

GOVERNMENT OF NCT OF DELHI
DELHI DISASTER MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

F/1.(571)/DDMA(HQ)/DDMA Orders/Misc. Matters/21/355

Dated: 16.02.2021

To,

1. All Additional Chief Secretaries/Principal Secretaries/Secretaries/HODs of Government of NCT of Delhi / Autonomous Bodies / PSUs / Corporations / Local Bodies of GNCTD.
2. Commissioner of Police, Delhi.
3. Chairman, New Delhi Municipal Council.
4. Pr. Secretary (Health & Family Welfare), GNCT of Delhi
5. Divisional Commissioner, GNCT of Delhi
6. Secretary (I&P), GNCT of Delhi
7. Commissioner (South DMC/East DMC/North DMC).
8. CEO, Delhi Cantonment Board.
9. All District Magistrates of GNCT of Delhi
10. All District DCPs of Delhi

Subject: Taking action on rumour mongering against COVID-19 Vaccines.

Sir,

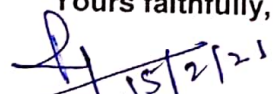
I am directed to enclose herewith DO letter No. 40-6/2020-DM-I(A) dated 19.01.2021 issued by Ministry of Home Affairs, GoI, wherein concern has been expressed about the circulation of unfounded and misleading rumours in the social media and other media, creating doubt among people at large about the safety and efficacy of COVID-19 vaccines being administered and therefore, stressed upon the need to counter the spread of all such kind of false information about the vaccines as well as to promptly disseminate factual messages.

In this context, Pr. Secretary (H&FW), Divisional Commissioner, Secretary (I&P), GNCTD, all District Magistrates of Delhi & their counterpart District Deputy Commissioners of Police and all authorities concerned are requested to take necessary actions to counter the spread of all such kind of false information about the COVID-19 vaccines as well as to promptly disseminate factual messages. In case any person(s) or organization(s) are found to have indulged in such activities, strict penal action should be taken against the defaulting person(s) or organization(s) by authorities concerned, as per the provisions of section 54 of Disaster Management Act, 2005, Section 188 of Indian Penal Code, 1860 and other applicable laws.

This issues with the approval of competent authority.

Enclosure: as above

Yours faithfully,


(Rajesh Goyal)
Addl. CEO, DDMA

Copy for kind information to:-

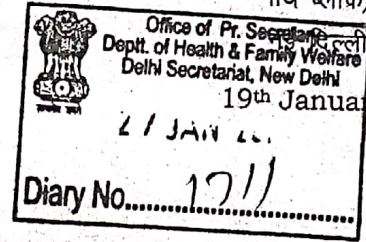
1. Secretary to Hon'ble Lt. Governor, Delhi.
2. Addl. Secretary to Hon'ble Chief Minister, GNCTD
3. Secretary to Hon'ble Dy. Chief Minister, GNCTD.
4. Secretary to Hon'ble Minister of Health, GNCTD.
5. Secretary to Hon'ble Minister of Revenue, GNCTD.
6. Secretary to Hon'ble Minister of Labour, GNCTD.
7. Secretary to Hon'ble Minister of Social Welfare, GNCTD.
8. Secretary to Hon'ble Minister of Food & Supply, GNCTD.
9. Guard file.

अजय भल्ला, भा.प्र.से.
AJAY BHALLA, IAS



गृह सचिव
Home Secretary
भारत सरकार
Government of India
नॉर्थ ब्लॉक/North Block
New Delhi

D.O.No. 40-6/2020-DM-I(A)



Dear Administrator,

As you are aware, Government of India in close collaboration with States/UTs, has launched the inoculation drive of COVID-19 vaccination from 16th January, 2021, onwards across the country with two vaccines, namely, Covishield manufactured by the Serum Institute of India and Covaxin developed and manufactured by Bharat Biotech Limited. Accordingly, the Health Care Workers and Front Line Workers are being inoculated as per the priority decided by the National Expert Group on Vaccine Administration for COVID-19(NEGVAC); i.e., in Phase-I, Health Care Workers, who are the first priority are undergoing vaccination throughout the country. Thereafter, vaccination drive for priority groups 2 and 3 will commence. Government of India is taking all necessary steps to ensure that the vaccination drive is successful and the pandemic is eventually eradicated.

2. I would like to strongly emphasize that the National Regulatory Authority in the country has found both the vaccines safe and immunogenic. However, it has been reported that unfounded and misleading rumours are circulating, in the social and other media, creating doubt about the safety and efficacy of these vaccines. Such kind of rumour mongering, particularly by vested interests, can create unwarranted doubts among people at large, and there is, therefore, a need to check all such kinds of unfounded scare mongering relating to the safety and immunogenicity of the vaccines.

3. Accordingly, I would urge you to put in place an appropriate mechanism to check the spread of such ill-informed rumours, and direct all the concerned authorities under the Union Territory Administration to take appropriate necessary measures to counter the spread of all such kind of false information about the COVID-19 vaccines as well as promptly disseminate factual messages. Further, penal action may be taken against the person/s or organization/s, who is/are found to have indulged in such activities, under the relevant provisions of the Disaster Management Act, 2005 and the Indian Penal Code, 1860.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Ajay Bhalla)

Administrators of all the UTs
(As per Standard List attached)

21/01/21
SS(SMA)
DS(COVID)
21/1
S (10/10)
Namm.
22/01/21
Sh. Mohan
J.C.