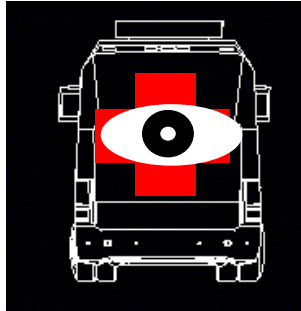
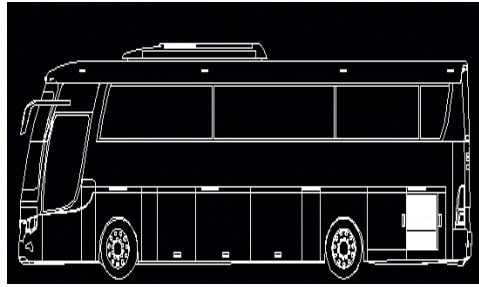
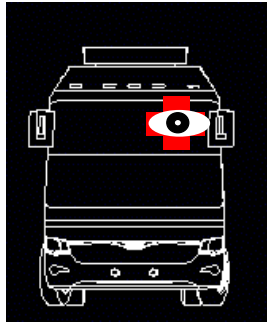
Components	Rs. in lakh
Cost of Mobile Van (multipurpose)including the cost of modification and fabrication	19.00
Essential Ophthalmic Equipments (as per list)	1.00
Cost of diesel, insurance and maintenance of vehicle and other contingency expenditure including salary of driver and helper for 5 year	10.00
Total	30.00

Display on Mobile Van

12. The State Government shall ensure that it is appropriately displayed on such Mobile Vans that it has been funded by the Government of India under National Programme for Control of Blindness.

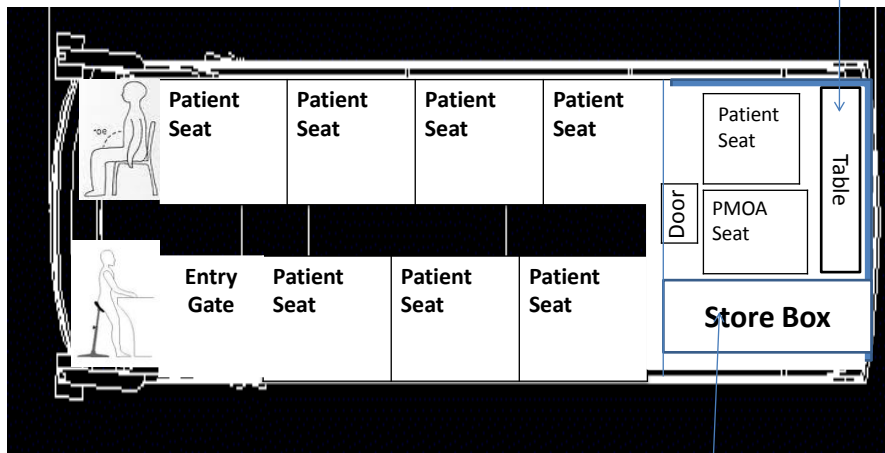
Prudent Use of Vans

13. The State Government shall also ensure that such Mobile Vans are strictly utilized for the purpose for which it has been sanctioned by the Government so that such Units are effective in providing eye care activities to the remote and underserved areas.



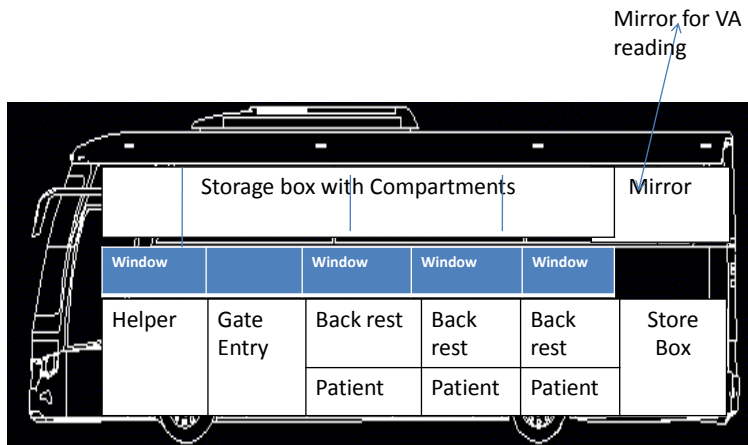
Base side details

Lens Box with trial frame and streak retino-scope



Storage box for emergency tray and refraction medicines

Gate Side details



Opposite side details

