

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND  
PANCHAYATI RAJ**

**(2025-2026)**

**32**

**EIGHTEENTH LOK SABHA**

**MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
(DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT)**

*[Action taken on the recommendations contained in the Twentieth  
Report (Eighteenth Lok Sabha) on "Effective Functioning of DISHA  
Committees" (2024-25) of the Ministry of Rural Development  
(Department of Rural Development)]*

**THIRTY-SECOND REPORT**



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT  
NEW DELHI**

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PANCHAYATI RAJ**

**(2025-2026)**

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(DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT)**

*[Action taken on the recommendations contained in the Twentieth  
Report (Eighteenth Lok Sabha) on 'Effective Functioning of DISHA  
Committees' (2024-25) of the Ministry of Rural Development  
(Department of Rural Development)]*

*Presented to Lok Sabha on 02.04.2026*

*Laid in Rajya Sabha on 02.04.2026*



**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT  
NEW DELHI**

*April, 2026/Chaitra, 1948 (Saka)*

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**COMPOSITION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND  
PANCHAYATI RAJ (2025-26)**

**Shri Saptagiri Sankar Ulaka -- Chairperson**

***Lok Sabha Members***

2. Shri Bhumare Sandipanrao Asaram
3. Shri Sudip Bandyopadhyay
4. Shri Raju Bista
5. Shri Vijay Kumar Dubey
6. Dr. Sanjay Jaiswal
7. Shri Bhajan Lal Jatav
8. Dr. Mohammad Jawed
9. Shri Jugal Kishore
10. Dr. D. Ravi Kumar
11. Shri Naba Charan Majhi
12. Shri Imran Masood
13. Shri Janardan Mishra
14. Shri Kota Srinivasa Poojary
15. Shri K. Radhakrishnan
16. Shri Ramashankar Vidharthi Rajbhar
17. Shri Omprakash Bhupalsinh *alias* Pavan Rajenimbalkar
18. Shri Parshottambhai Rupala
19. Shri Devendra Singh *alias* Bhole Singh
20. Shri Ganesh Singh
21. Shri Vivek Thakur

***Rajya Sabha Members***

22. Smt. Geeta *alias* Chandraprabha
23. Shri Neeraj Dangi
24. Dr. M. Dhanapal
25. Shri Samirul Islam
26. Shri Iranna Kadadi
27. Dr. Kavita Patidar
28. Smt. Rajathi
29. Shri Nagendra Ray
30. Shri Sant Balbir Singh
31. Smt. P.T. Usha

**SECRETARIAT**

1. Shri D.R. Shekhar - Additional Secretary
2. Shri V. K. Shailon - Director
3. Smt. Rashmi Roy - Deputy Secretary

## INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Rural Development & Panchayati Raj (2025-2026) having been authorised by the Committee to present the Report on their behalf, present the Thirty-Second Report on the action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the 20<sup>th</sup> Report of the Standing Committee on Rural Development and Panchayati Raj (18<sup>th</sup> Lok Sabha) on 'Effective Functioning of DISHA Committees' (2024-25) of the Ministry of Rural Development (Department of Rural Development).

2. The Twentieth Report was presented to the Lok Sabha on 19.08.2026 and was laid on the Table of Rajya Sabha on 19.08.2026. Replies of the Government to all the recommendations contained in the Report were received on 12.11.2025.

3. The Report was considered and adopted by the Committee at their sitting held on 01.04.2026.

4. An analysis of the action taken by the Government on the recommendations contained in the Twentieth Report (18<sup>th</sup> Lok Sabha) of the Committee is given in **Appendix-II**.

**NEW DELHI**  
**01 April, 2026**  
**11 Chaitra, 1948 (Saka)**

**Saptagiri Sankar Ulaka**  
**Chairperson**  
**Standing Committee on Rural Development and**  
**Panchayati Raj**

## CHAPTER I

### REPORT

This Report of the Standing Committee on Rural Development and Panchayati Raj (2025-26) deals with the action taken by the Government on the Observations/ Recommendations contained in their Twentieth Report (Eighteenth Lok Sabha) on "Effective Functioning of DISHA Committees" (2024-25) of the Ministry of Rural Development (Department of Rural Development).

1.2 The Twentieth Report was presented to the Lok Sabha on 19.08.2025 and was laid on the Table of Rajya Sabha on 19.08.2025. The Report contained 14 Observations/ Recommendations.

1.3 Action Taken Notes in respect of all the 14 Observations/ Recommendations contained in the Report have been received from the Government. These have been examined and categorised as follows: -

(i) Observations/ Recommendations which have been accepted by the Government:

Serial Nos. 1, 2, 4, 7 & 12

Total: 05  
Chapter-II

(ii) Observations/ Recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of replies of the Government:

Serial No. NIL

Total: NIL  
Chapter-III

(iii) Observations/ Recommendations in respect of which replies of the Government have not been accepted by the Committee:

Serial No. 3, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13 & 14

Total: 09  
Chapter-IV

(iv) Observations/ Recommendations in respect of which final replies of the Government are still awaited:

Serial No. NIL

Total: NIL  
Chapter-V

**1.4 The Committee desire that Final Action Taken Notes on the Observations/ recommendations contained in Chapter I of this Report may be furnished to the Committee within three months of the presentation of this Report.**

**1.5 The Committee will now deal with action taken by the Government on some of their Observations/ Recommendations that require reiteration/ merit comments.**

**I. Making DISHA Portal more Effective**

**Recommendation (Serial No. 3)**

1.6 With regard to making DISHA Portal more effective, the Committee had recommended as under:

“The Committee observe that the statutory timelines prescribed under the DISHA Guidelines for circulation of agenda papers (ten days prior to the meeting) and submission of Minutes and Action-Taken Reports (within ten and thirty days, respectively) are being routinely breached, thereby obstructing informed deliberation and effective follow-up. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Ministry of Rural Development, in consultation with the National Informatics Centre, Institute a tiered, automated alert mechanism on the DISHA portal. Under this system, the moment a deadline expires, the portal shall generate an electronic reminder by e-mail and SMS-to the District Collector, with copies endorsed to the Member of Parliament-Chairperson, the State Chief Secretary and the Ministry's Monitoring Cell. Where the agenda, Minutes or ATR remain un-uploaded for a second consecutive cycle, the district shall be flagged "non-compliant" on the dashboard and the matter escalated to the concerned State Government for appropriate administrative action. Where proceedings of Meeting remain un-uploaded on portal, MoRD may take strict view on release of funds/ reimbursement of Meeting Bills. All alerts and acknowledgements shall be time-stamped and retained on the portal to provide a verifiable audit trail.”

1.7 The DoRD in their action taken reply have stated as follows:

“To strengthen the DISHA Monitoring System, the state-of-the-art DISHA Dashboard was launched by the Hon'ble Prime Minister on 11th October 2017 as a centralized platform for information related to schemes implemented by various Ministries under the DISHA framework. To support the operations of DISHA Committees and to facilitate structured and effective meetings, a tab titled the 'Meeting Reporting Module' (<https://erp.disha.gov.in>) has been embedded for State and District Level DISHA meetings. This includes features such as a Notice Board, Proceedings of Meetings (PoMs), Action Taken Reports (ATRs), reimbursement of expenditure for organizing meetings, and Meeting Summaries containing scheduled meeting

dates, times, venues, agendas, notices, minutes, and assigned action points. As recommended, the Ministry is working to introduce a functionality in the Meeting Reporting Portal for sending automated messages and email reminders to districts regarding due or overdue meetings, and for facilitating the uploading of Meeting Notices, Agendas, Proceedings of Meetings, and Action Taken Reports (ATRs) on the DISHA Portal.”

(O.M. No. H-11013/ 01/ 2017-disha (E-357375)Dated: 12/ 11/ 2025)

### **Comments of the Committee**

**1.8 The Committee note that steps are being taken by the Ministry to introduce functionalities in the DISHA portal for sending automated reminders regarding meetings and for uploading agenda, proceedings and Action Taken Reports. The Committee, however, observe that the Ministry has not addressed the core issue raised by the Committee regarding the institution of a structured enforcement mechanism in cases of repeated non-compliance by districts. The Committee reiterate its earlier recommendation that strict adherence to timelines for circulation of agenda papers and submission of proceedings and Action Taken Reports is essential for meaningful deliberations in DISHA meetings. The Committee, therefore, urge the Ministry to put in place a robust and time-bound automated monitoring and escalation mechanism on the DISHA portal to ensure compliance with the prescribed timelines.**

## **II. Presence of Decision-Makers, not proxies**

### **Recommendation (Serial No. 5)**

**1.9 In the context of presence of Decision-Makers in DISHA Meetings, the Committee had recommended as under:**

“The Committee note that several DISHA sittings have been attended only by junior Sub-Divisional Officers, while the designated Heads of Department, Executive Engineers, Divisional Railway Managers, and equivalent officers have absented themselves. Such non-attendance nullifies the very purpose of the Committee, which is to secure on-the-spot decisions from officers empowered to act. The Committee, therefore, recommend that where any senior line-department officer fails to attend two consecutive DISHA meetings without written justification accepted by the Chairperson, the District Collector shall forthwith report the default to the cadre-controlling

Ministry/ Department. The Ministry of Rural Development shall keep further scheme-related fund releases to that line department in temporary abeyance until the officer complies with the attendance requirement. The Committee feel that meetings can be a highly efficient and effective forum for robust discussion and debate, an opportunity for executives to align on future action, commit to it and hold one another accountable, therefore, all the meetings should be attended by the senior most officers of the concerned Departments.”

