

**BEFORE THE FIRST APPELLATE AUTHORITY UNDER SECTION 19(1) OF THE RTI ACT 2005**

In the matter of RTI Appeal Registration No.MOHFW/A/E/20/00542 dated 02.11.2020 received from Shri Venkatesh Nayak, 55A, 3rd Floor, Siddharth Chambers-I, Kalu Sarai, New Delhi-110016 (hereinafter referred as 'the Appellant').

**ORDER**

In his RTI Application Registration No.MOHFW/R/E/20/03157 dated 30.09.2020 to the CPIO, the Appellant requested the following information:

- (i) a legible copy of Office Order, Circular or Memorandum or Notification or any other instrument by which the National Expert Group on Vaccine Administration for COVID-19 has been constituted;
- (ii) the name and designation, if any, of the Chairperson and every Member of the said Expert Group;
- (iii) a legible copy of every official record containing the terms of reference of the said Expert Group;
- (iv) a legible copy of all file noting, paper-based and email correspondence relating to the information at (i), (ii) & (iii) above;
- (v) the exact dates on which the said Expert Group has held meetings till date;
- (vi) a legible copy of the detailed agenda circulated in relation to every meeting of the Expert Group held till date;
- (vii) a legible copy of all materials including presentations placed before the members of the said Expert Group in relation to every meeting held till date;
- (viii) a legible copy of the minutes of every meeting of the Expert Group held till date;
- (ix) a legible copy of all official records including paper-based and electronic records comprising any assistance, advice or communication received from any authority in the Ministry of External Affairs for consideration of the said Expert Group;
- (x) the name and designation of the officers who have been tasked to provide secretarial assistance to the said Expert Group;
- (xi) the amount of sitting fees and every other remuneration or allowances payable to the Chairperson and every Member of the said Expert Group; and
- (xii) the amount of sitting fees and every other remuneration or allowances actually paid to the Chairperson and every Member of the said Expert Group till date.

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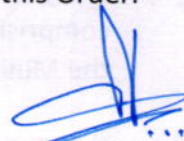
2. The CPIO (Shri D. N. K. Kutumba Rao, Under Secretary, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare) vide his letter No.Z.33013/45/2020-IMM-Part(1) dated 29.10.2020 (copy enclosed) provided information with regard to the information sought at Para-1(i to iii) & (x) above. As far as the information sought at Para-1(iv to ix) above, the CPIO informed the Appellant that the information sought does not come under the ambit of definition of information as per Section-2(f) of the RTI Act, 2005. Regarding the information sought at Para-1(xi & xii) above, the CPIO informed the Appellant that the information is not available with the Immunization Section.

3. Subsequently, the Appellant vide his RTI Appeal dated 02.11.2020 has appealed to the First Appellate Authority stating that the CPIO did not provide the information sought in the RTI Application and requested the First Appellate Authority to direct the concerned CPIO(s) to disclose all information sought at Para-1(iv to ix and xi to xii) above.

4. After receipt of the RTI Appeal, the First Appellate Authority has made an effort to ascertain whether the information sought in the RTI Application vide Para-1(iv to ix and xi to xii) above is available with the CPIO and whether the CPIO has any knowledge of any other CPIO who could have provided the information. The CPIO (Shri D. N. K. Kutumba Rao, Under Secretary, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare) has informed the First Appellate Authority that he does not have the information sought in the RTI Application vide Para-1(iv to ix and xi to xii) above and he does not have any knowledge of any other CPIO who could provide the information. Having considered the RTI Appeal of the Appellant and the information already provided by the CPIO under RTI Act, 2005, the First Appellate Authority is of the considered view that the information available with him has already been provided by the CPIO in his letter dated 29.10.2020 mentioned above.

5. In the light of above, the appeal of the Appellant under Section 19(1) of the RTI Act, 2005 w.r.t. Immunization Division stands disposed of.

6. However, if the Appellant is not satisfied with this Order, he may prefer an appeal to the Second Appellate Authority, Central Information Commission, CIC Bhawan, Baba Gangnath Marg, Munirka, New Delhi – 110067 within 90 days from the date of receiving of this Order.



(Elangbam Robert Singh)

Director (RCH) & First Appellate Authority  
Ministry of Health & Family Welfare

Room No.405, D-Wing, Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi-110011

Ph:011-23062495

**F.No.Z.33013/45/2020-IMM-Part(1) dated 26<sup>th</sup> November, 2020**

**Shri Venkatesh Nayak,**  
55A, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Siddharth Chambers-1,  
Kalu Sarai, New Delhi-110016.  
(Email: [venkateshnayak.ss@gmail.com](mailto:venkateshnayak.ss@gmail.com))



No.Z.33013/45/2020-IMM-Part(1)  
Government of India  
Ministry of Health & Family Welfare  
Immunization Section

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Nirman Bhavan, New Delhi  
Dated : 29th Oct, 2020.

To,

Shri Venkatesh Nayak  
55A, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Siddharth Chambers-1  
Kalu Sarai, New Delhi-110016  
Email: venkateshnayak.ss@gmail.com

**Subject: Information sought under RTI Act, 2005 reg.**

Sir,

Please refer to your online RTI application Reg No. MOHFW/R/E/20/03157 dated 30/09/2020 received to undersigned on 05.10.2020 seeking information under RTI Act, 2005. The point-wise reply is as follow:-

Point No.	Reply
1-3	National Expert Group on Vaccine Administration for COVID-19 has been constituted. The Terms of Reference for the same is annexed.
4-9	The information sought does not come under the ambit of definition of information as per Section 2(f) of the RTI Act, 2005.
10	The National Expert Group on Vaccine Administration for COVID-19 will be serviced by D/o Health & Family Welfare.
11&12	The information is not available with Immunization Section.

