

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed on
23rd day of July, 2014

Between

Department of Electronics & Information Technology
Ministry of Communications & Information Technology
Government of India

&

Department of AIDS Control
Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
Government of India

INTRODUCTION

India has one of the largest numbers of population living with HIV/AIDS in the world. Given the prevalence rate of 0.27, it is estimated that 21 lakh people are living with HIV/AIDS in the country¹. HIV is driven by a number of socio-economic factors; therefore, health interventions alone are not sufficient to address causes and consequences of the epidemic. It requires a multi-faceted and multi-sectoral response. Mainstreaming approaches to HIV have increasingly gained ground with the realization that the non-health sector can play an important and meaningful role in reducing vulnerability to HIV and mitigating its impact on those infected and affected.

Department of AIDS Control (DAC) and Department of Electronics & Information Technology are hereinafter referred to together as "the parties"

Article 1

1 DEPARTMENT OF AIDS CONTROL

- 1.1 Department of AIDS Control is nodal agency for coordinating response with respect to Human Immuno Deficiency Virus (HIV) and Acquired Immuno Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) in India. Department of AIDS Control has initiated several measures towards mainstreaming and partnership with various Ministries.
- 1.2 The National AIDS Control Programme is implemented through 38 State AIDS Control societies/Municipal AIDS Control Societies in states and union territories. NACP places importance on mainstreaming HIV/AIDS by a) enhancing coverage and reach of information on STI/HIV prevention and services to large workforce b) integrating STI/HIV related information and services in existing health infrastructure available in ministries, departments, autonomous bodies and PSUs c) facilitating Social entitlements & schemes for social protection of people infected and affected with HIV/AIDS.

Article 2

2 DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

- 2.1 Department of Electronics & Information Technology under the aegis of Ministry of Communication & Information Technology is responsible for multi pronged strategy of creating e-Infrastructure to facilitate and promote e-governance, promotion of Information Technology Enabled Services (IT-ITeS) Industry, providing support for creation of

¹ HSS NACO, 2011

Innovation / Research & Development (R&D), building Knowledge network and securing India's cyber space.

- 2.2 National e-Governance plan (NeGP) is providing public services to the common men at affordable cost promoting rural entrepreneurship. The core areas are a) **e-Governance** for providing e-infrastructure for delivery of e-services, b) **e-Industry** for promotion of electronics hardware manufacturing and IT-ITeS industry, c) **e-Innovation / R & D** for providing support for creation of Innovation Infrastructure in emerging areas of technology, d) **e-Education** for Providing support for development of e-Skills and Knowledge network, **e-Security** for securing India's cyber space.
- 2.3 The Common Services Centers (CSC) under the department are delivery points for Government, Private and Social Sector services to rural citizens of India at their doorstep. The CSC Scheme is envisaged to be a bottom-up model for delivery of content, services, information and knowledge, that can allow like-minded public and private enterprises - through a collaborative framework - to integrate their goals of profit as well as social objectives, into a sustainable business model for achieving rapid socio-economic change in rural India. Common service centers are providing various govt. services to people like Certificates (Birth, Death, Domicile, caste, Income etc) MNREGA payments, NIELIT's CCC courses and non government service, Bank account opening, withdrawal/ deposit, loan document, online railways and airline ticket booking, DTH recharge, etc

Article 3

3 RATIONALE FOR MAINSTREAMING HIV

- 3.1 The total number of people living with HIV/AIDS (PLHIV) in India is estimated at 21 lakh. Despite the reduction in the overall prevalence, there are emerging vulnerabilities which need to be addressed. The epidemic in the country is changing according to emerging vulnerability factors related to poverty, migration, marginalization and gender. As per HIV Sentinel Surveillance (HSS) 2011 report, 86% of those infected are in the age group of 15 to 49 years, which is one of the most productive segment of the society irrespective of the sectors, in which, they have engaged. There is an urgent need to protect the working force from the epidemic as well as provide optimum care & supports services to affected and infected population. The halt & reverse of the epidemic, which is goal of National AIDS Control Programme, is only possible when response become multi-sectoral with active and meaningful involvement of all stakeholders.

