

खुशवंत सिंह सेठी

संयुक्त सचिव

**K.S. SETHI**

Joint Secretary



पंचायती राज मंत्रालय

भारत सरकार

11वीं मंजिल, जीवन प्रकाश बिल्डिंग,  
25, के.जी. मार्ग, नई दिल्ली-110001

MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

11<sup>th</sup> Floor, Jeevan Prakash Building  
25, K.G. Marg, New Delhi-110001

DO No. M-11015/141/2020-FD

12<sup>th</sup> May, 2021

Dear *Shri Umakant Umrao,*

Please refer to DO letter of even no. dated 28th April, 2021 from Secretary, Panchayati Raj regarding various prevention and mitigation measures against Covid-19 pandemic to be implemented by the Rural Local Bodies in the States. The feedback information submitted by the States on the various measures taken up has been perused at this end.

It is observed that your State has undertaken various significant measures in this regard in infection control with key initiatives including formation of containment/micro-containment zones, adherence to Covid appropriate behaviour at worksites and formation of quarantine centers and home isolation facilities.

It is suggested that the State may take up the following additional measures as well, as suggested in the MoPR advisories sent to the States at various points of time, if not already being carried out:

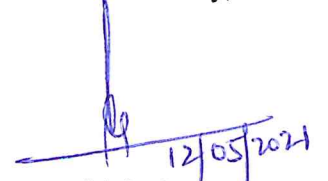
- Initiation of an intensive communication campaign for awareness of rural communities on the nature of COVID infection and preventive measures
- Elected representatives, teachers, ASHA workers to be deployed as frontline workers for the communications campaign
- Formation of Village Monitoring Committees (VMC)
- Training through short videos to be given to VMC.
- One stop call centre/ helpline/ WhatsApp for VMC members to reach out in case of emergency or any immediate requirement.
- Medical kits with essential medicines, oximeter, thermometer, Masks, Sanitisers etc., should be made available to the AWWs/ Trained SHG members
- The information on availability of testing, hospital beds etc. should be tracked and displayed digitally on real-time basis to facilitate effective utilization of available infrastructure by the rural citizens.
- Send customized SMS or WhatsApp messages for reinforcing COVID appropriate behavior through bulk messaging or cascade WhatsApp groups.
- The FFC Grants be utilized during the current fiscal period year 2020-21 for the purposes besides other basic services as outlined in the F.FC Guidelines and SFC/State Specific Guidelines,
- Digital display on availability of testing centers/vaccination centers, doctors, hospital beds etc. should be made by utilizing the IT infrastructure in the Panchayat offices, schools, Common Service Centers etc.
- Various Central and State Government welfare schemes may be leveraged towards provision of rations, drinking water supply, sanitation, MGNREGS employment etc so that these reach the right beneficiaries.
- Important messages / instructions of the District administration should be sent to all VMC nodal person/ Sarpanch through WhatsApp.

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The detailed report of the consolidated actions taken as above and also including any other additional best practices implemented, along with photographs / short videos etc may be provided to this Ministry at the earliest for compilation and records.

With warm regards,

Yours sincerely,

  
(K.S. Sethi)

Shri Umakant Umrao,  
Principal Secretary  
PR Department,  
Govt. of Madhya Pradesh,  
Bhopal. MP.