

Minutes of the Video Conferencing meeting held on 18th Aug 2020

In the view of Covid-19 pandemic, a virtual video conferencing session was organised on Tuesday, 18 August 2020 from 11:00 A.M to 12:30 PM, with all the Secretaries and Nodal Officers of the States/UTs Legislatures to expedite the process of implementing NeVA platform in their respective Legislatures.

The Meeting was chaired by Dr. Satya Prakash, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs. At the outset Joint Secretary, MPA welcomed all the participants and informed all about the NeVA Scheme notification, published on 16th March 2020, on the Ministry's Website. Further, the JS, MPA, informed the participants about step by step process in order to adopt NeVA application by Legislatures :-

1. The Secretary of the respective Legislatures will be the implementing authority in the States/UTs.
2. The tripartite MoU has to be signed by State Legislature, Nodal Department (State Government) and MPA, GoI.
3. After signing of MoU, Legislatures have to prepare a detailed DPR and get it approved by their respective SPMU before forwarding to MPA.
4. The DPR should be prepared on the basis of Model DPR as displayed on MPA's website in accordance with PIB memorandum & Guidelines published on MPA's website.
5. The seminars, webinars and physical visits to particular states, have been the part of the Training and Capacity Building since inception and further the capacity building programmes can also be arranged, if requested by State/UT Legislatures.
6. All the states are advised to constitute State Project Monitoring Unit (SPMU), as mentioned in PIB Memorandum.
7. The Secretaries of the State Legislatures are advised to lead the project and get the commitment from the state Govt. for States' share in the project.
8. After discussing the above point, individual states were taken into consideration and their progress report about implementation were discussed :-

- **Gujarat Assembly:** Gujarat Legislative Assembly (GLA) informed about their preparedness for implementation of the application. GLA has constituted an SPMU and they have also signed the MoU. They are in the stage of preparation of DPR regarding which, they had meeting with Gujarat informatics limited and soon, the DPR will be finalized and be sent to the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs.
- **Karnataka Assembly and Council:** Karnataka Legislature discussed their concerns regarding NeVA implementation Authority as Karnataka has both Legislative assembly and Council. JS, MPA clarified the doubt that for bicameral legislatures the 2 houses are to be considered separate entities for NeVA implementation. So, both the Secretaries can be the leading heads in their respective Houses. Karnataka Legislature also raised concerns for implementing another similar application to digitalize the Houses at their own. JS, MPA clarified that MPA will fund Legislatures, only if, they adopt NeVA or any other

software or hardware development has to be borne by the Legislatures from their own expenses.

- **Bihar Assembly:** Bihar Legislative Assembly (BLA) informed that they have already created SPMU. The MoU has been signed and sent to the MoPA. Also, the DPR is in the final stage of preparation. Bihar Govt. has also created Nodal Department for the implementation of the NeVA project.
- **Bihar Council:** Bihar Legislative Council (BLC) informed that the MoU has been signed and sent to the Govt. Of Bihar for signing and will soon be sent to MPA. The DPR has also been prepared and will be sent to the MPA after approval by SPMU.
- **Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly (UPLA):**
UPLA informed that they have been working on the workflow based data entry for NeVA implementation. There is a concern of scarcity of seats available in the House. Only 379 seats are available for 404 members of assembly for which UPLA has requested the experts from central team to visit the state assembly for problem resolution. JS, MPA, advised UPLA for resolution by contacting the state technical team and assured that for further resolution a VC on this matter can also be arranged between State NIC team and CPMU NeVA.
- **Nagaland:**
Nagaland Legislative Assembly (NLA) informed that they have constituted SPMU and are in the stage of preparation of DPR for NeVA implementation. JS, MPA, advised NLA to follow the guidelines by signing MoU first, followed with the preparation of DPR which should be in line with the Model DPR. Secretary, NLA assured of signing MoU within two weeks.
- **Mizoram:**
Mizoram Legislative Assembly informed that MoU is under consideration by the State Govt. and the DPR for the project has not been finalized yet. JS, MPA has asked to follow the prescribed procedure and contact CPMU for any further assistance.
- **Odisha:**
Odisha Legislative Assembly (OLA) informed that MoU has been signed and DPR for project has already been sent to MPA. JS, MPA, assured OLA of any help required in capacity building measures for which, OLA may contact the CPMU for further assistance. JS, MPA also assured about release of the first installment of the fund soon to implement NeVA, from the Central Ministry .
- **Tamil Nadu:**
Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly (TNLA) informed that Nodal Dept. has been identified, SPMU has been constituted and the DPR has also been prepared and submitted to SPMU

