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මගේ අංකය) EPID/400/COVID-19/NCHIS எனது இல My No. ඔබේ අංකය உமது இல Your No. 28 /07/2022 දිනය திகதி Date

සෞඛ්ය අමාතයංශය சுகாதார அமைச்சு **Ministry of Health**

All Heads of Government and Private Institutions with a COVID-19 testing laboratory All Heads of Government and private Institutions where clinical samples are collected for diagnosis of COVID-19

Strengthening of the National Covid-19 Health Information System (NCHIS)

An increase in the number of cases and deaths due to COVID-19 has been observed in the recent past. In this backdrop, a comprehensive data system on COVID-19 patients becomes essential in strategizing control measures as well as resource allocation, for an effective outbreak response.

The National Covid-19 Health Information System (NCHIS) was established in the latter half of last year with the following objectives.

- To establish a real-time, sharable, and complete National data system for COVID-19 patients
- To make access, compilation, analysis and interpretation of data more efficient.
- · To reduce the workload of public health, hospital and laboratory staff and with regards to COVID-19 data management
- To enable COVID-19 control strategies and activities that are targeted, and evidence based

However, it has been observed that the NCHIS is fully functional only in a few districts at present, and the importance of re-establishing this system in all districts has been highlighted.

Therefore, the Ministry intends to conduct a series of refresher trainings for all the focal points and relevant staff at all Government and private Institutions with a COVID-19 testing laboratory and those collecting clinical samples for diagnosis of COVID-19, in early August 2022, with the objective of revitalizing and strengthening of the NCHIS.

All relevant heads of institutions are kindly expected to identify a focal point for the NCHIS from your respective institutions and make arrangements to facilitate this training activity and subsequently the implementation of the NCHIS.

For any enquiries please contact:

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Director - Health Information

Director - Private Health Services Regulatory Council

Director - Quarantine

All Provincial Directors of Health Services All regional Directors of Health Services

All Provincial and District CCPP

All Microbiologists / Virologists at COVID-19 testing laboratories All REE – for Monitoring & evaluation of the NCHIS at district level