



भारतीय कृषि अनुसंधान परिषद

Indian Council of Agricultural Research
कृषि भवन, डॉ. राजेंद्र प्रसाद रोड, नई दिल्ली - 110001

Krishi Bhawan, Dr. Rajendra Prasad Road, New Delhi – 110 001

DR K.P. Singh

Assistant Director General (ICT)

F. No. 5(3)/2024-ICT Unit (eFile: 132142)

Dated the 2nd September, 2026

To,

All Directors / Heads of ICAR Institutes / Units, All Heads of Divisions / Sections, ICAR Hqrs.

Subject: Encouragement of Use of Domestic Digital, AI and Messaging Platforms in ICAR – reg.

Sir / Madam,

A D.O. letter dated 29th July, 2026 (copy enclosed) has been received from the Cabinet Secretary, Government of India, conveying the action points that emerged from the Prime Minister's interaction with Secretaries to the Government of India held on 22nd July, 2026.

One of the key action points from the Prime Minister's interaction is mentioned below:

"Ministries/Departments should encourage use of domestic digital, AI and messaging platforms like Zoho, Sarvam, Arattai etc. to ensure safety of our data."

In line with the above direction, the Prime Minister has emphasised that all Government offices should move towards domestically developed digital platforms in place of foreign platforms to ensure the safety, security, and sovereignty of Government data. The following Indian platforms are recommended.

- i) **Zoho** — A comprehensive Indian business software suite offering email, collaboration, project management, HR, CRM, and productivity tools as a secure and cost-effective alternative to foreign platforms such as Microsoft 365 and Google Workspace. It is developed and hosted in India, ensuring that data stays within Indian jurisdiction.
- ii) **Sarvam AI** — An Indian Artificial Intelligence platform offering multilingual Large Language Models (LLMs) built specifically for Indian languages and use cases. It is developed as a domestic alternative to foreign AI tools like ChatGPT and suitable for data analysis.
- iii) **Arattai** — An Indian secure messaging and team collaboration platform developed as a safe alternative to foreign messaging applications like WhatsApp and Microsoft Teams and can be used for communication to prevent data leakage.

All Directors / Heads of ICAR Institutes and Divisional Heads at ICAR Hqrs. are requested to Encourage their employees to use domestically developed platforms wherever feasible in place of foreign platforms.

With regards,

(KP Singh)



D.O. No. 1/28/2/2026-Cab.

Dated the 29th July, 2026

Dear Secretary,

This has reference to Prime Minister's interaction with Secretaries to Government of India on 22nd July, 2026.

2. The following action points emerged from the discussion:

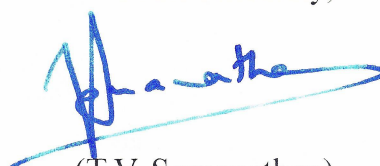
- i. Viksit Bharat @ 2047 should be the goal of a common man and not of the Government alone. This should be pursued through two methods, firstly, by transforming it into a mass movement as was done during the freedom struggle by Gandhiji; Secondly, by building a youth movement through programmes in universities and colleges.
- ii. My Bharat campaign/ portal may be utilised to fight the menace of drug addiction among youth and to develop a motivational system to save youth from drug addiction.
- iii. Those who will participate in the 2036 Olympics are at present in the age group of 5-10 years and are in schools. Schools and colleges and even younger children should be encouraged to showcase their achievements in various competitions/events of sports at various levels.
- iv. Whole of Government approach is to be adopted for promoting sports culture in the country; Ministries of Sports and Tourism may work together for development of Sports tourism in the country; MSME, D/o Information Technology, Startups may also contribute in developing and promoting sports in country.
- v. Sports/competitions at workplaces may be conducted by Ministries/ Departments/ Organisations, which will also promote team building.
- vi. Opportunity to develop skills at school level may be provided by integrating skilling courses with the course curriculum at school level.
- vii. The syllabus in Agriculture Universities in different part of the country is to be examined to ascertain whether it is in accordance with requirements of the agro-climatic zone of the region or a general/ common syllabus is being followed.

- viii. Ministries/Departments should encourage use of domestic digital, AI and messaging platforms like Zoho, Sarvam, Arattai etc. to ensure safety of our data.
- ix. Senior citizens may be engaged in mentorships in ITIs by paying honorarium, similar to the approach of professor of practices in NEP. Similarly, it may also be explored whether final year engineering students can volunteer for 2-3 months on honorarium basis in ITIs for sharing advance technical knowledge. Syllabus of ITIs also to be reviewed.
- x. Expansion of irrigation facilities with certain conditions (e.g. excluding water-intensive crops) may be explored for crop diversification.
- xi. Students in Agriculture Universities should be trained and engaged in related schemes such as installing solar panels on boundaries of fields for additional assured revenue for farmers.
- xii. Officers should be trained in preparing tendering documents, drafting of legislation, managing dispute mechanisms and other specialised skills by Ministries/ Departments instead of hiring consultants from various Consulting Agencies in Central Government. Courses on iGOT platform also contain theoretical basic knowledge which can be utilized for capacity enhancement.
- xiii. The terminology of “expenditure” may not correctly capture the intent when assets are created. This needs consideration.
- xiv. There is a need for process reforms and deregulation in pharmaceuticals sector keeping the dynamic scientific environment in view, to promote ease of doing business in this sector.
- xv. A model may be prepared for increasing employability, and up skilling opportunities for ITI students. Methods for giving degrees to those getting diplomas in ITI may be explored.
- xvi. Global mapping of demand of skilled human resource in various sectors is to be done and accordingly skill training to be imparted to meet the global demand e.g. linking North Eastern States to Japan. In addition, training on soft skills and digital technology etc. is also to be emphasised to get employment opportunities in other countries.

- xvii. Emphasis should be placed on developing more construction companies capable of executing complex projects and in developing capacity to manufacture heavy and complex machinery and equipment in the country.
 - xviii. Industry-academia collaboration should be strengthened. Existing processes, syllabus and courses in universities/colleges may be modified constantly as per technological changes and requirements of the industry.
 - xix. Gaps need to be identified in rules, regulations, processes and systems for futures requirements and accordingly reforms need to be undertaken.
 - xx. Continuous capacity building and up skilling of human resource in government is necessary to meet the future demands and objectives of Viksit Bharat.
 - xxi. Initial discussion amongst stakeholder Ministries/ Departments before a Cabinet proposal is finalised should be encouraged to avoid delays at later stages and for seamless implementation.
 - xxii. Planning should be done to engage senior citizens in various mentorship programmes and initiatives of government, particularly in the era when country will demographically have more aging population in future.
 - xxiii. Secretaries should function as leaders of public interest, not followers of departmental interest. They should take initiative on cross-cutting matters like Swachhata, Swadeshi, Deregulation, Decriminalization etc. They should act in collective interest of “whole of government” as if there are no departmental boundaries, rather than “defend” narrow departmental interests.
3. I request you to initiate action on the aforesaid action points.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,


(T.V. Somanathan)

Secretaries to the Government of India
(Rural, Agriculture, Social & Welfare sector)
(As per list attached)