Dear Colleague,

As you are aware, the guideline on strengthening/establishment of Integrated Public Health Laboratories (IPHL) under PM-Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission (PM-ABHIM) have already been shared vide D.O letter of even number dated 13th January, 2022. The State and District program officers have also been oriented by the team of NHSRC on various implementation parameters. The appraisal and approval of the State’s proposals for PM-ABHIM are currently ongoing and thereafter the implementation by States/UTs will follow.

IPHL as an integrated model for laboratory is envisaged to augment the existing capacities of District Hospitals. Presently, multiple laboratories are functioning at the District level under various programs leading to duplication of HR, infrastructure, and equipment. Despite the fact that resources are available and health-care services are improving, it has been found that lab services under various vertical programmes are also being provided in a vertical manner and these are functioning in silos. To ensure optimal utilization of resources, it is essential to integrate these labs for which additional required resources are now available under PM-ABHIM.

There is a need to involve the program officers looking after various lab services in the process of establishing/strengthening the existing labs as IPHL, which is crucial to increase efficiency and maintain quality. This is to reiterate that all the technical protocols and practices as followed by the respective programs will continue under IPHL also with the same set of equipment and HR for maintaining continuity and avoiding any interruptions.

In view of this, I would urge that the necessary directions may be issued to district CMOs/CMHOs and Medical Superintendents for organizing meetings for smooth process of integration and timely utilization of funds available under PM-ABHIM. It is also suggested that proposals for diagnostic equipment at district levels under the NHM should be made only if such equipment are not covered under the IPHL, to avoid duplication.

In case of any queries/support required, please feel free to contact us.

Warm regards,

Yours Sincerely

(Vikas Sheel)

To

Additional Chief Secretary/Principle Secretary/Secretary (Health) of all the States & UTs
Copy To,

- Mission Director-NHM of all States & UTs
- Sr. PPS to Secretary (H&FW), GoI, MoHFW
- PPS to Joint Secretary (Policy), GoI, MoHFW
- JSs of all Programmes, GoI, MoHFW
- All Programme Divisions, GoI, MoHFW
- Director-NHM-I, II, III & IV, GoI, MOHFW
- ED NHSRC

(Vikas Sheel)