2. In case, you are not satisfied with the reply, an appeal can be made to Mr. Elangbam Robert Singh, Director (RCH), R.No.405, D-Wing, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi-110011 within 30 days or receipt of this reply, who is the appellate authority in this matter.

Yours faithfully

Digitally signed by D N K  
KUTUMBA RAO  
Date: Thu Oct 29 15:36:49 IST  
2020  
Reason: Approved

Encl.:As above

(D.N.K. Kutumba Rao)

Under Secretary to the Govt. of India & CPIO  
Tele: 23063724

Copy to:-

1. Section Officer, RTI Cell, M/o Health & Family Welfare with reference to RTI application Reg No. MOHFW/R/E/20/03157 dated 30/09/2020.
2. PA to US(Imm)

**IMMEDIATE**

F.No. 272/2/13/2020-CA.III  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
CABINET SECRETARIAT  
RASHTRAPATI BHAVAN

1848046  
10-8-2020

New Delhi, the 07<sup>th</sup> August, 2020

**ORDER**

**Subject: Constitution of National Expert Group on Vaccine Administration for COVID-19 – reg.**

The competent authority has approved the constitution of a National Expert Group on Vaccine Administration for COVID-19 with the following composition:

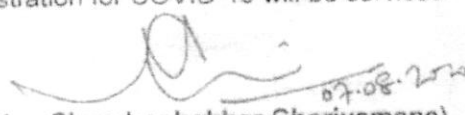
1. Dr. V.K. Paul, Member (Health), NITI Aayog – **Chair**
2. Secretary, D/o Health & Family Welfare – **Co-chair**
3. Foreign Secretary
4. Secretary, D/o Biotechnology
5. Secretary, D/o Health Research & DG, ICMR
6. Secretary, D/o Pharmaceuticals
7. Secretary, M/o Electronics & Information Technology
8. Director General of Health Services, M/o Health & Family Welfare
9. Dr. Randeep Guleria, Director, AIIMS, Delhi
10. Dr. Samiran Panda, Director, National AIDS Research Institute & Head ECD, ICMR
11. Dr. Rakesh Aggarwal, Member, NTAGI and Dean, JIPMER, Puducherry
12. Representative from D/o Expenditure, Ministry of Finance
13. Representatives from 5 States (to be nominated by D/o HFW on rotation basis)

Expert Group may also invite other experts for consultation as special invitees.

2. Terms of Reference (ToR) of the National Expert Group on Vaccine Administration for COVID-19 are as under:

- i. Prepare a strategy for conceptualization and implementation mechanisms for creation of a digital infrastructure for inventory management and delivery mechanism of the vaccine including tracking of vaccination process (last mile delivery).
- ii. Provide guidance on selection of COVID-19 vaccine candidates for the country. The National Expert Group will be assisted by the Standing Technical Sub-Committee of National Technical Advisory Group on Immunization (NTAGI) for this purpose.
- iii. Provide guidance on procurement mechanism of COVID-19 vaccine, both indigenous and international.
- iv. Provide guidance on prioritization of population groups for vaccination.
- v. Provide guidance on financial resources required for procurement of COVID-19 vaccine and various options of financing the same.
- vi. Provide guidance on selection of delivery platforms, on cold chain and associated infrastructure for roll out of COVID-19 vaccination.
- vii. Formulate a precise strategy and follow-up action on all possible scenarios to ensure equitable and transparent delivery of vaccine.

- ix. Provide guidance on vaccine safety and surveillance, based on the recommendations of National AEFI (Adverse Event Following Immunization) Committee of Ministry of Health & Family Welfare.
- x. Provide guidance on creating awareness and disseminating information.
- xi. Provide guidance on the role of India in supporting its key neighbours and development partner countries including LMICs for COVID-19 vaccines.
- xii. Provide guidance on leveraging domestic vaccine manufacturing capacity for meeting the national and international needs of COVID-19 vaccines.
3. The National Expert Group on Vaccine Administration for COVID-19 will be serviced by D/o Health & Family Welfare.

  
(Niranjana Chandrashekhar Cheriyanmane)  
Deputy Secretary  
Tel: 23015861

To

1. Dr. V.K. Paul, Member (Health), NITI Aayog
2. Secretary, D/o Health & Family Welfare
3. Foreign Secretary
4. Secretary, D/o Expenditure – with a request to nominate one Senior Officer not below the rank of Joint Secretary
5. Secretary, D/o Biotechnology
6. Secretary, D/o Health Research & DG, ICMR
7. Secretary, D/o Pharmaceuticals
8. Secretary, M/o Electronics & Information Technology
9. Director General of Health Services, M/o Health & Family Welfare
10. Dr. Randeep Guleria, Director, AIIMS, Delhi
11. Dr. Samiran Panda, Director, National AIDS Research Institute & Head ECD, ICMR
12. Dr. Rakesh Aggarwal, Member, NTAGI and Dean, JIPMER, Puducherry

Copy for kind information to:

Principal Secretary to Prime Minister  
Principal Adviser to Prime Minister