

# NUTRITION ADVOCACY IN PUBLIC INTEREST-India (NAP*i*)

October 13, 2017

## CHAIR

Sh. KeshavDesiraju  
Former Secretary, Health, GOI

## MEMBERS

Prof. HPS Sachdev  
Senior Pediatrician &  
Epidemiologist

Dr. Vandana Prasad  
Community Pediatrician  
Mobile: 9891552425

Dr. Arun Gupta  
Child Health & Nutrition  
Advocate  
Mobile: 9899676306

Prof. KP Kushwaha  
Pediatrician & Former  
Principal, BRD Medical  
College Gorakhpur

DrPrasantaTripathy  
Ekjut Jharkhand. Member,  
Mission Steering Group,  
National Health Mission

Dr. J.P. Dadhich  
Child Health & Nutrition  
Advocate

Dr. ShobaSuri  
Nutritionist

Ms. NupurBidla  
Social Worker

## ADDRESS

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**To,**  
**Dr. Rajiv Kumar**  
**Vice Chairman**  
**Niti Aayog, Sansad Marg,**  
**New Delhi, Delhi 110001**

Dear Dr. Kumar,

This is with reference to Niti Aayog's memorandum No. NA/SW/1-7(1)/2017-WCD, dated 26th September, 2017, to constitute a working group on Nutrition with several government and non-government officials as experts on it to provide inputs. The matter of deep concern here are the profiles of non-governmental officials, which pose significant conflicts of interests. Non-availability of information about the selection process of these members is another concern.

According to the memorandum, the expert group includes representative of International Life Sciences Institute (ILSI), which is reported to be founded by Coca Cola, Pepsi, General Foods and Procter and Gamble. It is a lobbying arm of the food industry globally. ILSI's member trustees include Nestle, Hindustan Lever, Abbott Healthcare, Mars, Ajinomoto and Mondelez Foods. Other members of WG include individuals representing start-ups of nutrition supplements, and on board of MNC food company.

We like to draw your attention to the NitiAayog's own National Nutrition Strategy (NNS) guiding principles, of which 5.10 states "Ensure That There Is No Conflict of Interest. An underlying principle of action is that policy development and programme implementation must be transparent, open to public scrutiny and kept free from conflict of interest, with requisite safeguards. (This includes ensuring that representation on policy, technical advisory groups and various management committees at different levels is free from conflict of interest.)"

The working group's composition is contradictory to above principles.

We express our dissent with the decision to include these parties/individuals in a body such as the working group and believe this will negatively influence the policy/programme decisions taken under this group that may hamper public interest.

We request you to initiate action urgently to re-constitute the Working group as per the guiding principles of National Nutrition Strategy.

# NUTRITION ADVOCACY IN PUBLIC INTEREST-India (NAPi)

A line of action taken would be much appreciated.

Yours Sincerely,

NAPi.

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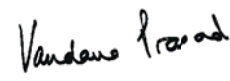
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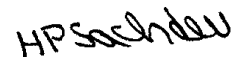
Sh. KeshavDesiraju



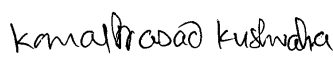
Dr. Arun Gupta



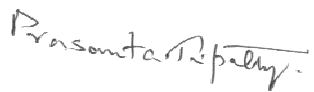
Dr. Vandana Prasad



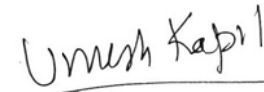
Prof. HPS Sachdev



Prof. KP Kushwaha



DrPrasantaTripathy



Prof. UmeshKapil



Dr. J.P. Dadhich



Dr. ShobaSuri



Ms. NupurBidla

Copy to Dr.Vinod Kumar Paul, Member, Niti Aayog.