1.10 The DoRD in their action taken reply have stated as follows:

“The Ministry has been consistently working to ensure the timely convening of DISHA meetings with active participation from all stakeholders and senior-level officers for more effective outcomes. The Secretary, Rural Development, has requested all States/ UTs to take necessary action in this regard and to ensure the participation of concerned senior officers in DISHA meetings. Furthermore, the line Ministries and Departments have been advised to ensure the participation of officers at appropriate levels. (Annexure-IV).”

(O.M. No. H-11013/ 01/ 2017- DISHA (E-357375) dated 12.11.2025)

#### **Comments of the Committee**

**1.11 The Committee note that communications have been issued to States/ UTs and concerned Ministries by MoRD advising them to ensure participation of appropriate level officers in DISHA meetings. The Committee are, however, not convinced with the reply of the Ministry as it does not adequately address the concern regarding repeated absence of senior officers in such meetings. The Committee reiterate that the presence of senior decision-making officers is crucial for ensuring meaningful discussions and timely resolution of issues raised during DISHA meetings. The Committee, therefore, urge the Ministry to evolve an effective mechanism, in coordination with State Governments, to ensure the mandatory participation of senior officers of concerned departments in DISHA meetings. The said mechanism will help to ensure effective, time bound and coordinated implementation of the schemes.**

### **III. Mandatory Constitution of State level DISHA Committee**

#### **Recommendation (Serial No. 6)**

1.12 With regard to mandatory constitution of State level DISHA Committee, the Committee had recommended as under:

“The Committee observe that a number of States and Union Territories have neither issued the requisite notification constituting the State-level DISHA Committee nor convened even a single sitting since the issuance of guidelines. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Ministry of Rural Development serve a final notice to all defaulting States/ UTs, directing them to (i) notify the State-level DISHA Committee within one month of receipt of the notice, and (ii) schedule at least one meeting of the committee in each calendar quarter. The Ministry shall place before Parliament, as part of its quarterly compliance report, a statement Identifying the States/ UTs that remain in default after the expiry of one month, together with the remedial action initiated in each case.”

1.13 The DoRD in their action taken reply have stated as follows:

“As per available information, State Level DISHA Committees (SLDCs) have been constituted in 21 States. During the last one year, 7 States have conducted a total of 8 SLDC meetings. A total of 186 Hon’ble MPs has been nominated as members of their respective SLDCs by the Ministry, while 78 non-official members have been nominated based on the recommendations received from Hon’ble MPs. The Ministry has requested the State Governments to constitute SLDCs in States where they are yet to be formed and to convene the meetings at the earliest (**Annexure-II**).”

#### **Comments of the Committee**

**1.14 The Committee note from the reply of Ministry that State Level DISHA Committees have been constituted in several States and that the remaining States/ UTs have been requested to constitute such Committees and convene meetings. The Committee, however, find that the steps taken by the Ministry lack concrete enforcement and are largely persuasive in nature, being limited to issuing communications to States/ UTs despite persistent non-compliance in certain cases. The Committee are concerned to note that in some States, no State Level DISHA Committee has been constituted and no meetings have been held since 2018, which severely undermines the monitoring of Central Schemes, raises concerns regarding unmonitored utilisation of funds and possible irregularities, and deprives effective oversight over grassroots implementation. The Committee are of the considered view that mere issue of advisories is insufficient to ensure compliance and that stronger, time-bound**

measures are required. The Committee, therefore, reiterate their recommendation that the Ministry of Rural Development serve a final notice to all defaulting States/ UTs, persuading them to (i) notify the State Level DISHA Committee within one month of receipt of such notice; and (ii) ensure that at least one meeting of the Committee is held in each calendar quarter as these meetings are essential to improve public service delivery of the benefits of the schemes at the grass roots. The Committee further recommend that the Ministry may place before Committee a statement identifying the States/ UTs that continue to remain in default after the stipulated period, along with details of the remedial action taken in each case.

#### **IV. Duration and Expenses of DISHA Meeting**

##### **Recommendation (Serial No. 8)**

1.15 With regard to the issue of duration and expenses of DISHA Meeting, the Committee had recommended as follows:

"The Committee note that several District Collectors are either unaware of, or unclear about, the 2 lakh per-meeting ceiling prescribed for DISHA sittings, with the result that meetings are postponed and essential field inspections omitted. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Ministry of Rural Development issue an updated, comprehensive circular, copied to every Member of Parliament and every District Collector, clearly specifying that up to 2 lakhs may be drawn for each DISHA meeting, enumerating admissible heads of expenditure (venue and logistics, TA/ DA for members and officials, documentation, transport and site-inspection costs) and outlining a simplified, time-bound reimbursement procedure. The circular should further state that, where agenda load or on-site verification so requires, the meeting may extend over two or three consecutive days while remaining within the 2 lakh per-meeting ceiling, where the agenda includes quarterly study visits, provision of additional budget may be made to meet the expenses. Timely advance release of funds and prompt settlement of claims should be ensured to prevent any delay or dilution of the review process."

1.16 The DoRD in their action taken reply have stated as under:

"The Ministry has circulated the revised provisions of the DISHA Guidelines pertaining to the expenditure to be incurred for DISHA meetings. The State/ UT Governments have also been informed about the detailed provisions for reimbursement of meeting-related expenditure (**Annexure–III**). The Ministry is making concerted efforts to ensure the

timely release of reimbursement claims upon receipt of the requisite proposals."

### **Comments of the Committee**

1.17 The Committee note that despite circulation of guidelines by the Ministry regarding expenditure and reimbursement for DISHA meetings, persistent lack of awareness among District Collectors continues, particularly regarding the provision of up to ₹2 lakh per meeting. This has led to postponement of meetings and omission of essential field inspections, thereby diluting effective monitoring of schemes. The Committee are of the view that the efforts of the Ministry in this regard have not been adequate and require greater clarity, urgency, awareness and enforcement. The Committee, therefore, reiterate that the Ministry should issue an updated and comprehensive circular, duly communicated to all Members of Parliament and District Collectors, clearly specifying admissible expenditure within the ₹2 lakh ceiling (including venue/ logistics, TA/ DA, documentation, and site inspection/ transport) along with a simplified and time-bound reimbursement mechanism. The circular should also provide flexibility for meetings to be held over multiple days, where required, and enable provision of additional funds for study visits, as necessary. The Committee further recommend that timely advance release of funds and settlement of claims within a fixed timeframe be ensured, and that districts not adhering to DISHA guidelines be flagged on the portal, with appropriate measures, including withholding of reimbursement, to prevent dilution of the review process.

### **V. Full utilisation of grants for expenditure on DISHA Meetings**

#### **Recommendation (Serial No. 9)**

1.18 In the context of utilisation of funds for DISHA Meetings, the Committee had recommended as below:

"The committee note that as per DISHA guidelines the District Committee may be arranged on any day during third week of April, July, October and February with the permission of Chairperson. For organizing additional meetings, date and month of meetings to be notified with the consent/ directions of the Chairperson. Member Secretary should be personally responsible for convening meetings.

Further, the total expenditure should not, however, exceed Rs.2,00,000/- per meeting. The District Administration may incur expenditure on holding the meetings of DISHA adhering to the norms applicable. The Committee recommend that since expenditure is not limited for only one quarterly meetings, MoRD should encourage for increased frequency of DISHA meetings for better monitoring and mid-course corrections of schemes. This will allow early identification of implementation gaps and timely interventions helping reduce last minute spending pressures near year-end. The Committee, also recommend Ministry for suggesting SoPs for meetings to Member Secretary focusing on grouping of Departments based on similarity of schemes or Ministry-wise for effective outcome. Therefore, the funds should be critically reviewed from time to time and utilized fully and properly.”

1.19 The following Action Taken Reply has been given by DoRD:

“Ministry consider DISHA District Committees as an important mechanism for ensuring effective governance and promoting the holistic development of districts. These meetings provide a platform to foster synergy in monitoring and ensuring the timely implementation of various programmes at the district level. These meetings also help identify challenges, address bottlenecks, and align district priorities with national development goals, thereby contributing to community upliftment and reduction of regional disparities.”

Recognizing the critical importance of DISHA, the Ministry has been consistently working to ensure that these meetings are convened regularly, with active participation from all stakeholders and senior-level officers for more effective outcomes. The Secretary, Rural Development, has requested all States/ UTs to take necessary action in this regard and to ensure the participation of concerned senior officers in DISHA meetings. Further, the line Ministries and Departments have been advised to ensure the participation of officers at appropriate levels. The Hon'ble Minister of Rural Development has also requested Hon'ble MPs to convene DISHA meetings in a timely manner (Annexure-I). As per DISHA guidelines, District Level DISHA Committees are required to hold meetings at least once every quarter, with a minimum of four meetings annually. However, if Chairperson so desires, number of meetings to be convened can be more than four.

