

**Head Office**

Sane Guruji Premises, Block No. 6, 1st Floor, 386, Veer Savarkar Marg, Opp. Siddhivinayak Mandir,  
Prabhadevi, Mumbai - 400 025, India. Phone : 91-22-43434545 / 43434535. Email: [ho@ida.org.in](mailto:ho@ida.org.in), Website: [www.ida.org.in](http://www.ida.org.in)

*Committed to Dental Excellence*

14 June, 2016

Shri J.P. Nadda  
Hon'ble Minister of Health and Family Welfare  
Ministry of Health and Family Welfare  
Government of India, Nirman Bhawan  
New Delhi 110001  
Respected Sir,

Subject: "Digital Health through Digital India": Linking e-health with Online Registration System  
Developed by IDA

Let me at the outset thank you for sparing your valuable time to receive me and my colleagues, Dr Rajiv Chugh and Dr Vineeta Chugh, when we called on you on 11<sup>th</sup> June, and the courtesies extended to us. As indicated during our discussions, the services of the Indian Dental Association could be utilised by the Government of India, particularly linking the online registration system for dental professionals developed by IDA to ensure effective deployment of personnel to improve the oral health condition in the country.

The Indian Dental Association (IDA) is the largest recognized body of dental professionals in India. IDA has a national presence and works through its 29 state and over 400 local branches spread across the country to promote oral health. Through education, communication, training, research and many other activities, IDA endeavours to achieve its mission of optimal oral health for all.

Since its inception, IDA has been engaged in undertaking projects and programmes aimed at promoting not only dental health and hygiene amongst the people but also the overall development of dental science in the country.

You will be happy to know that IDA has been devising various measures with a view to enhancing the understanding of successful approaches towards developing, nurturing and managing resource personnel in the dental health sector. Towards this end, IDA conducted in September 2005, under the aegis of the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, a National Workshop of Presidents and Secretaries of the State Dental Councils supported by the Speciality Dental Associations, Armed Forces Dental Wing, the World Health Organization and dental trade and industry. The singular objective was that of developing a proper database of dental personnel resources in the country for effective deployment.

As a sequel to the recommendations of the National Workshop and the support provided by the Ministry, a web-based software system was developed with a view to developing and managing the resource personnel in the dental healthcare sector. Later, following effective interaction with the stakeholders involved at a Workshop held in February 2013, chaired by the Joint Secretary, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, this web based application system with all the features essential for its management was accepted and the Dental Council of India was requested to implement the system by the State Dental Councils.

The software developed by IDA streamlines the entire online registration and deployment process. So far, seven State Dental Councils, i.e., Maharashtra, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Chandigarh, Madhya Pradesh, Haryana and Kerala have launched their websites with the assistance of IDA.

IDA has been pursuing with the Dental Council of India in this regard to ensure that all the SDCs adopted the system to ensure a uniform pattern of registration and use of data for proper deployment of dental personnel and formulation of effective oral health policy in the country. The *Dental Council of India and its affiliates at the States will be able to suitably plan management of resources* to avoid skewed distribution and make effective and efficient use of dental health personnel resources. All these would be possible at the click of a button once the project is implemented throughout the country.

## Committed to Dental Excellence

The system attempts to develop a uniform pattern in the functioning of State Dental Councils across the country to facilitate smooth monitoring by the DCI. All stakeholders have ready access to centralised data system. The benefits of such a system in respect of each stakeholder would be as under:

### Benefits to Government of India

- Application of uniform pattern of registration/renewal of dentists in all states
- The system can help integration of oral healthcare services in the existing health infrastructure
- Easy monitoring by Health Ministry and planning of oral health policy by the Health Ministry
- Instant Data Analysis
- Accessibility to authentic Data at a point of time
- Analysis / Comparison in relation to population
- Presentation and sharing of data Nationally / Internationally
- No need to communicate and request for data
- No manpower required to make any presentation or paper work
- Possible to assess by the Ministry of Health of the dental personnel resources available in the country, their distribution and placement, their adequacy or otherwise
- Assessment of shortages of dental health personnel, especially in critical areas like specialist dentists
- Improved oral health policy making and programme designing
- Maintenance of quality of human resources for dental health and develop ancillary personnel like health hygienists, and other support staff.
- Capable of understanding distribution of dentist at each location, age/gender wise
- The system can help integration of oral healthcare services in the existing health infrastructure

### Benefits to State Governments

- Access to instant statistics on dental professionals
- Identify unqualified practices
- Assess list of locations/areas where there are less dentists and correct disparities
- No skilled staff /technical staff required to manage system
- Less manpower or existing staff is sufficient

### Benefits to Dental Council of India

- Access information on Number of Dentists / Dental Specialists/ Dental Mechanics / Hygienists Registered at each State Dental Council
- Access Data on Office Bearers of SDCs
- Communicate any information / permissions
- Online management of complete data
- No need to communicate or get data manually
- Post all information on Online system
- No Need to Maintain record on Paper
- Regulation of National / State health policies
- CDE accreditation and dental practice accreditation
- Helps regulation of national/state policies
- Yearly analysis of growth in dental profession

### Benefits to State Dental Councils

- Uniform pattern of online registration/renewal of dental surgeons and information updating
- Easy maintenance of data electronically
- Classification according to Speciality, state-wise, district-wise,