but not approved yet. Moreover, the MOU is under preparation and will be forwarded soon. TNLA also informed that they are using NeVA platform and has fed 80% of master data in the NeVA software.

- **Jharkhand:**

Jharkhand Legislative Assembly (JLA) informed that they are shifting their Legislative House to a new building and have cited this reason for the delay in preparation of DPR and signing MoU. JLA also assured of preparing MoU and DPR soon. JS, MPA, advised JLA to follow the process of signing MoU and to prepare DPR for NeVA implementation.

- **Arunachal Pradesh:**

Arunachal Pradesh Legislative Assembly (APLA) informed that MoU has been signed and sent to the Govt. Dept for signatures. DPR has also been prepared and sent to the NIC. APLA also informed that Hardware installation is almost done in the legislature and they are also using NeVA platform in their upcoming session . APLA also requested to activate Digital House in the Assembly. JS, MPA advised APLA to make data entry of previous session data and prepare Questions List, LOB and complete Master data entry so that Digital House is tested by CPMU and can be activated for APLA.

- **Andhra Pradesh:**

Andhra Pradesh Legislature informed that they are using another similar digital system provided by Meity, GoI since 2013. The project will end in Mar 2021 and informed that APLA wants to shift from their already placed system to NeVA platform with the help of CPMU. In this regard JS, MPA have assured them of all help from CPMU and advised that the migration issue will be discussed separately.

- **Punjab:**

Punjab Legislative Assembly (PLA) informed that they have signed the MoU and prepared the DPR. PLA also informed that they are in advance stages of testing and requested Reporters Module for testing. PLA also requested to look into the possibility of procurement of laptops instead of desktop in same price cap looking at the covid-19 pandemic. JS, MPA congratulated Punjab on the progress made on NeVA Implementation and assured them about PLA's first installment to be granted soon. JS, MPA also acknowledged the Laptop procurement issue and directed to explore the possibility in this regard.

- **Tripura:**

Tripura Legislative Assembly (TLA) informed that they have nominated a Nodal officer for the implementation of the NeVA project, the MoU signing is under process and the DPR is being prepared by the State NIC. JS, MPA advised to take help of model DPR prepared by the CPMU team for expediting preparation of MoU & DPR.

- **Puducherry:**

Puducherry Legislative Assembly informed that they have identified IT Deptt. as Nodal Govt. Dept. for preparing MoU. They have assured to finalise DPR and MoU by Sep 15th 2020. JS, MPA advised to constitute SPMU and start using NeVA Platform for familiarizing Secretariat staff.

- **Meghalaya:**

Meghalaya Legislative Assembly informed that they have already signed the MoU and preparing the DPR in coordination with the State NIC. The SPMU has also been constituted.

In the concluding address JS, MPA, GoI had asked the states to actively participate in the implementation of NeVA project. JS, MPA, also cited a number of benefits the Legislatures will avail of in NeVA adoption. JS also assured states that CPMU will prepare model DPR for each state so as to help them in preparing their own DPRs. JS, MPA also asked states to use the NeVA software application (both web and mobile) and spread the knowledge among its staff and legislators till the full-fledged establishment of the hardware in their legislatures. This will acquaint them with the first hand knowledge about the working of the software. The general data about members, previous sessions, departments, etc. can be filled by using various NeVA modules. Finally, he urged the states to take lead role and continuously monitor the progress of the implementation so that the project can be implemented without any delay. The VC ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.