As per the DISHA Guidelines, each DISHA Committee is required to develop its own system for agenda setting for the quarterly meetings, in accordance with the specific requirements of the respective district. Action Taken on the recommendations of the previous meeting should be the first agenda item for the next meeting. The agenda should contain substantive issues to facilitate improvement in quality of implementation of the programmes.”

**Comments of the Committee**

**1.20 The Committee note that the Ministry has reiterated the provisions contained in the DISHA guidelines regarding the conduct of quarterly meetings. The Committee are of the view that, given the wide range of schemes monitored under DISHA, there may be situations where additional meetings are required to address emerging issues and implementation gaps. The Committee therefore reiterate that the Ministry should encourage more frequent meetings where necessary and issue suitable guidance to Member Secretaries for effective agenda setting and conduct of meetings to align development efforts facilitating better synergy and faster decision making.**

**VI. Mandatory Attendance and Accountability of Officers**

**Recommendation (Serial No. 10)**

1.21 With regard to mandatory attendance and accountability of officers, the Committee had recommended as below:

“The Committee note that senior officers of the concerned departments do not attend the meetings or nominate junior level officers who are ill-informed about the progress of schemes. The Committee strongly recommend that in order to achieve the purpose of DISHA Committees, MoRD may on regular basis communicate with Member Secretaries on the issues of non-attendance of senior officers, ill-preparedness for the meeting and ensure strict and timely follow up of the recommendations of the meeting. The Committee also recommend that, at the end of every quarter, the Ministry of Rural Development extract compliance data from the DISHA dashboard and issue a concise review letter to each District Collector, itemising the number of meetings held, the punctuality of agenda circulation and ATR submission, and the attendance record of senior line-department officers; copies of this letter should be endorsed to the MP-Chairperson and the State Chief Secretary. Where the same deficiencies are recorded in two consecutive quarters, the Ministry should formally urge the State Government to initiate strict compliance in this regard as per guidelines.”

1.22 The following Action Taken Reply has been given by DoRD:

“Recognizing the critical importance of DISHA, the Ministry has been consistently working to ensure that these meetings are convened regularly, with active participation from all stakeholders and senior-level

officers for more effective outcomes. The Secretary, Rural Development, has requested Chief Secretaries/ Advisors to Administrator/ LG of all the States/ UTs to ensure mandated District Level DISHA Committee meetings and participation of concerned senior officers of the States/ UTs in DISHA meetings (Annexure–III). Further, the line Ministries and Departments have also been advised to ensure the participation of officers at appropriate levels (Annexure–IV). The Hon’ble Minister of Rural Development has also requested Hon’ble MPs to convene DISHA meetings in a timely manner (Annexure–I). These communications are also available on DISHA Dashboard.

To support the operations of DISHA Committees and to facilitate structured and effective meetings, a tab titled the ‘Meeting Reporting Module’ (<https://erp.disha.gov.in>) has been embedded for State and District Level DISHA meetings. This includes features such as a Notice Board, Proceedings of Meetings (PoMs), Action Taken Reports (ATRs), reimbursement of expenditure for organizing meetings, and Meeting Summaries containing scheduled meeting dates, times, venues, agendas, notices, minutes, and assigned action points.

(O.M. No. H-11013/ 01/ 2017- DISHA (E-357375) dated 12.11.2025)

### **Comments of the Committee**

**1.23 The Committee note the Ministry’s reply that communications have been issued to States/ UTs and concerned Ministries to ensure the participation of senior officers in DISHA meetings and the effective functioning of the committees. The Committee, however, observe that the reply does not fully address the issue of ensuring accountability for non-attendance or lack of preparedness by concerned officers. The Committee therefore reiterate that the Ministry should put in place a systematic monitoring mechanism to track the conduct of meetings, adherence to timelines and attendance of officers so as to ensure effective functioning of DISHA Committees**

### **VII. Annual field verification, Collector in attendance**

#### **Recommendation (Serial No. 11)**

1.24 In the context of annual field verification and attendance of Collector during on-site review under DISHA, the Committee had recommended as below:

“The Committee is of the view that reliance on file-based reporting may hide ground-level shortcomings and results into provide gloomy picture of the site. To ensure that physical realities match the figures presented, the Committee recommend that every district DISHA arrange at least one on-site review each year covering key assets,

such as PMGSY roads, school buildings, Anganwadi centres and other Central-scheme works. The visiting team, led by the District Collector and the MP-Chairperson, should capture geotagged photographs, record brief field notes and compile a single-page status report. These materials are to be uploaded on the DISHA portal within seven days of the visit and prominently flagged on the public dashboard, so that subsequent meetings, higher authorities, and citizens alike can track follow-up action.”

1.25 The following Action Taken Reply has been given by DoRD:

“DISHA Committees have authority to look into complaints/ alleged irregularities received in respect of the implementation of the programmes, including complaints of wrong selection of beneficiaries, miss-appropriation/ diversion of funds and recommend follow-up action. The Committee have also authority to summon and inspect any record for this purpose. The Committee may refer any matter for enquiry to the District Collector/ CEO of the Zila Panchayat/ Project Director of DRDA (or Poverty Alleviation Unit) or suggest suitable action to be taken in accordance with the rules which should be action upon by him within 30 days.

All documents related to pre and post-meeting activities of DISHA Committee are uploaded on meeting reporting portal.”

#### **Comments of the Committee**

**1.26 The Committee finds that the reply of the Ministry merely reiterates the existing powers of DISHA Committees to investigate irregularities without addressing the core concern of proactive, mandatory field verification. The Committee is of the view that file-based reporting continues to mark ground-level discrepancies, as evidenced by persistent complaints of incomplete assets like PMGSY roads and Anganwadi Centres despite reported progress. The Committee, therefore, recommends that the Ministry of Rural Development direct every District DISHA Committee to conduct at least one annual on-site verification exercise, led by the MP-Chairperson and District Collector, capturing geo-tagged photographs, field notes, and a single-page status report on key assets. These materials shall be uploaded to the DISHA portal within seven days, flagged prominently on the public dashboard, and mandatorily reviewed in the next meeting to track follow-up, with non-compliance reported to the State Chief Secretary for corrective action.**

## **VIII. Guidance to District Planning Committees**

### **Recommendation (Serial No. 13)**

1.27 In the context of guidance to District Planning Committees, the Committee had recommended as below:

“The Committee observe that many resolutions adopted in DISHA meetings, particularly those pertaining to augmentation of resources or inter-sectoral convergence, remain unimplemented because the requisite funding and planning approvals rest with the District Planning Committee (DPC). To close this coordination gap, the Committee recommend that the Ministry of Rural Development issue a directive empowering every District DISHA Committee to transmit its resolutions and recommendations, in writing and in the prescribed format, to the Chairperson of the DPC within seven days of the meeting. The DPC Chairperson shall examine the proposal and communicate an approval, modification or reasoned rejection within a maximum period of thirty days. The communication, together with any follow-up action, shall be uploaded on the DISHA portal and tagged to the relevant agenda item so that progress can be transparently monitored at the next DISHA sitting as well as by the State-level DISHA Committee and the Ministry.”

1.28 The following Action Taken Reply has been given by DoRD:

“The District Planning Committee (DPC) is a constitutional body established under Article 243ZD of the Indian Constitution to prepare district-level development plans. The Ministry of Panchayati Raj (MoPR) oversees and facilitates the functioning of these committees by issuing planning guidelines and supporting initiatives aimed at strengthening their role in decentralized planning. The terms of reference of the DISHA Committees, inter alia, include facilitating the smooth implementation of priorities determined by the District Planning Committees (DPCs) and guiding the DPCs on national programmes and how these can be leveraged for the overall development of the district. The proposal for issuing directives in consultation with MoPR is under consideration.”

### **Comments of the Committee**

**1.29 The Committee note that the Ministry in their reply to the recommendation of the Committee for extending guidance to District Planning Committees (DPC), have stated that the terms of reference of the DISHA Committees, inter-alia, include facilitating the smooth implementation of priorities determined by DPCs, which is Constitutional body established under Art. 243 ZD of Constitution to prepare district- level development plans.**

Also, DISHA Committees guide the DPCs on national programmes and how these can be leveraged for the overall development of the district. The Committee finds that State Autonomy is limited to DPC formation/ election, but functions like plan consolidation do not preclude MoRD advisories on Centrally Sponsored Schemes implementation/ monitoring, similar to MoPR guidelines. DISHA Committees guide DPCs on leveraging national programmes, aligning with Art 243 ZDs planning intent without overriding State laws. The Committee observe that many DISHA resolutions on resource augmentation and convergence remain unimplemented as DPCs fail to act timely for providing requisite funds and granting planning approvals. The Committee, therefore, reiterates its recommendation that the MoRD, in consultation with MoPR, forthwith issue a binding directive requiring every District DISHA to forward resolutions in standard format to the DPC Chairperson within 7 days of the meeting; the DPC shall approve/ modify/ reject with reasons within 30 days, uploading outcomes to the DISHA portal for tagging and taking up in next-meeting for review. Quarterly non-compliance by DPCs shall be reported along with MoRD advisories to State Panchayati Raj Departments, to ensure seamless scheme execution. Such steps are essential for effective monitoring and accountability of the schemes.

