

AJAY BHALLA, IAS



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

D.O. 40-10/2020-DM-I(A)

Dated: 11.05.2020

Dear *Chief Secretary,*

Kindly refer to the meeting, chaired by the Cabinet Secretary through Video Conference (VC) on 10th May, 2020, wherein the issue of restrictions being imposed by some States/ UTs on the movement of medical professionals and para-medical personnel was flagged.


2. As you are aware, the services of medical and para-medical staff are urgently required in meeting the challenge of COVID-19 pandemic. Furthermore, the existing staff, apart from this duty, also have to render normal responsibilities, such as conducting immunization programmes, handling the onset of vector and other seasonal diseases, and meeting other non-COVID emergencies etc.

3. In this scenario, as pointed out by the Cabinet Secretary, any restrictions on the movement of medical professionals and para-medical staff can lead to severe constraints in rendering COVID and non-COVID medical services. As such, ensuring unhindered movement of all such medical professionals is essential for meeting public health requirements and saving precious human lives.

4. At many places, private clinics and nursing homes are also reported to have not been allowed to open. The functioning of these medical facilities, which supplement the regular medical infrastructure, and relieve the burden on hospitals, is also crucial. I would urge all States and UTs to ensure that such clinics and nursing homes continue to function without any hindrances.

5. I would like to emphasize that all State/ UT Governments should ensure that their field officials allow smooth movement of all medical professionals, nurses, para medical, sanitation personnel and ambulances, and ensure the opening of all private clinics, nursing homes and labs with all their medical professional and staff. Such movement shall also be facilitated inter-State, wherever required.

With regards,

Yours sincerely

(Ajay Bhalla)

To

Chief Secretaries of all States