

GOVERNMENT OF PUDUCHERRY  
PLANNING AND RESEARCH DEPARTMENT

No. 90/PRD/2022-23/DD(PF)

Puducherry, dt.31.03.2023

To

Shri. Kanishk Chaudhry,  
Deputy Commandant (UT),  
Ministry of Home Affairs,  
North Block,  
New Delhi - 110 001.

Sir,

Sub : Action Taken Report on the Record of Discussion (RoD) of the  
Conference on Union Territories - Reg.

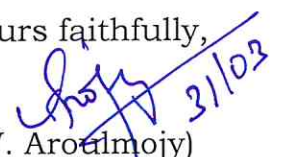
Ref : Letter No. 15039/189/2022-(UT-Coord.)CF -3614095 dt. 8<sup>th</sup>  
February 2023. of MHA.

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Kind reference is invited to the letter cited on the above mentioned  
subject.

2. As required, the Action Taken Report on the directions given by the  
Hon'ble Union Home and Cooperation Minister in the Conference of Union  
Territories is sent herewith.

Yours faithfully,

  
(V. Aroalmojy)  
Joint Director(Plg.)

Copy to:

1. PS to Chief Secretary, Chief Secretariat, Puducherry
2. PS to Commissioner-cum-Secretary (Plg.), Chief Secretariat, Puducherry.

**Action Taken Report (ATR) on the Record of Discussion (RoD) of the  
Conference on Union Territories held on 29.12.2022 under the  
Chairmanship of Hon'ble Union Home and Co-operation Minister**

Sl. No.	Action Points	Action Taken
1.	<p>At Amrit Kaal, the Vision is to transform India into the “Best India” by the year, 2047, for the next five years, to meet the goals set out in the vision document of the Union Territories. The roadmap and detailed annual action plan should be prepared within 15 days and shared with this Ministry. The implementation of these action plans and their progress should be regularly and rigorously monitored, and reviewed, so that maximum benefits are derived from them.</p>	<p>➤ Vision @ 2047 Document as approved by the competent authority has been submitted to MHA 14/02/2023.</p>
2.	<p>Union Territories should focus on increasing their manufacturing / producing sector so that their dependence on external resources can be reduced. The loss of revenue should be reduced and they should be able to become self-sufficient. In addition, UTs should identify high quality specialty products for export to boost the local economy. Thus, the Union Territories should strive to become self-reliant and take pride in their heritage</p>	<p>➤ At present, UTP has eight industrial estates, viz. Thattanchavady, Kattukuppam, Kottucherry, Mettupalayam, Sedarapet, Kirumampakkam, Thirubhuvanai and Karaikal with 1024 plots. These plots are exclusively for the manufacturing sector.</p> <p>➤ A new industrial estate at Sedarapet-Karasur in an area of 800 Acres approximately is also proposed, which would act as a great incentive for augmentation of industrial sector by development of Pharma Hub.</p>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ For increased revenues, products such as pharmaceuticals, handicrafts, cotton yarn and general engineering products have been identified with export potential.</li> <li>➤ Under PMFME, milk products from Pondicherry and fish products from Karaikal districts have been identified as ODOP. The impetus on cluster based manufacturing, branding and marketing, value added products, is the focus and has been envisaged in the Export strategy notified in 2021.</li> <li>➤ All the initiatives along with improvement in Ease of Doing Business ranking would ensure self-reliance by giving a fillip to manufacturing sector.</li> <li>➤ The Logistics Policy for the UT of Puducherry is in the final stages of notification.</li> </ul>
3.	<p>Union Territories should give emphasis on Co-operatives for development and people's participation, especially in areas such as Fisheries.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The cooperatives play an important role for peoples' participation in economic activities and leveraging the community for extension of various welfare benefits to the beneficiaries. There are more than 440 cooperative societies in the UT</li> </ul>