**IX. Penalties for false or inflated reporting**

**Recommendation (Serial No. 14)**

1.30 In the context of penalties for false or inflated reporting during DISHA meetings, the Committee had recommended as below:

“The Committee is concerned to note that there are some instances of inaccurate or misleading progress reporting in certain departments. The Committee therefore recommend that, if a department submit erroneous data twice within the same district, the Ministry of Rural Development should require the District Collector to conduct a verification exercise, identify specific corrective measures, and certify their completion. Subsequent fund disbursements under the relevant scheme for that district shall be processed only after the Collector's certification has been placed on record in the minutes of the next DISHA meeting and uploaded to the portal for audit and oversight. The Ministry of RD should take all sincere and stern steps to check the recurrence of such cases.”

1.31 The following Action Taken Reply has been given by DoRD:

“DISHA Committees have authority to look into complaints/ alleged irregularities received in respect of the implementation of the programmes, including complaints of wrong selection of beneficiaries, miss-appropriation/ diversion of funds and recommend follow-up action. The Committee have also authority to summon and inspect any record for this purpose. The Committee may refer any matter for enquiry to the District Collector/ CEO of the Zila Panchayat/ Project Director of DRDA (or Poverty Alleviation Unit) or suggest suitable action to be taken in accordance with the rules which should be action upon by him within 30 days. All documents related to pre and post-meeting activities of DISHA Committee are uploaded on meeting reporting portal.

The Ministry has also issued an advisory to the State/ UT Governments to ensure the accuracy and correctness of the data provided to the DISHA Committees (**Annexure-V**).”

#### **Comments of the Committee**

**1.32 The Committee finds that the reply of the Ministry merely restates the existing authority of the DISHA Committees to probe irregularities without instituting specific penalties or verification protocols for repeated inaccurate reporting. The Committee is concerned to note that instances of inaccurate or inflated progress reporting persist in certain departments, undermining the credibility of scheme monitoring and diverting recourses from genuine needs. The Committee, therefore, strongly recommends that where any department submits erroneous data twice within the same district, the MoRD direct the District Collector to undertake a mandatory verification exercise, under his supervision to identity corrective measures, and certify their implementation within 30 days. Subsequent fund releases under the concerned scheme for that district may be withheld until the Collector’s certification is recorded in the DISHA meeting minutes and uploaded on the Portal; the Ministry shall further issue quarterly alerts to State Government on repeat offenders and table a compliance summary in Parliament, with suitable administrative action against those responsible to deter recurrence.**



## CHAPTER II

### RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE GOVERNMENT

#### **Recommendation (Serial No. 1)**

2.1 Framework for DISHA District Committees, guidelines were issued in June 2016 and further revised in January 2018 with this District Level tier of DISHA became fully functional. It is 9 years since District Level DISHA has been functioning. Further, each DISHA Committee has to conduct at least four meetings in a year. The Committee are of the view that DISHA meetings not only help to effectively monitor developmental programmes but also serve as feedback loop for suitable modifications at the policy planning level taking valuable inputs from all stakeholders. The Committee observed that the number of meetings held in past years shows that the purpose with which DISHA has been launched needs more efforts on the part of Members of Parliament, State Government and Stakeholders of DISHA Committees. The MoRD needs to take sincere steps to increase active participation of all stakeholders such as communicating through letters from Minister, Secretary, phone calls from Secretary to Chairpersons (MPs), Member Secretary. Letters and calls from Senior Officers of MoRD for timely holding of DISHA meetings. Increase in active participation of all stakeholders and number of meetings of DISHA will certainly ensure better implementation of Schemes.

#### **Reply of the Government**

2.2 DISHA District Committees serve as an important mechanism for ensuring effective governance and promoting the holistic development of districts. These meetings provide a platform to foster synergy in monitoring and ensuring the timely implementation of various programmes at the district level. These meetings also help identify challenges, address bottlenecks, and align district priorities with national development goals, thereby contributing to community upliftment and reduction of regional disparities.

Recognizing the critical importance of DISHA, the Ministry has been consistently working to ensure that these meetings are convened regularly, with active participation from all stakeholders and senior-level officers for more effective outcomes. The Secretary, Rural Development, has requested all States/ UTs to take necessary action in this regard and to ensure the participation of concerned senior officers in DISHA meetings (Annexure-III). Further, the line Ministries and

Departments have been advised to ensure the participation of officers at appropriate levels (Annexure-IV). The Hon'ble Minister of Rural Development has also requested Hon'ble MPs to convene DISHA meetings in a timely manner (Annexure-I).

(O.M. No. H-11013/ 01/ 2017- DISHA (E-357375) dated 12.11.2025)

### **Recommendation (Serial No. 2)**

2.3 The Committee finds that majority of Members of Parliament, also Chairperson of DISHA Committees are uninformed about DISHA Dashboard, process to access it. The Committee, therefore, recommends that a detailed awareness kit containing letter of nomination as DISHA Chairperson/ Convenor along with complete guidelines, SOP for its usage and Help desk detail be provided to all MPs. Further, the Committee also recommend that during Parliament Session period all the MPs are present in Delhi, Orientation Programme on DISHA for MPS of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha be organized this period, also Help desk with dedicated officers from MoRD for resolving queries of MPs may also be set up. The Ministry should also coordinate with Sansad TV to air Special programs promoting DISHA and display DISHA Helpline details in Running Tickers for information of MPs.

### **Reply of the Government**

2.4 To strengthen the DISHA Monitoring System, the state-of-the-art DISHA Dashboard was launched by the Honorable Prime Minister on 11th October 2017 as a centralized platform for information related to schemes implemented by various Ministries under the DISHA monitoring system. As of today, the DISHA Dashboard integrates 100 schemes of 35 different Ministries/ Departments, incorporating various geographical levels—such as administrative boundaries of Districts, Gram Panchayats, Blocks, and Villages—via APIs for real-time data display. Further, a Help Desk has also been established in Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD) to coordinate with all States/ UTs and districts across the country.

As recommended, a detailed awareness kit-containing letter of nomination as DISHA Chairperson/ Co-chairperson/ Special Invitee along with complete guidelines, Dashboard user manual and contact details of dedicated officer from MoRD along with Help desk detail have been shared to all MPs. The content of Special programs promoting DISHA for airing on Sansad TV is being prepared.

(O.M. No. H-11013/ 01/ 2017- DISHA (E-357375) dated 12.11.2025)

### **Recommendation (Serial No. 4)**

2.5 The Committee observe that many Members of Parliament have not received their user credentials for the DISHA portal, thereby impeding their oversight function. It, therefore, recommend that the Ministry of Rural Development forthwith issue Individual user-IDs and passwords to every Member of Parliament Simultaneously direct all District Collectors/ District Magistrates to (i) dispatch a formal letter to their respective MPs within seven days, apprising them of the issuance and offering on-boarding assistance, (ii) Designate an officer for any technical support required. In addition, the portal shall incorporate an internal analytics page indicating which Members have successfully logged in, enabling the Ministry to extend targeted technical support to those yet to access the system.

### **Reply of the Government**

2.6 The mobile numbers of Hon'ble MPs (Lok Sabha) and MPs (Rajya Sabha) [who have been nominated as Chairperson/ Co-chairperson/ Special Invitee], as per information available on the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha websites, have been registered to facilitate their access to the DISHA Dashboard. The Dashboard can be accessed by entering the pre-registered mobile number and the OTP received, or alternatively, by using the user ID and password shared with the Hon'ble MPs on their registered email IDs. For any on-boarding assistance, the DISHA Helpdesk may be contacted (Help Desk Number- [support.disha-mord@nic.in](mailto:support.disha-mord@nic.in)). In addition, an officer has been designated as the Nodal Officer to provide necessary support (Name of Nodal Officer – Shri Piush Ranjan, Contact no. 011-24663531). The contact details of both the Helpdesk and the Nodal Officer have been shared with the Hon'ble MPs (Annexure-I).

(O.M. No. H-11013/ 01/ 2017- DISHA (E-357375) dated 12.11.2025)

### **Recommendation (Serial No. 7)**

2.7 The Committee finds that departments presently submit progress presentations in assorted, often incomparable formats, hampering effective review. The Committee therefore recommend that the Ministry of Rural Development prescribe a uniform, two-page reporting matrix covering physical progress, financial progress, bottlenecks encountered, and the support or clearances required. Every department shall upload this matrix on the DISHA portal at least ten days before each meeting, allowing Members to compare information quickly and take informed decisions during the sitting.

### **Reply of the Government**

2.8 As recommended, a model reporting template has been developed to capture details on physical progress, financial progress, bottlenecks encountered, and the support or clearances required for various schemes and programmes. States/ UTs have been instructed to direct the Member Secretaries to submit or upload the progress reports on the 'Meeting Reporting Tab' of the Dashboard (Annexure–III). These reports, once uploaded by the concerned District Authority, can be accessed by the Chairperson, Co-Chairperson, and other stakeholders for review and monitoring. The Ministry has also issued an advisory to all State/ UT Governments to ensure that accurate and updated data is provided to the DISHA Committees (Annexure–V).

