



आराधना पटनायक, भा.प्र.से.
अपर सचिव एवं मिशन निदेशक (रा.स्वा.मि.)
Aradhana Patnaik, IAS
Additional Secretary & Mission Director (NHM)

भारत सरकार
स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण विभाग
स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय
Government of India
Department of Health and Family Welfare
Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

D.O.No.Z.15015/32/2025-NHM-I
Dated: 28th January, 2026

Dear Sir / Madam,

Enhancing the quality of public healthcare facilities is of paramount importance. In this context, the Ministry has resolved that all public healthcare facilities shall achieve National Quality Assurance Standards (NQAS) certification by December 2026. As part of the journey towards excellence in healthcare delivery, several quality initiatives such as LaQshya (for maternal health services) and MusQan (for child health services) were launched.

Due to the multiple certifications, there were requests from the States/UTs to rationalise the process. The matter was deliberated in the 11th Central Quality Supervisory Committee (CQSC) meeting which recommended integrating LaQshya and MusQan certification programs within the NQAS framework. Accordingly, these certifications have been integrated with the NQAS certification, with appropriate changes to the certification criteria. The criteria for the departments under LaQshya and MusQan will be mandatorily fulfilled for NQAS certification.

This integration would ensure uniformity in standards, avoiding duplication of checklists, and strengthening the overall quality improvement process in Hospitals. Furthermore, it will ensure certification at the institutional level, encompassing all service components—including maternal and child health—within the comprehensive NQAS framework.

The integrated framework will apply to **all District Hospitals (DHs), Sub-District Hospitals (SDHs), and Community Health Centres (CHCs) from 1st April, 2026**. It will reinforce a holistic and integrated approach to health system strengthening, patient safety, and the consistent delivery of high-quality care to every patient. It is reiterated that no separate checklist will be prepared for LaQshya or MusQan, as these have been subsumed within the NQAS framework.

Accordingly, States/UTs may submit application for NQAS certification rather than for LaQshya or MusQan certification individually w.e.f. **1st April, 2026** onwards.

With regards.

Yours sincerely,

(Aradhana Patnaik)

To

Additional Chief Secretaries / Principal Secretaries / Secretary (Health) - All States/UTs
#StopObesity

टीबी हारेगा देश जीतेगा / TB Harega Desh Jeetega

Copy to:

1. Mission Director (NHM) - All States/UTs
2. PSO to Secretary (HFW)