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		<p>ranging from fisheries cooperatives to Primary Agricultural Cooperative societies and milk cooperatives.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ There are 69 fisheries cooperative societies with membership of more than 60,000 members across all the regions. These societies are responsible for channelizing and streamlining the subsidies for economic activities and for welfare for fishermen. For instance, supplies of diesel for mechanized boats, provisioning of fisheries equipment at subsidized costs, and promoting fishing activities are some of their tasks.</li> <li>➤ Similarly, PACS, ensure grant of agricultural loans, availability of tractor and agricultural equipments on rent etc to the individual farmers.</li> </ul>
4	<p>The Indicator of development is not just the rising figures of GDP. Instead, true development has to benefit the most disadvantaged people in society and can only be measured by positive impact on such people.</p>	<p>The UT of Puducherry strives for last mile reach of various welfare benefits to the most disadvantaged sections of the society.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Puducherry has the highest Social Progress Index score 65.99 in the country, attributable to its remarkable performance across components like personal freedom, choice, shelter, water and sanitation;</li> </ul>

Sl. No.	Action Points	Action Taken
		<p>as verified d in the SPI made by the Institute for Competitiveness and Social Progress Imperative, mandated by Economic Advisory Council of the PMO.</p> <p>➤ Out of total 37 flagship schemes, reviewed by MHA, 35 schemes are applicable to the UT of Puducherry. Following 13 schemes have been fully saturated :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. PM Garib Kalyan Ann Yojana</li> <li>2. Jal Jeevan Mission, Samagra Shiksha</li> <li>3. Direct Benefit Transfer</li> <li>4. Ayushman Bharat</li> <li>5. Health and Wellness Centres</li> <li>6. POSHAN Abhiyaan</li> <li>7. PM Jan Aarogya Yojana</li> <li>8. PM Ujjwala Yojana</li> <li>9. SAUBHAGYA</li> <li>10. BharatNet</li> <li>11. PM Jan Dhan Yojana</li> <li>12. PM Gati Shakti</li> <li>13. PM Suraksha Beema Yojana.</li> </ol> <p>➤ The remaining important flagship schemes are targeted to be saturated by August, 2023. For voluntary schemes, improvement in terms of year-on-year increase and in the % population coverage is being targeted.</p>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="887 271 1414 524">➤ In addition to flagship schemes, welfare departments provide range of benefits and subsidies under more than 100 schemes for various deprived sections of societies.</li> <li data-bbox="887 562 1414 1032">➤ The Women and Child Development Department provides old age pension, financial assistance to the destitute, widows and other single women. They also facilitate the special assistance to women belonging to the BPL section that are not covered under the purview of any other scheme.</li> <li data-bbox="887 1070 1414 1599">➤ The Adi Dravidar Welfare Department provides scholarship and financial support to students belonging to SC and STs. The UT has stood at all India ranking of 1st in terms of college density and highest Gross Enrollment ratio in Higher Education among SCs and STs in the country. The students are also provided with hostel facilities.</li> <li data-bbox="887 1637 1414 1944">➤ The Fisheries Department through their cooperatives also extends welfare benefits such as support during lean season, subsidies on fishing requisites, fuel for mechanized boats etc.</li> </ul>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The Social Welfare Department ensures coverage of disabled, elderly, and other disadvantaged sections through their welfare schemes.</li> <li>➤ The Agriculture and Animal Husbandry Departments also facilitates input subsidies to the farmers and various cooperatives.</li> <li>➤ The Revenue Department provides relief to the families of accident victims under Rajiv Gandhi Social Security Scheme.</li> </ul>
5.	<p>Union Territories should explore their unique potential for experiential tourism and should be developed, and focused on tourism promotion and branding, which would enable them to utilize their tourism potential. Lateral tourism products should also be explored and promoted</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The Tourism policy and action plan for holistic development of tourism, as incorporated in the vision document is being planned with engagement of a dedicated consultant.</li> <li>➤ Engagement of expert Media &amp; Marketing Agency for branding at domestic &amp; international levels through a tender process will be done.</li> <li>➤ An international level Tourism Experience with end-to-end integrated system with robust technological infrastructure is proposed to be developed.</li> </ul>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Destination Management System for the five A's (Attraction, Accessibility, Accommodation, Activities and Amenities) will be developed through a multi-purpose App.</li> </ul>
6.	<p>Tourist circuits should be developed in the country to attract more tourists and reduce the cost of transport etc.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ A master plan shall be prepared for spiritual circuits with Puducherry and Karaikal districts along with adjoining districts of Tamil Nadu. This would focus on development of routes for facilitating spiritual tourism. For eg- Navgraha temple circuit around Karaikal.</li> <li>➤ Funding under the PRASAD Scheme and SWADESH DARSHAN-2.0 will be availed for implementation of the projects.</li> </ul>
7.	<p>Sufism is a symbol of peaceful co-existence and love. Efforts should be made to revive it in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, which would encourage cultural life and thereby add to the peace and security situation in the region will help to improve.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Does not pertain to UT of Puducherry</li> </ul>