- 3.2 The IT-BPO market under Department of Electronics and Information Technology is one of the key sectors of Indian economy because of its economic impact. The sector is responsible for signification employment opportunities in the economy. IT services exports continues to be the largest employer within the industry. The sector is responsible for enabling employment to an additional 8.9 million people in various associated sectors – catering, security, transportation, housekeeping etc many of whom belong to areas/small towns of India. The collaboration of Department of Electronic and Information Technology and Department of AIDS Control would support the national efforts of HIV prevention as well as support to people affected and infected by HIV and AIDS.

Article 4

4 SCOPE OF MAINSTREAMING HIV

- 4.1 Department of Electronics and Information Technology will support the objectives of the Department of AIDS Control by a) enhancing coverage and reach of information on STI/HIV prevention and services and message on voluntary blood donation through Community Service Centre b) providing STI/HIV related information, counseling and services through exhibition van under community service centre, c) facilitating access to social protection schemes through common service centers.

Now, therefore, in consideration of the foregoing rationale and scope, the parties Department of Electronics & Information Technology, Ministry of Communications & Information Technology and Department of AIDS Control, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare have mutually agreed to cooperate and collaborate for the overall goal of halting and reversing of epidemic.

Article 5

5 Objective of MOU

- 5.1 Reaching out to the large numbers of people through Common Service Centers with information and services on HIV and voluntary blood donation.
- 5.2 Activities on risk reduction for general population as well as migrant's population through Common Service Centre and its outreach programme.
- 5.3 Building capacities of Common Service Center on STI/HIV prevention & care services.
- 5.4 Facilitate access to Social Protection schemes through the Common Service Center and also include STI/HIV message as part of the outreach program.

Article 6

6 KEY DELIVERABLES

- 6.1 Common Service Centers to be used as platform of NGO's selected through SACS/DAC to create awareness about HIV/AIDS at village level.
- 6.2 HIV messaging to be done through e-infrastructure by hosting materials on-line and making efficient use of social media, Push and Pull based SMS.
- 6.3 Common service Centers is aware about HIV/AIDS.
- 6.4 Schemes both inclusive and exclusive schemes for PLHIV and MARPS be facilitated through the Common Service Centers maintaining confidentiality
- 6.5 Shared Information with DAC and State AIDS Control Societies at state level.

Article 7

7.1 Role of Department of Electronics & Information Technology

7.1.1 Directives

- Issuance of advisory/ directions or circulars for support to HIV/AIDS programme from Department of Electronics & Information Technology to its work force and VLEs of Common Service Centers.
- Deputation of a nodal officer from Department of Electronics and Information Technology for HIV activities and coordinating with Department of AIDS Control.

7.1.2 Information Education and Communication

- Support for digitization of HIV related information and uploading HIV related content on-line through associated website.
- Support DAC in accessing and utilizing the service of Push based SMS free till 2016.
- Support set up the Pull based SMS facility with assistance in developing suitable applications to operationalize the facility.
- Providing space for placing movable kiosk, posters and banners at Common Service Center.
- Use of Mobile Exhibition Unit of Common Service Centers for outreach programmes for HIV awareness generation among the rural population.
- Observation of World AIDS Day, Voluntary Blood Donation Day, Voluntary Blood Donor Day to strengthen national response against HIV/AIDS at Community Service Centre.

7.1.3 Trainings

- Inclusion of HIV/AIDS topic in the induction/training program of Common Service Center.

7.1.4 Social Protection

- Facilitation of Social protection schemes for HIV infected and affected communities through Common Service Centers maintaining confidentiality with nominal cost to the clients.

