



<b>Rajesh Bhushan</b> Secretary Government of India Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi	<b>Vaidya Rajesh</b> Kotecha Secretary Government of India Ministry of Ayush Ayush Bhawan, INA New Delhi	<b>Sunil Kumar</b> Secretary Government of India Ministry of Panchayati Raj, Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi	<b>Ram Mohan Mishra</b> Secretary Government of India Ministry of Women & Child Development, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi
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D.O. No.PA/19/2018-CPMU

Dated the 7<sup>th</sup> September, 2020

Dear Chief Secretary,

As you would be aware, POSHAN Abhiyaan (National Nutrition Mission) – PM's Overarching Scheme for Holistic Nourishment was launched by the Hon'ble Prime Minister on 8<sup>th</sup> March, 2018. The programme strives to reduce the level of stunting, under-nutrition, low birth weight in children and anemia in adolescent girls, pregnant women, lactating mothers as well as children.

2. The Country is celebrating **PoshanMaah** during the month of September, 2020 to further accelerate various activities under POSHAN Abhiyaan, while adhering to COVID-19 protocols.

3. As you know, one important part of POSHAN Abhiyaan is the early identification of children suffering from Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM). This early identification is important for timely initiation of treatment and minimizing the risk of complications. Therefore, during Rashtriya Poshan Maah this year, a drive for identification and treatment of children with SAM will be undertaken. The drive will be continued for a couple of months with efforts undertaken that enhance processes and make them enduring so as to help such children, so that they can function as close to normal as feasible. The existing procedures may be followed in this regard till the new guidelines are issued. The districts wherein children with SAM have been identified and the best ameliorative care administered will be recognised.

4. Indigenous systems of Ayurveda, Sidha and Unani will also be utilized in various aspects to provide guidance on good nutrition, complementary feeding etc.

5. To strengthen the community support to this drive, Poshan Panchayats will be organized where all members of Village Health Sanitation and Nutrition Committee (VHSNC) and public will participate to discuss, ongoing activities, health and nutrition education, and remedial measures being taken.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

**Rajesh Bhushan**  
Secretary,  
MoHFW

Yours sincerely,

**Vaidya Rajesh**  
Kotecha,  
Secretary,  
AYUSH

Yours sincerely,

**Sunil Kumar**  
Secretary  
MoPR

Yours sincerely,

**Ram Mohan**  
Mishra  
Secretary  
MWCD

Chief Secretaries/ Administrators of States/UTs