

**PRESIDENT'S SECRETARIAT (PUBLIC)**  
**PRESS WING**

\*\*\*\*

**(PR No.139/2018)**

**ISLAMABAD SEPTEMBER 25, 2018:** President Dr. Arif Alvi chaired a high level briefing at the Ministry of National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination today. Governor Sindh Imran Ismail was also present. Federal Minister for National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination, Aamer Mehmood Kiani welcomed the President and elaborated broad contours of the health vision of the Government focusing on provision of accessible and equitable quality health care for all.

Speaking on the occasion, the President said we must focus on preventive health care and include it in all policies, strategies and plans since it is the most cost effective approach in reducing incidence of disease and ensuring a healthy population. The President advised the Ministry to work closely with the Ministry of Information to create public awareness through behavioral change communication, through effective utilization of electronic media, as well as involving Ulemas in encouraging organ donation and population planning.

The President underscored the need to uplift the pharmaceutical sector to enhance exports in this sector which has immense potential. He advised the Ministry to take necessary measures for Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan (DRAP) to meet WHO standards.

The President stressed on assigning timelines to all initiatives being taken by the Health Ministry and that progress should be visible within these timelines.

Earlier, a detailed briefing was given to the President by Secretary Health, Capt. ® Zahid Saeed. The President was informed about the regulatory and coordination functions of the Ministry on Prime Minister's National Health Program, it was shared that currently over 3.2 Million families living below the poverty line have been provided health insurance cover. It was informed that the Program is being expanded to cover the entire country as per directions of the Prime Minister.

The President affirmed his all out support in uplifting the health sector and in overcoming challenges impeding its progress. The President emphasized that proper coordination with the provinces should be ensured for the provision of quality healthcare to all the people in Pakistan.

\*\*\*\*\*