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गृह सचिव
Home Secretary
भारत सरकार
Government of India
North Block,
New Delhi

D.O. 40-3/2020-DM-I(A)

Dated:06.04.2020

Dear *Chief Secretary,*

Kindly refer to the consolidated guidelines on the lockdown measures to be taken by Ministries/ Departments of Government of India, State/Union Territory Governments and State/ Union Territory Authorities for containment of COVID-19 epidemic in the Country, as notified by Ministry of Home Affairs on 24.03.2020 and further modified on 25.03.2020, 27.03.2020, 02.04.2020 and 03.04.2020.

2. *Vide the above guidelines, manufacturing units of medical devices, their raw materials and intermediates; manufacturing units of their packaging material [clause 5(a) & (d)]; transportation of essential goods and medical supplies [clause (6 (a) & (e))] and mobilization of resources, workers and material for augmentation and expansion of hospital infrastructure [para 16] have been permitted. Further vide my DO letter of even number dated 3rd April, 2020 detailed guidelines have been issued for smooth functioning of supply chain of exempted items involving inter-state movement of employees.*

3. ***As you are aware there is a critical need to maintain adequate supply of medical oxygen in the country in the wake of COVID-19 Pandemic and that medical oxygen is also included in the national list and WHO's list of essential medicines. Therefore, special attention needs to be given on keeping the supply of medical oxygen smooth and hassle-free.***

4. In view of the above, I would like to reiterate and clarify the exceptions under various clauses of the consolidated guidelines on lockdown measures include the following:

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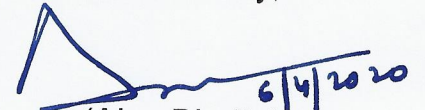
- (i) All manufacturing units of Medical Oxygen Gas / Liquid, Medical Oxygen Cylinders, Cryogenic Tanks for storing liquid Oxygen, Liquid cryogenic Cylinders, Liquid Oxygen Cryogenic Transport Tanks, Ambient vaporisers & Cryogenic valves, cylinder valves & accessories;
- (ii) Transportation of above items;
- (iii) Cross land border movement of above items;
- (iv) Workers of above mentioned manufacturing units and their transportation should be allowed/ given passes to travel from their homes to factories & back to ensure factories are run on full installed capacity.

6. As specified in the lockdown measures, social distancing and proper hygiene practices must be ensured in each of the above activities. It will be the responsibility of the head of the organisation/establishment to ensure compliance of such norms. The district authorities will ensure strict enforcement.

7. District authorities and field agencies may please be made aware of the above for strict compliance, especially with reference to supply of medical oxygen.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,


(Ajay Bhalla) 6/4/2020

To

Chief Secretaries of all States