



PM Chairs Third High-Level Meeting with Secretaries to Government of India

PM urges Secretaries to think with a long-term perspective on how the country's future should be shaped

PM says data is a national asset and a resource for the future; calls for greater interoperability and effective use of data

PM says that silos are not merely an organisational problem but also a problem of mindset; urges officials to work with a spirit of belongingness

PM highlights importance of informal interaction and building team spirit among officers

PM calls for greater engagement between government departments, universities and young people to bring fresh perspectives in policymaking

PM calls for effective use of AI while ensuring human intervention and judgement

PM emphasises the need to further strengthen India's defence industry and make it more competitive at global level

Secretaries share perspective on key priorities and implementation challenges

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Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi chaired the third high-level meeting with Secretaries to the Government of India at his residence at 7, Lok Kalyan Marg earlier today. He discussed the future action agenda of Ministries and Departments dealing with Infrastructure and Connectivity, Security and External Affairs, and Governance.

Noting that deliberations had already been held with two groups of Secretaries, Prime Minister said that Secretaries, in addition to thinking about immediate issues and statistics, should also think with a long-term perspective on how the country's future should be shaped.

Discussing the challenge of overcoming silos, Prime Minister stressed that silos are not merely an organisational problem but also a problem of mindset. He said silos can be both horizontal and vertical. He stressed that officials must take ownership of their responsibilities and work with a spirit of belongingness.

Emphasising the importance of collective effort, Prime Minister cited the experience of the COVID-19 pandemic and the West Asia crisis, when officials across departments worked together effectively. He said that such coordination mechanisms should become a natural part of the government's work culture.

Prime Minister called for effective use of Artificial Intelligence while ensuring human intervention and judgement. He called for exploring innovative ways of combining the capabilities of AI with human expertise.

Prime Minister emphasised that data is a national asset and a resource for the future. He noted that the government invests resources in collecting, storing and managing data, but its full potential is not always realised because of departmental silos and fragmented systems. He pointed to differences in the manner in which data is collected and managed for various purposes, and called for finding solutions that enable greater interoperability and effective use of data.

Prime Minister called for greater engagement between government departments, universities and young people to bring fresh perspectives in policymaking. He said wider engagement with universities and young people can bring new and unconventional ideas.

Prime Minister also called for greater focus on research and innovation, including in the defence sector. He emphasised the need to further strengthen India's defence industry and make it more competitive at the global level. He stressed the importance of developing innovative defence courses and strengthening human resource development in the defence sector.

Prime Minister also discussed the need for a comprehensive approach to strengthening India's maritime sector. He recalled that shipbuilding was accorded infrastructure status and called for assessing whether the intended objectives are being achieved in mission mode. He reiterated the need for India to move from port development to port-led development.

Prime Minister emphasised the need for better connectivity between manufacturing units and export-oriented units, so that India's manufacturing and export capabilities can fully benefit from its maritime infrastructure.

Prime Minister concluded by reiterating the need for a whole-of-government approach, greater coordination, innovative thinking and collective ownership to address complex challenges and shape India's future with a long-term perspective.

Prime Minister underlined the importance of informal interaction and building team spirit among officers. He encouraged senior officers to develop greater personal and informal engagement with junior colleagues and to build stronger networks across cadres and departments.

The Secretaries shared their experiences on sectoral priorities, emerging challenges and implementation issues. The meeting was attended by the Cabinet Secretary, Secretaries of key Ministries and Departments, and senior officials from the Prime Minister's Office.

MJPS/SS/ST

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