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8.	Locals to have luxury tents as a part of home stays as a practical solution for the continuous growth in home stays in Union Territories. Financial assistance can be given to the community. This benefits both the tourist and the local service provider. Will happen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Detailed policy framework and SOPs will be developed based on the best practices in Gujarat, Rajasthan etc.</li> </ul>
9.	UTs should become incubators of new ideas and practices UTs are small and have relatively simple administrative structures, UTs to develop and use best practices for implementing technology programmes / flagship schemes Ideal units for the good models developed by the Union Territories can be replicated in larger regions / States of the country.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The UT administration strives to develop and leverage applications of digital solutions, advanced technologies and participative approaches to incubate best and replicable practices</li> </ul> <p>Some of such practices are as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Unified Data Hub:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ It is a golden database of beneficiaries of all welfare schemes and acts as single source of “truth” for beneficiary data.</li> <li>➤ It facilitates cross referencing of data - Inter and intra departmental, Online Validation, reduced inclusion / exclusion errors, increased transparency and secured data storage.</li> <li>➤ On-boarded- 21 departments with 107 schemes and more than 12 lakh beneficiary records.</li> </ul> </li> </ol>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ 12,000 discrepancy records found, 13,000 beneficiary data de-duplicated other error reports of 15,555 records generated for departments. (saving of Rs 2 crore per annum by identification and removal of ineligible beneficiaries)</li> <li>➤ Data of Yanam flood relief beneficiaries was obtained within less than two hours and it enabled immediate disbursement of relief benefits.</li> <li>➤ UDH will enable next stage facilitation of proactive governance and citizens may not be required to apply separately to different departments for welfare benefits.</li> </ul> <p><b>2. Early Childhood Care and Education:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Initiatives to enhance the foundational literacy and numeracy in the UT.</li> <li>➤ Estt. of model ECCE classrooms; 297 schools with 10,000 students</li> <li>➤ Teachers' handbook and theme based activity books - LKG &amp; UKG.</li> <li>➤ Programmes such as Developing Early Academic Literacy for primary school children and Compulsory reading and writing in language developed.</li> </ul>

Sl. No.	Action Points	Action Taken
		<p><b>3. Marine Spatial Planning:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ For comprehensive planning of projects in CRZ area, in the landward side (500 m from HTL) and seaward side (upto 12 Nautical miles and beyond).</li> <li>➤ To reduce the conflict between different sectors such as fisheries, tourism, ports, energy, PWD, defense and to facilitate integrated decision making for sustainable use of marine resources</li> <li>➤ Foundation for a sustainable Blue Economy and compliance with SDG-14.</li> <li>➤ In collaboration with Norwegian Government.</li> <li>➤ The country's final Marine Spatial Plan was launched on 13th February, 2023.</li> </ul> <p><b>4. Water Conservation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ “Nam neer” and “neerum oorum”, projects launched in Pondy &amp; Karaikal districts for rejuvenation of traditional water bodies, restoration &amp; increase in levels of ground water.</li> <li>➤ The projects involved detailed planning of water bodies, creation of unique digital IDs, intensive afforestation.</li> </ul>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Emphasis given on community driven models based on Temple Social Responsibility, Corporate Social Responsibility and Employee social responsibility along with participation of school students, NGOs, Self Help Groups etc</li> <li>➤ The programme resulted in the restoration of 376 water ponds and 926 km of minor and major river canals in both the districts. Further, 1.3 lakh saplings were planted and groundwater rose by 10 feet in Karaikal and 15 feet in Pondicherry.</li> </ul> <p><b>5. CENTAC</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The Online Centralized Admission in all Higher and Technical Institutions (since 2000) is done through CENTAC.</li> <li>➤ There's a single online application and process for counselling for allotment of candidates to Government quota seats in both the government and private colleges.</li> <li>➤ The scope covers admission to NEET based UG and PG courses, non- NEET based professional UG and PG courses in Arts, Science and Commerce, Diploma courses in Health.</li> </ul>

