Subject: Adoption of ‘Open by Design’ in all eGov Systems developed/revamped under Digital India Initiative

Dear Secretary,

As you may be aware that under the ambit of Open Data Initiative of Government of India, all Ministries & Departments are publishing their 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. This initiative is driven by nominated nodal officers from respective Ministries/Departments/Organisations who were till now designated as “Data Controllers”. They have now been re-designated as ‘Chief Data Officers’.

2. Sustained release of data in open format is important for developers/researchers. Citizen Service oriented applications can be made more effective by using the OGD Platform. Regular flow of datasets will also help the community to generate various insights through apps and info-graphics.

3. It is necessary to publish current and up-to-date data from different eGov online systems. These datasets should be released in open formats in compliance with Open Source and Open APIs policies of GoI. We need to adopt eGov Systems: ‘Open by Design’ principle where exposing of data through APIs must be enforced right at the RFP and Design stage for all eGov systems developed/revamped under Digital India Initiative.

4. In view of above, you are requested to ensure that appropriate action is taken in this direction and a suitable mechanism may be worked out towards meeting this objective in a timely manner. For any clarification or further information, you may kindly contact NDSAP-PMU at National Informatics Centre, Room No. 379, A4B4, 3rd Floor, A-Block, CGO Complex, Lodhi Road, New Delhi, ndsap@gov.in (011-24363692). We look forward to your valuable support and co-operation.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

(RS Sharma)

To,
All Secretaries to the Government of India