

Head Office

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12 February, 2021

Dr Harsh Vardhan

Hon'ble Minister for Health and Family Welfare

Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

Government of India, 348-A Wing, Nirman Bhawan

New Delhi – 110 001

Respected Sir,

Subject: Uniform Pattern of Online Registration of Dental Resources Personnel

Background

The Indian Dental Association (IDA), in pursuance of its objective of attaining optimal oral health for all, had been considering effective utilisation of dental personnel resources in the country to improve oral health. Creation of an authentic and accurate database of dental healthcare providers available in the country at a point of time was the first requirement in this regard.

Seized of this need, and in consultation with the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, the Indian Dental Association (IDA) has developed a software that provides authentic data of dental healthcare professionals at a point of time, state-wise, district-wise, gender-wise, speciality-wise. The development of the software was a sequel to the recommendation of a National Workshop organized under the aegis of MoHFW in September 2005 presided over by the then Union Health Minister, Shri Anbumani Ramadoss. The Workshop, among other things, decided to plan a methodology for uniform pattern of registration of dentists in the country to establish a highly credible system that complied with the requirements of Dentist Act for effective utilisation of dental personnel resources and entrusted the responsibility to IDA.

The software so developed by IDA was totally modified thereafter to a web based application with all the features essential for the management of the system. The system developed a uniform pattern of online registration of dentists across the country, which the Hon'ble Prime Minister has been emphasising, thus facilitating management and monitoring by the DCI and Health Ministry. He has also been speaking of the importance of digital health and calling for institutionalizing a comprehensive database, containing individual health records, which could be eventually linked to the Aadhar system and emphasising on the need for establishing synergies in all health schemes being implemented by the Central and State Governments.

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Acceptance by DCI

The then President of DCI, Dr Anil Kohli, vide **letter No. DE-101-2005/14136 dated 6 March 2006** had written to the Presidents/Registrars of SDCs informing them that the database developed by IDA was very much in use at the Maharashtra State Dental Council (MSDC) and requesting them **“to develop similar Database for each and every State Dental Councils in the country”** and to avail of the services of IDA for the purpose.

Acceptance by Stakeholders

At a concluding workshop organized in Mumbai under the auspices of MOHFW on 22 January, 2013 and chaired by the then Joint Secretary of Health Ministry, Dr. Vishwas Mehta, the software was unanimously accepted by all the stakeholders – viz., Union Health Ministry, State governments, Dental Council of India (DCI) and State Dental Councils (SDCs) after detailed presentation and deliberation of the features of the system. Releasing the software, the Joint Secretary urged the Dental Council of India to ensure that its affiliates in the states, i.e., SDCs, implemented the system developed by IDA with a view to establishing an authentic database of dental healthcare providers across the country to facilitate better delivery of oral healthcare services.

The web-based software developed by IDA offers a digital mechanism that enables online registration of dental professionals in the country at a point of time. It can be accessed by all the stakeholders concerned, viz., the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, the State Governments, Dental Council of India and the State Dental Councils with appreciable benefits. **The system can also be utilised for implementation of Clinical Establishment Act and Accreditation of Continuing Dental Education Programme, to promote professional development of dental surgeons.**

Implementation

Maharashtra State Dental Council was the first to implement the system. Other SDCs such as Chandigarh (Punjab), Delhi, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan have availed of the services of IDA to implement the system to establish a uniform pattern of registration of dental personnel resources. Union Health Ministry, State governments, Dental Council of India (DCI) and its State Dental Councils will not only be able to monitor effective utilization and management of dental healthcare service providers but also devise suitably a national oral health policy.

Needless it is to say that health revolution in the country can be hastened by the creation of national health registry of healthcare professionals in the country which the system facilitates. With such authentic data on dental professionals we will be able to develop a unique national ID for every dental surgeon in the country.

My object in writing this letter is to request the Hon'ble Union Minister to kindly write to all the State Health Ministers to take up implementation of the online registration system, as

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advocated by the Hon'ble Prime Minister. It would be in the fitness of things if the work is entrusted to IDA as was done by the above-cited SDCs. The ministries could make use of either the State or Central Server for the purpose. IDA could also be counted upon to assist the government in implementing it as well so that the vision of the government can be achieved in our combined efforts to improve the national healthcare services.

We look forward to your support in our endeavour to establish an authentic data base of dental healthcare service providers. This exercise can also be carried out in respect of other healthcare professionals in the country.

Yours respectfully,

For Indian Dental Association



Dr. Ashok Dhoble

Hon. Secretary General