7.1.6 Sharing of Information

- Sharing of information on HIV/AIDS activities with DAC at least quarterly basis.
- Reflection of activities on HIV/AIDS carried out by Department of Electronic & Information Technology in annual report and department website.
- Provision of sharing of web links of Department of AIDS Control in the Web portal of Department of Electronic & Information Technology for sharing of information

7.2 ROLE OF DEPARTMENT OF AIDS CONTROL

- 7.2.1 Issue advisory to all State AIDS Control Societies (SACS) to support HIV/AIDS programmes in VLEs of Common Service Centers.
- 7.2.2 Nominate officials for Joint Committee for coordination with Department of Electronics and Information Technology.
- 7.2.3 Work in close coordination with Department of Electronics and Information Technology for uploading it on associated website.
- 7.2.4 Usage of Mobile Service Delivery Gateway established by Department of Electronics & Information Technology for Push based and Pull based SMS.
- 7.2.5 To provide IEC materials and Audio Visual for awareness generation activities at Common Service Center and through its Mobile Exhibition unit.
- 7.2.6 Provide technical support for capacity building of Common Service Centers on HIV/AIDS.
- 7.2.7 Representation of DAC/ SACS officials in the meetings of Department of Electronics & Information Technology as or when required.
- 7.2.8 Provision of sharing of web links of Department of Electronic & Information Technology in DAC portal for sharing of information

Article 8

7 EXECUTION OF MOU

- 7.1 Parties will set up a joint working group for drawing up an action plan to implement the activities in the MoU.
- 7.2 Parties would decide the modalities for execution of the proposal including financial support required for special activities if any as per the MoU based on the recommendations of the Joint Working group.
- 7.3 Parties agree to collaborate and work closely for fulfillment of objectives set in the MOU
- 7.4 Both the parties will consult each other and review the progress of the objectives of this MOU bi annually
- 7.5 This MOU will be operative with effect from 23rd July, 2014 and any alteration / modifications can be carried out with the consent of both parties.

The parties herein have appended their respective signatures the day and the year above stated.

FOR DEPARTMENT OF AIDS CONTROL,
MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY
WELFARE



23/7/2014

DR. V.K.SUBBURAJ
SECRETARY,
DEPARTMENT OF AIDS CONTROL,
MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY
WELFARE,



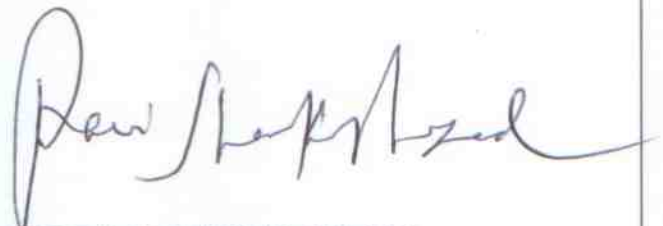
DR. HARSH VARDHAN
MINISTER OF HEALTH & FAMILY
WELFARE,
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

FOR DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS &
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY,
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS &
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY



23/7

SHRI RAM SEWAK SHARMA
SECRETARY,
DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS &
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY,
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS &
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY



SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD
MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS &
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

List of Acronyms

AIDS	Acquired Immuno-Deficiency Syndrome
ART	Anti-Retroviral Therapy
CSC	Common Services Centres
DAC	Department of AIDS Control
DEITY	Department of Electronics & Information Technology
DTH	Direct to Home
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
HRG	High Risk Group
ICTCs	Integrated Counselling & Testing Centres
IDUs	Injecting Drug Users
IEC	Information Education & Communication
BPO	Business Process Outsourcing
ITeS	Information Technology enabled Services
MARPs	Most At-Risk Populations
MoHFW	Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
MNREGA	Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act
NACP	National AIDS Control Programme
NeGP	National e-Governance Plan
NIELIT	National Institute of Electronics & Information Technology
NGO	Non Government Organization
PLHIV	People Living with HIV
R&D	Research & Development
SACS	State AIDS Control Societies
STI	Sexually Transmitted Infection
TI	Targeted Intervention
ToT	Training of Trainers
VLEs	Village Level Entrepreneurs
WAD	World AIDS Day
WBBD	World Blood Donors Day,