(O.M. No. H-11013/ 01/ 2017- DISHA (E-357375) dated 12.11.2025)

#### **Recommendation (Serial No. 12)**

2.9 The Committee reiterates that every DISHA committee must include, at a minimum, one elected Scheduled Caste and one elected Scheduled Tribe representative. Accordingly, the Committee recommend that the DISHA portal automatically flag non-compliant districts in red and generate an alert to the District Collector. The Collector shall place the matter before the competent authority and ensure that the required SC and ST members are formally nominated and notified before the next scheduled sitting; failure to do so should be reported to the State Chief Secretary to take corrective measures in this regard.

#### **Reply of the Government**

2.10 As per the District Level DISHA guidelines, all Mayors/ the Chairpersons of Municipalities (inclusive of at least one woman) and five elected heads of Gram Panchayat (inclusive of two women) are nominated by the Chairperson and the other Members of Parliament in the Committee. Further, one representative each from the SC, ST, and Women categories is nominated by the Chairperson and other Members of Parliament in the Committee. In addition, at least one non-official member belonging to the SC/ ST category is nominated to the District Level DISHA Committee by the Ministry of Rural Development on the recommendation of the Hon'ble Chairperson.

(O.M. No. H-11013/ 01/ 2017- DISHA (E-357375) dated 12.11.2025)

**CHAPTER III**

**RECOMMENDATIONS WHICH THE COMMITTEE DO NOT DESIRE TO PURSUE  
IN VIEW OF REPLIES OF THE GOVERNMENT**

NIL

(O.M. No. H-11013/ 01/ 2017- DISHA (E-357375) dated 12.11.2025)

## **CHAPTER IV**

### **RECOMMENDATIONS IN RESPECT OF WHICH REPLIES OF THE GOVERNMENT HAVE NOT BEEN ACCEPTED BY THE COMMITTEE**

#### **Recommendation (Serial No. 3)**

4.1 The Committee observe that the statutory timelines prescribed under the DISHA Guidelines for circulation of agenda papers (ten days prior to the meeting) and submission of Minutes and Action-Taken Reports (within ten and thirty days, respectively) are being routinely breached, thereby obstructing informed deliberation and effective follow-up. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Ministry of Rural Development, in consultation with the National Informatics Centre, Institute a tiered, automated alert mechanism on the DISHA portal. Under this system, the moment a deadline expires, the portal shall generate an electronic reminder by e-mail and SMS-to the District Collector, with copies endorsed to the Member of Parliament-Chairperson, the State Chief Secretary and the Ministry's Monitoring Cell. Where the agenda, Minutes or ATR remain un-uploaded for a second consecutive cycle, the district shall be flagged "non-compliant" on the dashboard and the matter escalated to the concerned State Government for appropriate administrative action. Where proceedings of Meeting remain un-uploaded on portal, MoRD may take strict view on release of funds/ reimbursement of Meeting Bills. All alerts and acknowledgements shall be time-stamped and retained on the portal to provide a verifiable audit trail.

#### **Reply of the Government**

4.2 To strengthen the DISHA Monitoring System, the state-of-the-art DISHA Dashboard was launched by the Hon'ble Prime Minister on 11th October 2017 as a centralized platform for information related to schemes implemented by various Ministries under the DISHA framework. To support the operations of DISHA Committees and to facilitate structured and effective meetings, a tab titled the 'Meeting Reporting Module' (<https://erp.disha.gov.in>) has been embedded for State and District Level DISHA meetings. This includes features such as a Notice Board, Proceedings of Meetings (PoMs), Action Taken Reports (ATRs), reimbursement of expenditure for organizing meetings, and Meeting Summaries containing scheduled meeting dates, times, venues, agendas, notices, minutes, and assigned action points. As recommended, the Ministry is working to introduce a functionality in the Meeting Reporting Portal for sending automated messages and email reminders to districts regarding due or overdue meetings, and for facilitating the uploading of

Meeting Notices, Agendas, Proceedings of Meetings, and Action Taken Reports (ATRs) on the DISHA Portal.”

(O.M. No. H-11013/ 01/ 2017- DISHA (E-357375) dated 12.11.2025)

#### **Comments of the Committee**

(Please see Paragraph No. 1.8 of Chapter I of the Report)

#### **Recommendation (Serial No. 5)**

4.3 The Committee note that several DISHA sittings have been attended only by junior Sub-Divisional Officers, while the designated Heads of Department, Executive Engineers, Divisional Railway Managers, and equivalent officers have absented themselves. Such non-attendance nullifies the very purpose of the Committee, which is to secure on-the-spot decisions from officers empowered to act. The Committee, therefore, recommend that where any senior line-department officer fails to attend two consecutive DISHA meetings without written justification accepted by the Chairperson, the District Collector shall forthwith report the default to the cadre-controlling Ministry/ Department. The Ministry of Rural Development shall keep further scheme-related fund releases to that line department in temporary abeyance until the officer complies with the attendance requirement. The Committee feel that meetings can be a highly efficient and effective forum for robust discussion and debate, an opportunity for executives to align on future action, commit to it and hold one another accountable, therefore, all the meetings should be attended by the senior most officers of the concerned Departments.

#### **Reply of the Government**

4.4 The Ministry has been consistently working to ensure the timely convening of DISHA meetings with active participation from all stakeholders and senior-level officers for more effective outcomes. The Secretary, Rural Development, has requested all States/ UTs to take necessary action in this regard and to ensure the participation of concerned senior officers in DISHA meetings. Furthermore, the line Ministries and Departments have been advised to ensure the participation of officers at appropriate levels. (Annexure-IV).

(O.M. No. H-11013/ 01/ 2017- DISHA (E-357375) dated 12.11.2025)

#### **Comments of the Committee**

(Please see Paragraph No. 1.11 of Chapter I of the Report)

#### **Recommendation (Serial No. 6)**

4.5 The Committee observe that a number of States and Union Territories have neither issued the requisite notification constituting the State-level DISHA Committee nor convened even a single sitting since the issuance of guidelines. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Ministry of Rural Development serve a final notice to all defaulting States/ UTs, directing them to (i) notify the State-level DISHA Committee within one month of receipt of the notice, and (ii) schedule at least one meeting of the committee in each calendar quarter. The Ministry shall place before Parliament, as part of its quarterly compliance report, a statement Identifying the States/ UTs that remain in default after the expiry of one month, together with the remedial action initiated in each case.

#### **Reply of the Government**

4.6 As per available information, State Level DISHA Committees (SLDCs) have been constituted in 21 States. During the last one year, 7 States have conducted a total of 8 SLDC meetings. A total of 186 Hon'ble MPs has been nominated as members of their respective SLDCs by the Ministry, while 78 non-official members have been nominated based on the recommendations received from Hon'ble MPs. The Ministry has requested the State Governments to constitute SLDCs in States where they are yet to be formed and to convene the meetings at the earliest (**Annexure-II**).

(O.M. No. H-11013/ 01/ 2017- DISHA (E-357375) dated 12.11.2025)

#### **Comments of the Committee**

(Please see Paragraph No. 1.14 of Chapter I of the Report)

#### **Recommendation (Serial No. 8)**

4.7 The Committee note that several District Collectors are either unaware of, or unclear about, the 2 lakh per-meeting ceiling prescribed for DISHA sittings, with the result that meetings are postponed and essential field inspections omitted. The Committee, therefore, recommend that the Ministry of Rural Development issue an updated, comprehensive circular, copied to every Member of Parliament and every District Collector, clearly specifying that up to 2 lakhs may be drawn for each DISHA meeting, enumerating admissible heads of expenditure (venue and logistics, TA/ DA for members and officials, documentation, transport and site-inspection costs) and outlining a simplified, time-bound reimbursement procedure. The circular should further state that, where agenda load or on-site verification so requires, the meeting may extend over two or three consecutive days while remaining within the 2 lakh

per-meeting ceiling, where the agenda includes quarterly study visits, provision of additional budget may be made to meet the expenses. Timely advance release of funds and prompt settlement of claims should be ensured to prevent any delay or dilution of the review process.

### **Reply of the Government**

4.8 The Ministry has circulated the revised provisions of the DISHA Guidelines pertaining to the expenditure to be incurred for DISHA meetings. The State/ UT Governments have also been informed about the detailed provisions for reimbursement of meeting-related expenditure (**Annexure–III**). The Ministry is making concerted efforts to ensure the timely release of reimbursement claims upon receipt of the requisite proposals.

(O.M. No. H-11013/ 01/ 2017- DISHA (E-357375) dated 12.11.2025)

### **Comments of the Committee**

(Please see Paragraph No. 1.17 of Chapter I of the Report)

### **Recommendation (Serial No. 9)**

4.9 The committee note that as per DISHA guidelines the District Committee may be arranged on any day during third week of April, July, October and February with the permission of Chairperson. For organizing additional meetings, date and month of meetings to be notified with the consent/ directions of the Chairperson. Member Secretary should be personally responsible for convening meetings. Further, the total expenditure should not, however, exceed Rs.2,00,000/ - per meeting. The District Administration may incur expenditure on holding the meetings of DISHA adhering to the norms applicable. The Committee recommend that since expenditure is not limited for only one quarterly meetings, MoRD should encourage for increased frequency of DISHA meetings for better monitoring and mid-course corrections of schemes. This will allow early identification of implementation gaps and timely interventions helping reduce last minute spending pressures near year-end. The Committee, also recommend Ministry for suggesting SoPs for meetings to Member Secretary focusing on grouping of Departments based on similarity of schemes or Ministry-wise for effective outcome. Therefore, the funds should be critically reviewed from time to time and utilized fully and properly.

