

SAURABH JAIN, IAS

JOINT SECRETARY

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भारत सरकार स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय निर्माण भवन, नई दिल्ली-110011

Government of India Ministry of Health & Family Welfare Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi-110011

DO Z-18015/18/2023-NHM-II (Part 2) Date: 3rd October,2025

Dear Sir/Madam

As you are aware, air pollution is a critical public health concern with significant short-term and long-term effects on human health. Both outdoor and household sources of air pollution contribute to a wide spectrum of health issues, ranging from respiratory and cardiovascular diseases to adverse maternal and child health outcomes. Vulnerable populations such as children, women, the elderly, and individuals with pre-existing health conditions are at a heightened risk of its harmful effects.

- 2. Under the National Programme on Climate Change and Human Health (NPCCHH), capacity building of community-level health functionaries has been identified as a key priority to address these concerns.
- 3. In this regard, the Climate Change Division, MoHFW, in collaboration with NHSRC, has developed a **Handbook for ASHAs on Air Pollution and its Impact on Health**. The objective of this handbook is to equip ASHAs with a fundamental understanding of air pollution, its sources, health impacts, practical messages and communication tools to educate households and communities on protective and preventive measures which will enable ASHAs in mobilizing behaviour change towards cleaner and healthier living environments. *Please refer Annexure 1 for Detailed Handbook*.
- 4. It is requested to kindly disseminate the contents of the Handbook to ASHAs through district and block-level functionaries in the State/UT and ensure its integration into the ongoing cascade model of ASHA capacity-building initiatives.
- 5. I look forward to your kind cooperation in strengthening community-level awareness and action against air pollution.

With Regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Saurabh Jain)

To,

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

#Stop Obesity टीबी हारेगा देश जीतेगा / TB Harega Desh Jeetega

Copy To

- 1. Mission Director (NHM)- All States/UTs
- 2. Sr.PPS to AS & MD (NHM)
- 3. PS to JS (VJ)
- 4. ED,NHSRC
- 5. Director (NHM-IV)
- 6. Deputy Secretary (NHM-II)7. Director NCDC, MoHFW
- 8. Additional Director (Climate Change), NCDC, MoHFW

Joint Secretary