To
The Chief Secretaries
All States and Union Territories

Subject: Request for Support for Operations of Prasar Bharati (India’s Public Service Broadcaster)- AIR & Doordarshan during lockout period to contain spread of COVID-19- reg

Dear Sir/ Madam,

Please refer to my letter of even number dated 24.03.2020 requesting Chief Secretaries for necessary support for operations of various establishments of Prasar Bharati (AIR & Doordarshan) spread across States and Union Territories. I am thankful for the support and we are able to perform the statutory mandated function of informing and entertaining the public during this critical period due to outbreak of COVID-19.

2. As you are aware, as Public Broadcaster, Prasar Bharati has to play a lead role to ensure that the public is getting right information about the steps being taken by the Centre as well as State Government to contain the menace of COVID-19, to check spread of any fake news etc. The officers/staff working in various field units of Prasar Bharati are putting extra efforts to ensure aforesaid organizational endeavour. At the same time, organization has responsibility to ensure safety & security of the officers/staff working tirelessly during this period.

3. During the various reviews with different establishments, it has come to my notice that our field offices are finding it difficult to meet minimum safety & security requirements like thermal scanners, sanitizers, masks etc. This is putting them at more risk while performing their duties including field visits.

4. In view of above, I would like to request you to advise the respective State/District Administrations to support our field establishments in arranging their safety and security requirements as mentioned above. I am also advising my Field Units to be in touch with the local administration for getting necessary support ensure un-interrupted Broadcast Services.

With regards

Yours Sincerely

(Shashi Shekhar Vempati)

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Secretary, Ministry of I&B
All Units of Prasar Bharati on eOffice