### **Reply of the Government**

4.10 Ministry consider DISHA District Committees as an important mechanism for ensuring effective governance and promoting the holistic development of districts. These meetings provide a platform to foster synergy in monitoring and ensuring the timely implementation of various programmes at the district level. These meetings also help identify challenges, address bottlenecks, and align district priorities with national development goals, thereby contributing to community upliftment and reduction of regional disparities.

Recognizing the critical importance of DISHA, the Ministry has been consistently working to ensure that these meetings are convened regularly, with active participation from all stakeholders and senior-level officers for more effective outcomes. The Secretary, Rural Development, has requested all States/ UTs to take necessary action in this regard and to ensure the participation of concerned senior officers in DISHA meetings. Further, the line Ministries and Departments have been advised to ensure the participation of officers at appropriate levels. The Hon'ble Minister of Rural Development has also requested Hon'ble MPs to convene DISHA meetings in a timely manner (Annexure-I). As per DISHA guidelines, District Level DISHA Committees are required to hold meetings at least once every quarter, with a minimum of four meetings annually. However, if Chairperson so desires, number of meetings to be convened can be more than four.

As per the DISHA Guidelines, each DISHA Committee is required to develop its own system for agenda setting for the quarterly meetings, in accordance with the specific requirements of the respective district. Action Taken on the recommendations of the previous meeting should be the first agenda item for the next meeting. The agenda should contain substantive issues to facilitate improvement in quality of implementation of the programmes.

(O.M. No. H-11013/ 01/ 2017- DISHA (E-357375) dated 12.11.2025)

#### **Comments of the Committee**

(Please see Paragraph No. 1.20 of Chapter I of the Report)

#### **Recommendation (Serial No. 10)**

4.11 The Committee note that senior officers of the concerned departments do not attend the meetings or nominate junior level officers who are ill-informed about the progress of schemes. The Committee strongly recommend that in order to achieve the purpose of DISHA Committees, MoRD may on regular basis communicate with Member Secretaries on the issues of non-attendance of senior officers, ill-preparedness for the meeting and ensure strict and timely follow up of the recommendations of the meeting. The Committee also recommend that, at the end of every quarter, the Ministry of Rural Development extract compliance data from the DISHA dashboard and issue a concise review letter to each District Collector,

itemising the number of meetings held, the punctuality of agenda circulation and ATR submission, and the attendance record of senior line-department officers; copies of this letter should be endorsed to the MP-Chairperson and the State Chief Secretary. Where the same deficiencies are recorded in two consecutive quarters, the Ministry should formally urge the State Government to initiate strict compliance in this regard as per guidelines

### **Reply of the Government**

4.12 Recognizing the critical importance of DISHA, the Ministry has been consistently working to ensure that these meetings are convened regularly, with active participation from all stakeholders and senior-level officers for more effective outcomes. The Secretary, Rural Development, has requested Chief Secretaries/ Advisors to Administrator/ LG of all the States/ UTs to ensure mandated District Level DISHA Committee meetings and participation of concerned senior officers of the States/ UTs in DISHA meetings (Annexure–III). Further, the line Ministries and Departments have also been advised to ensure the participation of officers at appropriate levels (Annexure–IV). The Hon’ble Minister of Rural Development has also requested Hon’ble MPs to convene DISHA meetings in a timely manner (Annexure–I). These communications are also available on DISHA Dashboard.

To support the operations of DISHA Committees and to facilitate structured and effective meetings, a tab titled the ‘Meeting Reporting Module’ (<https://erp.disha.gov.in>) has been embedded for State and District Level DISHA meetings. This includes features such as a Notice Board, Proceedings of Meetings (PoMs), Action Taken Reports (ATRs), reimbursement of expenditure for organizing meetings, and Meeting Summaries containing scheduled meeting dates, times, venues, agendas, notices, minutes, and assigned action points.

(O.M. No. H-11013/ 01/ 2017- DISHA (E-357375) dated 12.11.2025)

### **Comments of the Committee**

(Please see Paragraph No. 1.23 of Chapter I of the Report)

### **Recommendation (Serial No. 11)**

4.13 The Committee is of the view that reliance on file-based reporting may hide ground-level shortcomings and results into provide gloomy picture of the site. To ensure that physical realities match the figures presented, the Committee recommend that every district DISHA arrange at least one on-site review each year covering key assets, such as PMGSY roads, school buildings, Anganwadi centres and other Central-scheme works. The visiting team, led by the District Collector and

the MP-Chairperson, should capture geotagged photographs, record brief field notes and compile a single-page status report. These materials are to be uploaded on the DISHA portal within seven days of the visit and prominently flagged on the public dashboard, so that subsequent meetings, higher authorities, and citizens alike can track follow-up action.

### **Reply of the Government**

4.14 DISHA Committees have authority to look into complaints/ alleged irregularities received in respect of the implementation of the programmes, including complaints of wrong selection of beneficiaries, miss-appropriation/ diversion of funds and recommend follow-up action. The Committee have also authority to summon and inspect any record for this purpose. The Committee may refer any matter for enquiry to the District Collector/ CEO of the Zila Panchayat/ Project Director of DRDA (or Poverty Alleviation Unit) or suggest suitable action to be taken in accordance with the rules which should be action upon by him within 30 days.

All documents related to pre and post-meeting activities of DISHA Committee are uploaded on meeting reporting portal.

(O.M. No. H-11013/ 01/ 2017- DISHA (E-357375) dated 12.11.2025)

### **Comments of the Committee**

(Please see Paragraph No. 1.26 of Chapter I of the Report)

### **Recommendation (Serial No. 13)**

4.15 The Committee observe that many resolutions adopted in DISHA meetings, particularly those pertaining to augmentation of resources or inter-sectoral convergence, remain unimplemented because the requisite funding and planning approvals rest with the District Planning Committee (DPC). To close this coordination gap, the Committee recommend that the Ministry of Rural Development issue a directive empowering every District DISHA Committee to transmit its resolutions and recommendations, in writing and in the prescribed format, to the Chairperson of the DPC within seven days of the meeting. The DPC Chairperson shall examine the proposal and communicate an approval, modification or reasoned rejection within a maximum period of thirty days. The communication, together with any follow-up action, shall be uploaded on the DISHA portal and tagged to the relevant agenda

item so that progress can be transparently monitored at the next DISHA sitting as well as by the State-level DISHA Committee and the Ministry.

### **Reply of the Government**

4.16 The District Planning Committee (DPC) is a constitutional body established under Article 243ZD of the Indian Constitution to prepare district-level development plans. The Ministry of Panchayati Raj (MoPR) oversees and facilitates the functioning of these committees by issuing planning guidelines and supporting initiatives aimed at strengthening their role in decentralized planning. The terms of reference of the DISHA Committees, inter alia, include facilitating the smooth implementation of priorities determined by the District Planning Committees (DPCs) and guiding the DPCs on national programmes and how these can be leveraged for the overall development of the district. The proposal for issuing directives in consultation with MoPR is under consideration.”

(O.M. No. H-11013/ 01/ 2017- DISHA (E-357375) dated 12.11.2025)

### **Comments of the Committee**

(Please see Paragraph No. 1.29 of Chapter I of the Report)

### **Recommendation (Serial No. 14)**

4.17 The Committee is concerned to note that there are some instances of inaccurate or misleading progress reporting in certain departments. The Committee therefore recommend that, if a department submit erroneous data twice within the same district, the Ministry of Rural Development should require the District Collector to conduct a verification exercise, identify specific corrective measures, and certify their completion. Subsequent fund disbursements under the relevant scheme for that district shall be processed only after the Collector's certification has been placed on record in the minutes of the next DISHA meeting and uploaded to the portal for audit and oversight. The Ministry of RD should take all sincere and stern steps to check the recurrence of such cases.

### **Reply of the Government**

4.18 DISHA Committees have authority to look into complaints/ alleged irregularities received in respect of the implementation of the programmes, including complaints of wrong selection of beneficiaries, miss-appropriation/ diversion of funds and recommend follow-up action. The Committee have also authority to summon and inspect any record for this purpose. The Committee may refer any matter for enquiry to the District Collector/ CEO of the Zila Panchayat/ Project Director of DRDA (or Poverty Alleviation Unit) or suggest suitable action to be taken in accordance with the rules which should be action upon by him within 30 days. All documents related to pre and post-meeting activities of DISHA Committee are uploaded on meeting reporting portal.

The Ministry has also issued an advisory to the State/ UT Governments to ensure the accuracy and correctness of the data provided to the DISHA Committees (**Annexure-V**).

