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Disability Inclusive Guidelines for protection and safety of persons with disabilities (Divyangjan) during COVID 19

From : Kota Vikram Simha Rao <kvs.rao13@nic.in> Thu, Mar 26, 2020 07:31 PM

Subject : Disability Inclusive Guidelines for protection and safety of persons with disabilities (Divyangjan) during COVID 19 1 attachment

To : Chief Secretary Andamans <cs-andaman@nic.in>, cs-ap <cs@ap.gov.in>, cs-arunachal@nic.in, Kumar Sanjay Krishna IAS <cs-assam@nic.in>, Chief Secretary Bihar <cs-bihar@nic.in>, Chief Secretary Office <csoffice.cg@gov.in>, Shri Vijay Kumar Dev <csdelhi@nic.in>, Chief Secretary <cs-goa@nic.in>, chiefsecretary <chiefsecretary@gujarat.gov.in>, Keshni Anand Arora <cs@hry.nic.in>, Shri Anil Kumar Khachi <cs-hp@nic.in>, cs-jandk <cs-jandk@nic.in>, Dr D K Tiwari <cs-jharkhand@nic.in>, cs <cs@karnataka.gov.in>, Chief Secretary, Government of Kerala <chiefsecy@kerala.gov.in>, cs <cs@mp.nic.in>, cs <cs@maharashtra.gov.in>, cs-manipur <cs-manipur@nic.in>, cso-meg <cso-meg@nic.in>, cs-mizoram <cs-mizoram@nic.in>, Chief Secretary Nagaland <csnlg@nic.in>, Chief Secretary Odisha <csori@nic.in>, cs-ori@nic.in, Chief Secretary CS, Puducherry <cs.pon@nic.in>, cs pondicherry <cs.pondicherry@nic.in>, Chief Secretary Punjab <cs@punjab.gov.in>, csraj <csraj@rajasthan.gov.in>, Prakash <cs-skm@hub.nic.in>, Prakash <cs-skm@nic.in>, cs <cs@tn.gov.in>, Chief Secretary <cs@telangana.gov.in>, cs-tripura <cs-tripura@nic.in>, cstripura <cstripura@gmail.com>, CHIEF SECRETARY GoUP <csup@nic.in>, chiefsecyuk <chiefsecyuk@gmail.com>, cs-westbengal <cs-westbengal@nic.in>

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D.O. No. Secy/1/2020

Dated the 26th March 2020

Dear Chief Secretaries

In continuation of my D.O. letter of even No. dated 24th March 2020 requesting you to ensure accessibility of information on COVID 19 for Divyangjan, I am now writing to you in the context of Ministry of Home Affairs' Notification dated

24.3.2020 declaring nationwide lockdown on account of national disaster arising out of the outbreak of Corona Virus for a period of 21 days.

2. Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) evidently are amongst the most vulnerable group in situations of risk and many of them need continuous care and support. While there is no denying the fact that social distancing norms are followed during this period, at the same time it is the responsibility of the Government to take measures to ensure that the persons with disabilities have access to essential support services (even for their daily living activities like caregiver support), supplies and medical aid at their doorstep, given the severe restrictions imposed on the movement of people.

3. With a view to take care of persons with disabilities during this emergency situation, we have developed comprehensive guidelines for implementation by the States/UTs, which is enclosed as Annexure. We have also suggested that the State Commissioner for PwDs should be designated as the State Nodal Authority so that the State Disaster Management Authority works in close coordination with him. However, while implementing the guidelines, it needs to be ensured that there is no violation of MHA Order No. 40-3/2020-DM-1(A) dated 24th March, 2020.

4 I shall be grateful if you could issue instructions to the appropriate State Authorities to implement these guidelines. Action taken in the matter may kindly be intimated to us at the earliest.

Yours sincerely,
Sd/-

(Shakuntala D. Gamlim)
Secretary to the Government of India

Chief Secretaries of All States/UTs

Copy to:

1. Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs, North Block, New Delhi
2. Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi
3. Principal Secretary/Secretary, Department of Health of all States/UTs
4. Principal Secretary/Secretary, Department dealing with empowerment of Persons with Disabilities of all States/UTs
5. Principal Secretary/Secretary, Home Department of all States/UTs
6. State Commissioners for PwDs.
7. Media Division DEPwD

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