आर एस शर्मा
सचिव

R S Sharma
Secretary

Subject:- Adoption of NDSAP and release of Data in Open Format on OGD Platform through APIs.

Dear Chief Secretary,

As you may be aware that under the ambit of Open Data Initiative of Government of India, all Ministries & Departments are publishing th ir data in open format on the Open Government Data (OGD) Platform India (http://data.gov.in). OGD Platform has been developed and managed by NIC in compliance with the National Data Sharing and Accessibility Policy (NDSAP). The platform has more than 15,000 datasets published by 88 Departments.

2.   The policy aims at democratizing access of government resources e.g. datasets, apps, tools etc. to foster innovation; improve delivery of government information & services besides promoting transparency, accountability and public participation in governance.

3.   Substantial progress has been made in this regard for implementation of the Policy at the Central level but as a step forward it has been decided to enroll all the State Governments into the NDSAP Policy. Currently seven state governments viz. Haryana, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Chhattisgarh and Goa are working towards adoption of the policy. Madhya Pradesh and Sikkim has already adopted the policy.

4.   Sustained release of granular data in open format is a concern for the developers/researchers to make various citizen service oriented applications more effectively. As a lot of transactional data is being collected by State Governments which are crucial for regular flow of data will also help the community to generate various insights through apps and info-graphics.

5.   OGD Platform has been developed with the principles of Open Source and Open API policy of Govt. of India and is hosted on the National Data Centre infrastructure facility at NIC HQ, New Delhi which can easily be offered to any government institutions (Central and State) through Software as a Service (SaaS) model.

6.   In view of above, you are requested to ensure that appropriate action is taken in this direction and a suitable mechanism may be placed towards meeting this objective in a timely manner. For any clarification or further information, you may kindly contact NDSAP-PMU at Room No. 379, 3rd Floor, NIC-HQ, ndsap@gov.in (011-24363692). Alternatively workshop under your chairmanship could be organized for the departmental heads. I will appreciate an early response.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

(RS Sharma)

To,

All Chief Secretaries, State Governments/UTs

CC: Principal Secretary/Secretary, Information Technology Deptt.
          Principal Secretary/Secretary, Planning Department
          Principal Secretary/Secretary, Science and Technology Deptt.