(O.M. No. H-11013/ 01/ 2017- DISHA (E-357375) dated 12.11.2025)

**Comments of the Committee**

(Please see Paragraph No. 1.32 of Chapter I of the Report)

**CHAPTER V**

**RECOMMENDATIONS IN RESPECT OF WHICH FINAL REPLIES OF  
THE GOVERNMENT ARE STILL AWAITED**

NIL

(O.M. No. H-11013/ 01/ 2017- DISHA (E-357375) dated 12.11.2025)

**NEW DELHI**  
**01 April, 2026**  
**11 Chaitra, 1948 (Saka)**

**Saptagiri Sankar Ulaka**  
**Chairperson**  
**Standing Committee on Rural Development and**  
**Panchayati Raj**

शिवराज सिंह चौहान  
SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN



सत्यमेव जयते

ग्रामीण विकास तथा  
कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री  
भारत सरकार  
कृषि भवन, नई दिल्ली  
MINISTER OF  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND  
AGRICULTURE & FARMERS WELFARE  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
KRISHI BHAWAN, NEW DELHI

D.O. No. H-11013/01/2017-disha (E- 357375)

Date: 6 November, 2025

Respected Madam/Sir,

As you are aware, the reconstitution of the District DISHA Committees has now marked the completion of one year. It gives me great pleasure to note that under the leadership of Hon'ble MPs, over 1,300 meetings have been conducted during this period.

2. DISHA Committees play a crucial role in promoting synergy among stakeholders and ensuring effective monitoring of Government welfare schemes. Regular convening of these meetings is essential to maintain the robustness of the monitoring framework envisaged under the DISHA Guidelines. Various Parliamentary Committees have also emphasized the importance of holding these meetings regularly. However, it has been observed that in some districts, no meeting has been held after reconstitution, which requires immediate attention.

3. I urge you to make necessary interventions to convene regular DISHA meetings in your district to facilitate improved monitoring, mid-course corrections, and optimal utilization of the allocated scheme budget. As per Guidelines, at least one meeting should be convened in every quarter of the year and additional meetings may be convened, if necessary, with the approval of Chairperson. The expenditure for these meetings is reimbursable within the ceiling of ₹2 lakh per meeting, as per Guidelines.

4. To facilitate the conduct of DISHA meetings, the Ministry has developed a **state-of-the-art Dashboard** and a **Meeting Reporting Portal**. For your reference, a copy of the User Manual for the DISHA Dashboard is enclosed. The mobile numbers of all MPs, as available on Sansad portal, have been registered on <https://disha.gov.in> to allow access to the Dashboard. However, very few MPs have accessed the Dashboard. Therefore, you are requested to make use of the Dashboard to view the progress of the schemes. For any assistance or technical support in this regard, you may contact the Helpdesk established in the Ministry for this purpose (details are enclosed). Further, I would like you to share your valuable suggestions at the feedback page of the Dashboard.

5. I hope to get your continued support in strengthening the DISHA monitoring system and for achieving the intended objective of DISHA Committees.

With regards,

Yours sincerely

  
(Shivraj Singh Chouhan)

- Encl: 1. DISHA Guidelines.  
2. Nomination Orders of Chairperson/Co-Chairperson/Special Invitee.  
3. DISHA Dashboard Kit.  
4. Helpdesk Details.

Hon'ble Members of Parliament (Lok Sabha)  
Hon'ble Members of Parliament (Rajya Sabha)  
(nominated as Chairperson/Co-Chairperson in District Level DISHA Committees)

शिवराज सिंह चौहान  
SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN



ग्रामीण विकास तथा  
कृषि एवं किसान कल्याण मंत्री  
भारत सरकार  
कृषि भवन, नई दिल्ली  
MINISTER OF  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND  
AGRICULTURE & FARMERS WELFARE  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
KRISHI BHAWAN, NEW DELHI

अ.शा.पत्र सं. एच-11013/01/2017-दिशा (ई-357375)

दिनांक : 6 नवम्बर, 2025

आदरणीय महोदया/ महोदय,

मुझे यह बताते हुए हर्ष हो रहा है कि जिला स्तरीय दिशा समितियों का पुनर्गठन अब एक वर्ष पूर्ण कर चुका है। इस अवधि में, आपके दूरदर्शी नेतृत्व एवं सक्रिय प्रयासों के तहत 1,200 से अधिक बैठकें सफलतापूर्वक आयोजित की गई हैं, जो हितधारकों के बीच समन्वय और सरकारी कल्याणकारी योजनाओं की प्रभावी निगरानी में महत्वपूर्ण योगदान देती हैं।

2. दिशा समितियों हितधारकों के बीच समन्वय स्थापित करने और सरकारी कल्याणकारी योजनाओं की प्रभावी निगरानी सुनिश्चित करने में एक अहम भूमिका निभाती हैं। इन बैठकों का नियमित आयोजन दिशा मार्गदर्शिका के तहत निगरानी तंत्र की मजबूती बनाए रखने के लिए अनिवार्य है। विभिन्न संसदीय समितियों ने भी इन बैठकों को नियमित रूप से आयोजित करने के महत्व पर जोर दिया है। हालांकि, कुछ जिलों में पुनर्गठन के बाद बैठक आयोजित नहीं हुई है, जिसपर तत्काल ध्यान देने की आवश्यकता है।

3. मैं आपसे आग्रह करता हूँ कि योजनाओं की बेहतर निगरानी, उनमें मध्यावधि सुधार और आवंटित योजना बजट के इष्टतम उपयोग के लिए अपने जिले में नियमित दिशा बैठकें आयोजित करने हेतु आवश्यक हस्तक्षेप करें। दिशा मार्गदर्शिका के अनुसार, वर्ष की प्रत्येक तिमाही में कम से कम एक बैठक आयोजित की जानी चाहिए और यदि आवश्यक हो, तो अध्यक्ष के अनुमोदन से अतिरिक्त बैठकें आयोजित की जा सकती हैं। इन बैठकों का व्यय ₹2 लाख प्रति बैठक की सीमा के भीतर, नियमानुसार, प्रतिपूर्ति योग्य है।

4. दिशा बैठकों के सुचारू संचालन के लिए मंत्रालय ने 'अत्याधुनिक डैशबोर्ड' और 'मीटिंग रिपोर्टिंग पोर्टल' विकसित किया है। आपकी सुविधा के लिए डैशबोर्ड गाइड की प्रति संलग्न है। दिशा डैशबोर्ड उपयोग करने हेतु, संसद पोर्टल पर उपलब्ध सभी सांसदों के मोबाइल नंबर <https://disha.gov.in> पर पंजीकृत कर दिए गए हैं। हालाँकि, बहुत कम सांसदों ने डैशबोर्ड का उपयोग किया है। इसलिए आपसे अनुरोध है कि योजनाओं की प्रगति देखने के लिए डैशबोर्ड का उपयोग करें। किसी भी तकनीकी सहायता के लिए, आप इस मंत्रालय में स्थापित हेल्पडेस्क से संपर्क कर सकते हैं। इसके अलावा, मैं चाहूँगा कि आप डैशबोर्ड के फीडबैक पृष्ठ पर अपने बहुमूल्य सुझाव साझा करें।

5. मुझे विश्वास है कि आप दिशा निगरानी तंत्र को सुदृढ़ बनाने और दिशा समितियों के उद्देश्य की पूर्ति में निरंतर सहयोग प्रदान करते रहेंगे।

सादर,

भवदीय,

  
(शिवराज सिंह चौहान)

- संलग्न: 1. दिशा दिशानिर्देश।  
2. अध्यक्ष/सह-अध्यक्ष/विशेष आमंत्रित व्यक्ति के नामांकन आदेश।  
3. दिशा डैशबोर्ड किट।  
4. हेल्पडेस्क विवरण।

माननीय सांसद (लोक सभा)  
माननीय सांसद (राज्यसभा)  
(जिला स्तरीय दिशा समितियों में अध्यक्ष/सह-अध्यक्ष के रूप में नामित)

शैलेश कुमार सिंह, आई.ए.एस.  
सचिव  
SHAILESH KUMAR SINGH IAS  
Secretary



भारत सरकार  
ग्रामीण विकास मंत्रालय  
ग्रामीण विकास विभाग  
कर्त्तव्य भवन-3, नई दिल्ली-110001  
Government of India  
Ministry of Rural Development  
Department of Rural Development  
Kartvya Bhavan-3, New Delhi-110001  
Tel.: 91-11-24011801, 24011802  
E-mail: secyrd@gov.in

DO# H-11013/01/2017-disha (e.357375)

October 13, 2025

*Dear Colleague,*

As you are aware, the District level DISHA Committees have been re-constituted in all the districts across India by the Ministry of Rural Development in August 2024. These Committees play a crucial role in monitoring the implementation of non-statutory schemes in accordance with the prescribed procedures and guidelines. At next step State Level DISHA Committees (SLDC) are envisaged with objective of reviewing the implementation status in respect of decisions taken in the District Level DISHA committee, ensuring quality of expenditure and facilitate resolution of issues of important and emergent nature remaining unattended for need of attention and coordination at the apex level as per Terms of Reference of the SLDC. Hon'ble Chief Minister of the State/UT with legislature chairs the SLDC and the Secretary, Rural Development Department of State Government serves as the Member Secretary. Meetings of the State Level DISHA Committee are to be held at least once in every six months, after giving prior notice to the Hon'ble MPs/MLAs and all other Members.