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The process also contains self supporting and NRI seats in the Government Colleges</li> <li>➤ The portal facilitates auto-verification of databases of candidates obtained from Tamil Nadu Board and NTA.</li> <li>➤ A mechanism for grievance redressal for the students is also there in the portal.</li> </ul>
10.	UTs should focus on full implementation of Flagship Schemes both quantitatively as well as qualitatively	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The MHA reviews 37 flagship schemes on a periodic basis. Of these flagship schemes, 13 Schemes have been fully saturated in Puducherry. Other remaining schemes are targeted to be saturated by August, 2023. For voluntary schemes, improvement in terms of year on year increase and in the % population coverage is being targeted.</li> <li>➤ A separate Project Monitoring Unit has been established with NABARD Consultancy Services Private Limited which monitors and assists the departments for constant qualitative and quantitative assessment of implementation of the flagship schemes</li> </ul>

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11.	<p>Hon'ble Prime Minister has fixed the five vows of Amrit Kaal. Every Union Territory Administration has to imbibe the spirit of these vows in the performance of its duties. Most importantly, students at the primary education level should be helped to imbibe the spirit of these vows so that the coming generations remain connected with these great</p>	<p><b>Panch Prans of AmritKaal</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Resolution of developed India in the next 25 years</li> <li>➤ Getting rid off from any signs of Slavery</li> <li>➤ Taking pride in India's heritage and legacy</li> <li>➤ Unity and Solidarity</li> <li>➤ Duty of Citizens towards the nation</li> </ul> <p>The Panch Prans are being promoted among the students in all the Classes through the following means:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Using Morning Assembly for broadcasting the information on heritage and culture</li> <li>➤ Conducting competitions like Essay Writing, Elocution and other Co-curricular activities on these topics.</li> <li>➤ Promoting Swachhatha in the School Premises as the duty of the teachers and children.</li> </ul>

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12.	<p>The inspirational life of Sri Aurobindo has many lessons and meanings for administration. The UTP should take the lead in taking the lessons of their lives to the masses and similarly other great saints may be identified to initiate cultural and moral rejuvenation in other UTs</p>	<p>For the promotion of Sri Aurobindo’s philosophy, teaching, and wide spectrum of literary contributions among the masses and to bring the experience of his spiritual awakening to people across the country, the UT Administration seeks to establish institutional arrangements and undertake activities, as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Establishment of Centre of Excellence- In this regard, “Chair for Sri Aurobindo” has been established in the Pondicherry University.</li> <li>➤ Setting up of Empowered Committee at level of Government of Puducherry- To coordinate with CoE, consider the recommendations, engage with national and international libraries and researchers, coordinate with NGOs, leverage the potential of social media for promotion of Life and Works of Sri Aurobindo. The establishment of the Committee is in progress.</li> <li>➤ Setting up of High Level Committee- To monitor the functioning of Empowered Committee and CoE and benchmark the annual and long term targets for the institutions to work. The establishment of the Committee is in progress.</li> </ul>

Sl. No.	Action Points	Action Taken
		<p>➤ It has been announced in Budget Speech 2023-24 that a National Conference will be conducted to commemorate 150<sup>th</sup> Birth Anniversary of Sri Aurobindo Ghosh to propagate the thoughts, philosophy, research on yoga, literature.</p> <p>Further, following actions have been taken in this pursuit:</p> <p>➤ The Government of Puducherry has earmarked Rs. 50 lakhs for conduct of various activities.</p> <p>➤ A workshop/ seminar has been organized with the experts from various institutions associated with Sri Aurobindo in collaboration with Pondicherry University.</p> <p>Other activities, which will be taken up- research and journaling competitions, essay writing competitions etc. For such activities, calendar for events is being worked upon.</p>



