

22<sup>nd</sup> October 2013

**Veena Upadhyaya**  
**IAS (retd.), former Secretary, GoI**  
**Expert, National Innovation Council**  
[upadhyaya.veena@gmail.com](mailto:upadhyaya.veena@gmail.com)  
Office: 011-23063518  
Mob: 099990-85586

Dear

Kindly refer to my earlier D.O. letter dated 29<sup>th</sup> May, 2013 requesting you to constitute the State Innovation Councils in States where they were yet to be formed, and to accelerate their activities. We have also had very useful interactive meetings chaired by the Chief Secretaries in a number of States namely, J&K, NCT of Delhi, and U.P. (Northern Region); Goa, Gujarat, Maharashtra and Rajasthan (Western Region); Assam, Bihar, and Odisha (Eastern Region); and Andhra Pradesh, and Karnataka thereafter from June, 2013 till date. I thank you for sparing your valuable time for the deliberations. We are scheduled to have four more such interactions in the UT of Chandigarh, H.P., Tamil Nadu and Sikkim during the course of this month. In all 28 States and Union Territories have constituted the State/UT Innovation Councils, and the proposal to form them is at an advanced stage in the remaining ones.

1.1 The State Governments have minuted the deliberations, and have in most cases delineated the Action Points already. We in the National Innovation Council have also recorded the Summary of these Discussions, and e-mailed them to your good-self and to the Principal Secretary/Secretary of the nodal Dept. or the nodal Dept. designate i.e the Department that anchors the SInC. **One of the important decisions taken in these meetings, and as encapsulated in the Minutes or Discussion Summaries has been to formulate the Innovation Action Plan for the XII Five Year Plan in the first phase by January, 2014.**

2. It will be appropriate to draw your kind attention to the Planning Commission's articulation on the role of innovation in the Twelfth Plan document:

*'Innovation can play a very important role in the development discourse, because it can offer a new approach to a system that is currently over-burdened by the multiple demands and has limited resources at its disposal. Enhanced focus on innovation can have an impact much beyond the realm of S&T in diverse areas such as health and education delivery, governance, enterprise development and much more. Collectively, this can herald a generational change in the country and can lay out a chart for a more sustainable and inclusive growth paradigm.'*

2.1 With the initial and macro level stimulus emanating from the National Innovation Council, and coming into being of the District Innovation Fund at the national level following the recommendation of the Thirteenth Finance Commission, the creation and activation of

the SInCs and UTInCs emerge as logical corollaries to complete the chain for driving the innovation agenda across the country.

3. During the course of deliberations with the various stakeholders in the States and Union Territories, there has been a broad agreement on some of the areas meriting focus in the IAPs/Roadmaps for the XII Five year Plan. Additionally each State will have its own areas of concern which may span a spectrum of diverse areas like agriculture; rural development; urban governance covering fields of transport, waste management, and pollution control and conservation of water bodies; and public distribution systems. The details of the broad areas, and the specific areas within them, which may merit State-level fiscal and non-fiscal support, have received detailed articulation in the Meetings of the SInCs, and have received wide acceptance. For the benefit of States and UTs where SInC/SInC-related Meetings have not been held in the recent months, kind attention is drawn to the **Appendix I** with my earlier letter dated 29<sup>th</sup> May, 2013 captioned '**Basket of Ideas on Innovation-driven Initiatives**'. **A copy of the same is re-enclosed.** The SInCs/UTInCs may form sectoral sub-committees for in-depth application of mind to the devising of innovative approaches for resolution of critical areas of governance. The national canvas may be scanned for access to expertise in the identified areas in these sub-committees. **The deadline for submission of the said IAPs may kindly be regarded as 10<sup>th</sup> January, 2014.** As per the assigned mandate of the National Innovation Council, it is expected to submit the Innovation Action Plans of the States and Union Territories to the Hon'ble Prime Minister during February, 2014. You are welcome to get back to us in the event of any advice or suggestions needed from our end.

4. I will be grateful for kind personal attention to the stated task at hand, and for ensuring that the designated Department /Organisation accomplishes the exercise , keeping the above-said deadline in view.

Yours sincerely,

-sd-

(Veena Upadhyaya)

Enclosure: one

To All,

Chairpersons of the State/ UT Innovation Councils

Dear

A copy of the letter is endorsed with the request for your kind personal attention and for completion of the requested task by the indicated deadline.

Encl: one

To All,

Member Secretaries of the State/ UT Innovation Councils

Yours sincerely,

-sd-

(Veena Upadhyaya)