2. It has been observed that only Karnataka, Kerala, Mizoram, Tamil Nadu, and Uttarakhand have convened SLDC meetings during the first half of the current financial year. Despite repeated advisories, most States/UTs have not met the mandated number of meetings, and 15 States have yet to constitute their SLDCs (**details enclosed**). Parliamentary Committees have also expressed serious concern regarding this delay. It is, therefore, imperative that SLDCs be constituted immediately in States where they are not yet formed, and meetings be held regularly. The Member Secretary shall assist the SLDC in identifying issues requiring follow-up with the concerned Central agencies for effective implementation of Central Sector Schemes.

3. Ministry of Rural Development has made nomination of Hon'ble MPs (Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha) for SLDCs. The non-official members also nominated on the recommendations of Hon'ble MPs as per guidelines. However, the meetings can be convened in consultation with the Chairman of the DISHA committee even in the cases where the process of the nomination of the members has been completed only partially. Further, a state-of-art DISHA Dashboard (<https://disha.gov.in>) developed to empower these committees, where progress of 99 schemes of 36 Ministries/Departments are available. State/Districts are also facilitated with a DISHA meeting reporting portal where meetings related documents are uploaded.

contd...

-2-

4. I would, therefore, request your kind intervention in taking effective action for formation of DISHA Committee at State Level and ensuring mandated DISHA Committee meetings in your State/UT and action thereon. I am sure your support in the matter will help in achieving the intended objectives of DISHA Committees.

*With regards,*

Yours sincerely,

*SKS*  
13/10/21  
(Shailesh Kumar Singh)

encl: as above

The Chief Secretaries/Advisors to Administrators/LGs of all States/UTs

शैलेश कुमार सिंह, आई.ए.एस.  
सचिव  
SHAILESH KUMAR SINGH IAS  
Secretary



भारत सरकार  
ग्रामीण विकास मंत्रालय  
ग्रामीण विकास विभाग  
कर्त्तव्य भवन-3, नई दिल्ली-110001  
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DO# H-11013/01/2017-disha (e.357375)

October 13, 2025

*Dear Colleague,*

As you are aware, the District level DISHA Committees have been re-constituted in all the districts across India by the Ministry of Rural Development in August 2024. These committees serve as a vital platform to ensure that major Central Government schemes are implemented efficiently and in alignment with local development needs in accordance with the prescribed procedures and guidelines. However, despite several advisories for regular convening of District Level DISHA meetings from time to time, most of the States/UTs are yet to achieve the mandated number of meetings. **The status of DISHA meetings at the District level since F.Y. 2024-25 is enclosed for reference.**


2. DISHA Committees have been formulated for extending Parliamentary oversight over implementation of schemes and non-convening of DISHA meetings would be viewed adversely as it is tantamount to a weakening of the monitoring framework envisaged therein. Various Committees of Parliament have also raised serious concerns in this regard. It is, therefore, of utmost importance that the meetings of District level DISHA Committees are held regularly and prompt action taken on the issues raised in such meetings.

3. I would, therefore, request your kind intervention in taking effective action for ensuring mandated District Level DISHA Committee meetings in your State/UT and action thereon. Further, in order to ensure the effective functioning of District Level DISHA Committees, the participation of senior level officers (Heads of the Departments of the concerned scheme) from the State Government in the DISHA committee meeting may be ensured. Additionally, requisite details of the DISHA committees such as Meeting Notice, Agenda points (including ATR, physical & financial progress, bottlenecks encountered, support or clearances required), Proceedings of the Meeting & ATR also need to be uploaded timely on the DISHA meetings portal i.e. <https://erp.disha.gov.in>.

4. I am sure your support in the matter will help in achieving the intended objectives of DISHA Committees.

*With regards,*

Yours sincerely,

  
(Shailesh Kumar Singh)

encls: as above

The Chief Secretaries/Advisors to Administrators & LGs of States/UTs

## Annexure IV

शैलेश कुमार सिंह, आई.ए.एस.  
सचिव  
SHAILESH KUMAR SINGH IAS  
Secretary



भारत सरकार  
ग्रामीण विकास मंत्रालय  
ग्रामीण विकास विभाग  
कर्त्तव्य भवन-3, नई दिल्ली-110001  
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Tel.: 91-11-24011801, 24011802  
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DO# H-11013/01/2017-disha (e.357375)

October 13, 2025

*Dear Colleague,*

As you are aware, the District level DISHA Committees have been re-constituted in all the districts across India by the Ministry of Rural Development in August 2024. These committees serve as a vital platform to ensure that major Central Government schemes are implemented efficiently and in alignment with local development needs in accordance with the prescribed procedures and guidelines.

2. As per DISHA Guidelines, the District level nodal functionaries of all Programmes (under the purview of DISHA) are the Ex-Officio member of DISHA Committee. The Standing Committee on Rural Development and Panchayati Raj has observed that several DISHA meetings are attended only by junior Sub-Divisional Officers, while the designated Heads of Department, Executive Engineers, Divisional Railway Managers, and equivalent officers often remain absent. Such non-attendance defeats the very purpose of the Committee, which is to facilitate on-the-spot decisions by officers empowered to act.

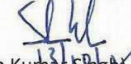
3. The Standing Committee on Rural Development, therefore, recommended that where any senior line-department officer fails to attend two consecutive DISHA meetings without written justification accepted by the Chairperson, the District Collector shall forthwith report the default to the cadre-controlling Ministry/Department.

4. Since the scheme(s) of your Ministry/Department are under the purview of DISHA monitoring mechanism, it is requested to issue necessary directions to the concerned nodal officers of the scheme(s) in the State Governments for active participation of appropriate level senior officers in District Level DISHA Committee meetings.

5. Your support in this regard will greatly contribute to achieving the intended objectives of the DISHA Committees.

*With regards,*

Yours sincerely,

  
(Shailesh Kumar Singh)

**The Secretaries to the Government of India (as per list attached)**

**List of the Secretaries to the Government of India: -**

1. The Secretary, Ministry of Road Transport and Highways
2. The Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change
3. The Secretary, Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways
4. Chairman, Railway Board, Ministry of Railways.

**No. H-11013/01/2017-disha (E-357375)**

Government of India  
Ministry of Rural Development  
Department of Rural Development  
(DISHA Division)

Core 5-A, Second Floor,  
India Habitat Centre, Lodhi Road,  
New Delhi-110003

Dated: 15<sup>th</sup> October, 2025

To

- i. **The Chief Secretaries/ Advisor to Administrator of all State Governments/UT Administrations and**
- ii. **Member Secretaries to State & District DISHA Committee.**

**Subject: Advisory regarding submission of progress report to DISHA Committees by concerned Departments – reg.**

As per DISHA guidelines, DISHA committee will have to evolve its own system of agenda setting for the quarterly meetings. In the Agenda items, the Action Taken on the recommendations of the previous meeting should be the first agenda item for the next meeting. The 'Action taken Report' of the irregularities flagged during the previous meeting should form an integral part of the agenda during review meetings with the States/districts. The agenda should contain substantive issues to facilitate improvement in quality of implementation of the programmes. In this regard, the Officer's in-charge of the line departments executing the programmes that are being reviewed by District Level DISHA Committee should assist the Committee in the discharge of its functions.

2. In this regard, instances have come to the notice of this Ministry wherein inaccurate or misleading progress reports have been provided during the meetings of District level DISHA Committees. Therefore, it is advised that the Officer's in-charge of the line departments executing the programmes should provide correct and updated progress report to the DISHA Committees which reflect the true status and situation of scheme/programme. This progress report shall be uploaded on the DISHA meeting reporting portal at least 10 days before each meeting, allowing members to analyze the information quickly and take informed decisions during the meetings.

3. It is kindly requested to look into the matter and issue necessary directions to the concerned officers' in charge of the line Departments to avoid such instances of inaccurate/misleading reports to the DISHA Committees.

Yours sincerely,

*K. Mishra*

(Kalyani Mishra)  
Economic Advisor

## ANNEXURE VI

[Vide para 4 of Introduction of Report]

### ANALYSIS OF THE ACTION TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED IN THE TWENTIETH REPORT (18<sup>TH</sup> LOK SABHA) OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND PANCHAYATI RAJ

- |      |  |                              |
|------|--|------------------------------|
| I.   | Total number of recommendations:   | 14                           |
| II.  | Observations/ Recommendations which have been accepted by the Government:<br><br>Serial Nos. 1,2,4, 7, 12  | Total:5<br>Percentage: 36%   |
| III. | Observations/ Recommendations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of replies of the Government:<br><br>Serial No. NIL                                | Total: NIL<br>Percentage: 0% |
| IV.  | Observations/ Recommendations in respect of which replies of the Government have not been accepted by the Committee:<br><br>Serial No. 3,5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13 & 14 | Total: 9<br>Percentage: 64%  |
| V.   | Observations/ Recommendations in respect of which final replies of the Government are still awaited:<br><br>Serial No. NIL   | Total: NIL<br>Percentage: 0% |