

Rev (DMC) (C) 20-2/2021 – COVID 19 – III
Government of Himachal Pradesh
Revenue Department – Disaster Management Cell

Shimla – 171002
Dated: 12 May, 2021

ORDER

Whereas, COVID-19: Guidelines on dead body management were issued by MoHFW (GOI) on 15-03-2020 which contain the safety protocols required for management of the deceased's body in case of COVID-19 death. The guidelines were circulated by the Health Department (Govt. of Himachal Pradesh) to all the relevant authorities on dated 18-03-2020 (copy enclosed)

Whereas, it is seen that the protocol is now well established and COVID-19 patient deaths occurring in hospitals are being handled as per the guidelines.

And Whereas, taking note of the fact that a large number of COVID-19 patients are in home isolation and there is an urgent need that proper roles and responsibilities of officials be defined to assist the bereaved family for dead body management of COVID-19 patient when death occurs in the private household/home isolation in Rural/Urban areas.

Now therefore, for the above purpose, in exercise of the powers conferred under the Section 22(2)(h) and Section 24 of the Disaster Management Act 2005, the undersigned in the capacity of the Chairman, State Executive Committee (SEC), hereby issues the directions for better management of COVID positive/suspect person's dead body when death occurs in private houses in Urban/Rural areas.

- 1) In Urban areas concerned Municipal Commissioner/Executive Officer (EO)/Secretaries of the Urban Local Body and in Rural Areas concerned Block Development Officers (BDOs) shall be the overall nodal officers for the above purpose. Deputy Commissioners and SDMs of respective jurisdiction shall provide them complete support and information channels for implementing these responsibilities.
- 2) In Urban areas, the Municipal Commissioner/EO/Secretary shall work in close coordination with the Hospitals and in Rural Areas BDO shall work in close coordination with Hospitals & PHCs, Panchayats and Panchayat Secretaries/Patwaris.
- 3) The dead body management shall be as per 15-03-2020 guidelines issued by MoHFW. Resources like PPE kits, dead body bag, disinfectant, sanitizer, waste disposable bags etc. shall be made available to the above mentioned nodal officers as per requirement by the local medical institution. For dead body bags, PPE kits, safety gears, disinfectant, sanitizer etc centralised hospitals shall be earmarked/mapped and sufficient stocks shall be kept available at the Hospital/PHC level by the Department of Health.
- 4) It shall be ensured by the coordinating officers as well as the health authorities that after cremation/burial of the dead bodies, biomedical waste like used PPE Kits, gloves, masks, clothes, bags etc. are collected in waste disposable bag as per protocol and sent to nearest

health facility for further transport to biomedical waste plants through authorised vendors attached with the medical institution/health facility.

Nodal officers shall ensure proper communication/information channels to address all issues pertaining to the subject and take note of the sensitivity of the subject. It is desired that every aspect be handled sympathetically and as per existing guidelines.

Approved by

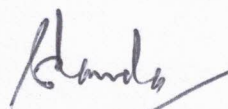
**Chief Secretary cum Chairperson,
State Executive Committee, Himachal Pradesh.**

To

1. Principal Secretary, Urban Development to the Government of Himachal Pradesh.
2. Secretary, Rural Development to the Government of Himachal Pradesh.
3. Secretary, Health to the Government of Himachal Pradesh
4. All the Divisional Commissioners, Himachal Pradesh.
5. Director, RD, UD, Health, Himachal Pradesh.
6. All the Deputy Commissioners, Himachal Pradesh.
7. All the Sub Division Magistrates, Himachal Pradesh.
8. All the Block Development Officers, Himachal Pradesh.
9. The Director I & PR for wider dissemination.

Copy for information to:

1. Principal PS cum Special Secretary to Hon'ble Chief Minister-cum-Chairperson, SDMA.



**Principal Secretary (Revenue) to the
Government of Himachal Pradesh.**