Dear Chief Secretary,

To supplement the efforts of the States/UTs towards effective management of COVID-19 pandemic, the Central Government has provisioned 15,000 crore rupees for emergency COVID response including for ramping up testing, necessary equipment such as PPE and ventilators etc., oxygen supply systems and strengthening the medical infrastructure in the States/UTs under India COVID-19 Emergency Response and Health Systems Preparedness Package (ECRP). Further ECRP-II approved by Cabinet in July, 2021 for an amount of Rs 23,000 Crore is also under implementation in all States/UTs.

2. Union Government announced the Prime Minister Atmanirbhar Swasth Bharat Yojana (PMASBY) for the health sector including set of reforms and initiatives for long term Infrastructure strengthening of the public health system. Accordingly, PMASBY Scheme with an outlay of about Rs. 64,180 Cr over five years had been announced in the Budget 2021-22 on 1st February 2021 and got approved by the Cabinet in September 2021.

3. The objective of the PMASBY scheme is to fill critical gaps in health infrastructure, surveillance and health research – spanning both the urban and rural areas so that the communities are Atmanirbhar in managing such pandemic/ health crises. The measures under the PMASBY scheme for the health sector focus on developing capacities of health systems and institutions across the continuum of care at all levels viz. primary, secondary and tertiary and on preparing health systems in responding effectively to the current and future pandemics/disasters. The scheme provides a much-needed infusion of funds to develop the infrastructure needed for strengthening state health systems and meeting future pandemic needs.

4. The PMASBY is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme with some Central Sector Components. About 84.5% of the outlay of PM-ASBY, is for Centrally Sponsored Scheme components to strengthen health systems in states. The proposed allocation for your State under the PMASBY scheme is enclosed. Brief Note on the Interventions under PMASBY are attached herewith.

5. I request your full participation and support in the successful implementation of the scheme. In this regard, I am to inform that Hon’ble Prime Minister will launch the scheme on 25th October, 2021 from Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh from 1:30 PM to 2:30 PM. I request you to join the launch at the State HQ, along with the Hon’ble Chief Minister of your State. Hon’ble HFM has invited the Chief Minister of your State to join the event at the State HQ. Similarly, Hon’ble HFM has also invited States’ Health Ministers to join virtually and respective Hon’ble Members of Parliament, have been requested to join at respective District Hospitals virtually. A link for the launch will be sent to you shortly.

......contd/-
6. Further, as it is a biggest health infrastructure Scheme, virtual Participation of Healthcare Professionals and Staff from functional Health and Wellness Centres at the Panchayat level, Block PHCs and CHCs, Sub District and District Hospitals at the Block and District level and all the Government Medical Colleges in your State is to be ensured. You are requested to direct State health department to invite respective Hon'ble Member of Parliament as Chief Guest at the District Hospital/Medical Colleges. I also request you to instruct the State Health Department, to enable the participation of the healthcare team the launch programme through webcast and through the DD channels. The State health department may also share with the Ministry, the number of above institutions to be joined virtually in the launch programme along with the number of participants.

7. I request that your participation in the launch and support to this endeavor will encourage and motivate our health workforce.

Sincerely,

(Rajesh Bhushan)

Chief Secretary / Administrator of all States/UTs

Copy to:

- Additional Chief Secretary / Principal Secretary / Secretary (Health) of all the States/UTs
- Mission Director-National Health Mission of all the States/UTs