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Ministry of Health and Family Welfare,
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NHSRC/23-24/QPS/01/NQAS Cert. Aspirational Blocks
Date: 31st October 2023

Dean Colleges,

Subject: Accelerating NQAS Certification in Aspirational Blocks

The Aspirational Block Programme, launched by the Government of India is a transformational programme for improving governance to enhance the quality of life of citizens and service delivery in the remotest and less developed blocks of India. NITI has identified 500 blocks across 31 States/UTs of the country, out of which 100 poorest performing blocks have also been identified based on the select KPIs.

It is planned to undertake concerted actions immediately for bringing these 100 blocks at par with the State/National average by improving the performance across these KPIs. The list of 100 identified lowest-ranked blocks is attached for reference. *(Annexure I)* For these 100 blocks, **"Percentage of facilities NQAS certified against identified facilities"** has been taken as a sub-indicator while preparing block action plan for immediate action; while all facilities in 500 aspirational blocks need to be taken for NQAS certification in a phased manner.

Therefore, for achieving the targets, the states are requested to identify the facilities for fast tracking NQAS certification. Please constitute block-level teams to undertake rapid assessment of each facility within these 100 blocks for prioritising NQAS certification on following parameters by 15th November 2023.

- Availability of infrastructure
- Availability of HR (CHO & ANM at HWC-SC; MO, LT & ANM at PHC; >70% staff at CHC/SDH and DH)
- 45% or more score in last Kayakalp Assessment
- 45% or more score in the last NQAS Assessment

The state may utilize their NQAS Internal Assessors for rapid assessment for identification of health facilities for NQAS certification (State followed by National) by 31 December 2023. List of NQAS internal assessors available in the states/UTs as per our record is attached as *Annexure -II*.

The Block Medical Officer and Block Programme Manager may visit these facilities at least once in a fortnight.

You are requested to share list of identified facilities for immediate NQAS certification by 20th November 2023.

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Yours Sincerely,



Maj Gen (Prof). Atul Kotwal

To

The Mission Directors: Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Haryana, Jharkhand, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and West Bengal.

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The Health Secretaries: Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Haryana, Jharkhand, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and West Bengal