**Head Office**

Sane Guruji Premises, Block No. 6, 1st Floor, 386, Veer Savarkar Marg, Opp. Siddhivinayak Mandir,  
Prabhadevi, Mumbai - 400 025, India. Phone : 91-22-43434545 / 43434535. Email: [ho@ida.org.in](mailto:ho@ida.org.in), Website: [www.ida.org.in](http://www.ida.org.in)

*Committed to Dental Excellence*

- Image / data files stored electronically and easy transferability
- Easy retrieval of data – no loss of files
- More speed – saves time & energy, less paper work
- Computerized – require less storage space
- CDE accreditation and dental practice accreditation
- Facilitates structured continuous training programmes to keep pace with changing technology and changing disease patterns
- Accounting as per Dentists Act
- Facilitates planning, efficient use and management of dental health personnel

*Advancements in mobile communication, telemedicine and e-health are increasingly connecting more people with the healthcare services they need by interacting with patients and providers alike. Technology is already impacting healthcare in a positive way, but it is fragmented and disconnected. So, how are the dots being connected to create a closed-loop system to help profoundly transform the healthcare?*

*These are days of digital health promotion. Huge health infrastructure is needed by the government to lend accessibility to healthcare. The Primary Health Centres and their sub-centres are the health infrastructure in the rural areas with minimum complement of healthcare providers. The government can make use of the software system developed for planning of deployment of dental personnel resources resulting in equitable distribution of dental resources manpower for policy planning.*

The system developed by the Indian Dental Association provides instant connectivity to seek information on the authentic data on dental personnel resources available in the country at a point of time. This information can be accessed by the Government of India, state-wise, gender-wise, region-wise and speciality-wise depending on the need for formulation of oral health policies and their regulation by the Ministry of Health.

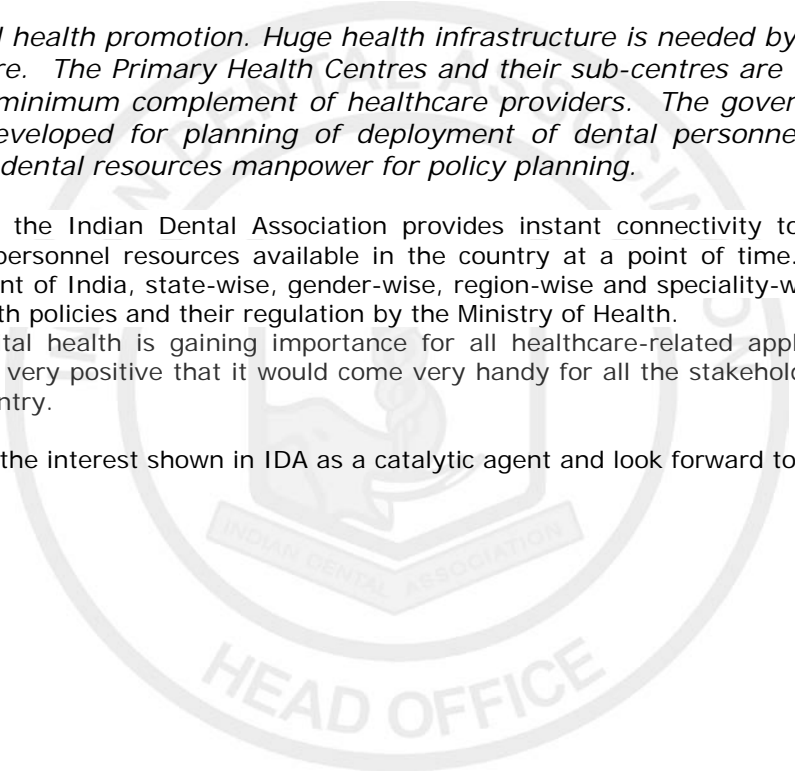
These are days when digital health is gaining importance for all healthcare-related applications, technologies and delivery systems and I am very positive that it would come very handy for all the stakeholders committed to improve the health index of the country.

I once again thank you for the interest shown in IDA as a catalytic agent and look forward to your valuable support.

Yours respectfully



Dr Ashok Dhoble  
Hon Secretary General



**Head Office**

Sane Guruji Premises, Block No. 6, 1st Floor, 386, Veer Savarkar Marg, Opp. Siddhivinayak Mandir,  
Prabhadevi, Mumbai - 400 025, India. Phone : 91-22-43434545 / 43434535. Email: [ho@ida.org.in](mailto:ho@ida.org.in), Website: [www.ida.org.in](http://www.ida.org.in)

*Committed to Dental Excellence*



**President Elect**  
Dr. VishwasPuranik

**Vice Presidents**  
Dr. Pradeep Sharma  
Dr. Nitin Barve

**Hon. Treasurer**  
Dr. Deepak Muchhala

**Hon. Joint Secretary**  
Dr. Sanjay S. Joshi

**Hon. Chairman C.D.H**  
Dr. Rajeev Gupta

**Imm. Past President**  
Dr. Alias Thomas

**Dr. Jainendra Kumar Singh**  
Dr. J. S. Walia

**Hon. Editor - Journal**  
Dr. Suresh Meshram

**Hon. Assistant Secretary**  
Dr. MukulDabholkar

**Hon. Chairman C.D.E**  
Dr. Vikas Aggarwal