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DO # Q-13016/03/2021-DISHA

September 7, 2021

Dear Colleague,

Please refer to my letter of even number dated 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2021 regarding performance of the District Collectors/Officers in convening district level DISHA Committee meetings. Though there has been an improvement in the number of DISHA meetings held in the year 2020-21 as compared to 2019-20, still concerted efforts are required for strengthening the DISHA initiative which has recently completed five years in June 2021. 'DISHA' Committees are the platform **for extending Parliamentary oversight** over the implementation of the Central Government Schemes at the ground level. Thus, convening of regular DISHA meetings and ensuring timely follow up on decisions taken in these meetings are essential to fulfill the role assigned to these Committees.

2. In order to facilitate a data driven governance solution for elected representatives and other stakeholders participating in DISHA meetings, an online initiative '**Disha Dashboard**' has been conceptualized and is being successfully utilized. Presently, 43 schemes of various Ministries /Departments with different geographical granularities have been integrated through APIs for real time data analysis and display on the DISHA Dashboard. The DISHA meeting management software is also planned to be integrated shortly with the Dashboard so as to plan, setup, and record and monitor the proceedings of the meetings. The Chairpersons, Co-chairpersons and Member Secretaries of DISHA Committees can now exchange letters/communications on URL <http://dishacloud.nic.in/form> by entering minimum details and uploading scanned copies of letters/documents.

3. It has been brought to the notice of the Ministry by several Members of Parliament in various meetings of Standing Committee/Estimates Committee and other fora that the meetings of DISHA Committees are not being held regularly in the States. Therefore, I would once again like to stress that the DISHA monitoring mechanism is in the interest of both the Centre and States in quickening the pace of development through efficient monitoring of the implementation of schemes. A broader Parliamentary oversight at the district level goes a long way in bringing greater awareness among the beneficiaries of several government schemes and would benefit all the stakeholders.

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4. To realize its objectives, DISHA meetings need to be conducted regularly with the active involvement of all members. Towards this the cooperation of District Administration led by the District Collector is of utmost importance in ensuring not only the conduct of the meetings but also the follow up of the decisions taken therein. Hence, I shall be grateful if the importance of DISHA Committee is highlighted and necessary directions are given to District Collectors/Magistrates for holding DISHA meetings as per the guidelines and ensure the compliance of decisions taken in the these meetings.

With warm regards,

Yours sincerely,

*NPS*

(Nagendra Nath Sinha)

**The Chief Secretary/Advisors to Administrators of States/UTs**