Sl. No.	Action Points	Action Taken
13.	<p>Going forward UTs should work keeping in mind these 5 principles; Making the UT safe, Fully implementing Flagship Schemes; Minimum Government Maximum Governance; Zero tolerance towards corruption and development and sharing of best practices for overall development of UTs.</p>	<p><b>(i) Building safe and secure UT:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Setting up of cyber toll free number and cyber helpline portal</li> <li>➤ Operation Vidiyal launched for addressing the menace of drug and substance abuse</li> <li>➤ Operation Trishul has be launched to address heinous crime</li> <li>➤ Implementation of Witness Protection Scheme, 2018</li> <li>➤ Provision of tourist friendly policies</li> <li>➤ CCTV Cameras with ‘Automatic Number-Plate Identification System’ and ‘Automatic Facial Recognition System’ are installed at important intersections and crime-prone areas</li> <li>➤ Dedicated initiatives for safety of Women- All Women Police station, women help desk, family counseling cell, sos (Mobile Integrated Traffic and Rescue Application), Cyber Crime Prevention, against Women and Children, Self Defense Training.</li> <li>➤ Punnagai- training of school dropouts in various vocational courses</li> <li>➤ Vellicham project- counselling for mental health and reduced suicide cases.</li> <li>➤ Safety of Senior Citizen by deploying special beat officers.</li> </ul>

Sl. No.	Action Points	Action Taken
		<p data-bbox="874 327 1422 394"><b>ii) Achieving saturation in Flagship schemes:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="882 456 1414 1039">➤ The MHA reviews 37 flagship schemes on a periodic basis. Of these flagship schemes, 13 Schemes have been fully saturated in Puducherry, and the remaining schemes are targeted to be saturated by August, 2023. For voluntary schemes, improvement in terms of year on year increase and in the % population coverage is being targeted.</li> <li data-bbox="882 1061 1422 1845">➤ GoI recognition of flagship schemes/programmes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="914 1182 1422 1272">✓ 1<sup>st</sup> rank in Public Health Facilities under Swachha Sarvekshan 2022</li> <li data-bbox="914 1308 1422 1397">✓ 1<sup>st</sup> rank under Jal Jeevan Mission for 100% coverage of FHTC.</li> <li data-bbox="914 1433 1422 1523">✓ Recognition for both districts under JJM</li> <li data-bbox="914 1559 1422 1648">✓ Top performing UT for maximum saturation of doctors and nurses.</li> <li data-bbox="914 1684 1422 1774">✓ Maximum saturation of Public Health Facility Registry.</li> <li data-bbox="914 1809 1382 1845">✓ Silver award for reduction of TB</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

Sl. No.	Action Points	Action Taken
		<p><b>iii) Minimum Government, Maximum Governance:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Development of Unified Data Hub for proactive delivery of welfare services through digital mode.</li> <li>➤ Emphasis on leveraging of advanced technologies such as Blockchain applications in issuance of certificates, property records, educational records etc.</li> <li>➤ Establishment of single window clearance for the industries.</li> <li>➤ Puducherry Ease of Doing Business (EoDB) 2023 is in the final stages of approval with MHA. This would ensure time bound delivery of business and citizen services. Penal mechanism is available to discipline / defaulting Govt. functionaries. The EoDB ranking of Puducherry will improve after the enactment of the bill.</li> </ul> <p><b>iv) Zero tolerance to corruption</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Maximum benefits extended to the beneficiaries as well as the Government payments are routed through DBT mode to their respective bank accounts.</li> </ul>

Sl. No.	Action Points	Action Taken
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Awareness programmes on ISO 37001 Certifications and Anti-Bribery Management System. The ABMS will be established in major public dealing Government Officials and ISO:37001 Certification will be obtained through BIS.</li> <li>➤ Grievance Redressal Day is being observed on 15<sup>th</sup> of every month, across all Departments, starting from the month of February, 2023. The officials are instructed to remain present in the office premises, meet the public, collect the grievance and ensure timely disposal of the same. The grievances collected through electronic mode are monitored and followed up. All the grievances are mandatorily required to be disposed before the next Grievance Redressal day.</li> </ul> <p><b>(v) Developing and exchange of best practices for holistic development of UTs</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Emphasis on leveraging advanced technologies such as Blockchain applications in issuance of certificates, property records, educational records etc.</li> </ul>

Sl. No.	Action Points	Action Taken
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="879 327 1417 741">➤ Digital Tourism (creation of <u>Metaverse</u> of Popular Tourism destinations in Puducherry) is being explored in UT. An MoU with Central Val de Voire Region of France is under pipeline to co-operate and explore joint projects in Digital Tourism in the UT.</li> <li data-bbox="879 768 1417 965">➤ Leveraging Artificial Intelligence and Internet of Things based applications to improve agricultural productivity.</li> </ul>