

# Jan Swasthya Abhiyan

(Peoples Health Movement – India)

Health for All - Now!

Health is a Basic Human Right!

## National Convenors:

**Abhay Shukla**  
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**Amit Sengupta**  
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**Renu Khanna**  
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**T. Sundararaman**  
**Thelma Narayan**  
**Vandana Prasad**

## National Co-ordination Committee:

All India Drug Action Network (AIDAN)  
All India People's Science Network (AIPSN)  
All India Democratic Women's Association (AIDWA)  
Bharat Gyan Vigyan Samiti (BGVS)  
Breast Feeding Promotion Network in India (BPNI)  
Catholic Health Association of India (CHAI)  
Centre for Community Health and Social Medicine, JNU  
Christian Medical Association of India (CMAI)  
Forum for Creche and Child Care Services (FORCES)  
Fed. of Medical Representative Assns. of India (FMRAI)  
Health Watch  
Jan Swasthya Sahyog (JSS)  
Joint Women's Programme (JWP)  
Medico Friends Circle (MFC)  
National Alliance of People's Movements (NAPM)  
National Federation of Indian Women (NFIW)  
National Association of Women's Orgs. (NAWO)  
Public Health Resource Network (PHRN)  
SAMA – Resource Group on Women's Health  
SATHI – CEHAT  
Society for Community Health Awareness  
Research and Action [SOCHARA]

## Participating Organisations:

Over 1000 organisations concerned with health care and health policy from both within and outside the above networks.

Date: 14 JUNE 2019

## JSA statement on violence against doctors in West Bengal

Jan Swasthya Abhiyan expresses shock at the grievous assault on junior doctor, Dr Paribha Mukherjee in NRS Medical Hospital at Kolkata on 11th June 2019 and condemns, in the strongest terms, the escalation of violence, communalization of the issue, and attempts at intimidation of junior doctors by the government that have ensued in West Bengal in the past 48 hours, in the aftermath of the protests by junior doctors.

We appeal to the West Bengal government to act speedily to acknowledge the concerns of junior doctors, to take action against the perpetrators of this crime, and to take measures to provide a safe working environment for all doctors and health care workers, to enable them to carry out their duties without apprehension or fear. There must be no attempt whatsoever to promote communal disharmony based on this incident. Political parties must desist from fueling this conflict for narrow political gains.

Further, we recognise that it is often under-funded, poorly staffed and excessively burdened health facilities, with over-worked doctors and health workers, which become the scene for conflicts. Hence we urge the West Bengal government to take proactive and comprehensive steps towards adequate financial investment in public health care infrastructure, appointment of sufficient human resources, and implementation of health system reforms to ensure availability of entire range of essential health services. This should be combined with setting up of effective grievance redressal mechanisms. Such measures will help in the short and medium term, to bridge the trust deficit between frontline health care providers and patients.

Jan Swasthya Abhiyan strongly upholds the need to prevent violence in any form in health care settings. JSA stands for ensuring people's right to health care, as well as protection of the rights of health care providers. These should be ensured through strengthened health systems, which promote healthy provider-patient relationships and preclude all forms of violence.

## Addresses for Correspondence:

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