

वी. के. जिन्दल
संयुक्त सचिव एवं मिशन निदेशक
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भारत सरकार
आवासन और शहरी कार्य मंत्रालय
निर्माण भवन

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS
NIRMAN BHAWAN

नई दिल्ली-110011, तारीख 20
New Delhi-110011, dated the 20

26th March 2020

COVID-19: Additional advisory for maintaining cleanliness during lockdown period

Dear Sir / Madam,

Further to the instructions issued on 21st March 2020 for safe disposal of waste from quarantined households, the following additional actions may be taken by ULBs, especially in light of the nation-wide lockdown currently in force:

1. Special cleaning of public places:

- ULBs may undertake **special cleaning campaign** for all public places (commercial areas, places of worship, popular tourist spots, parks, gardens, and any other public place which normally sees high footfall from citizens, and hence may be difficult to clean thoroughly during normal days) through sweeping, bleaching, disinfecting and complete sanitization during this lockdown period, before they are permitted to be reopened to public.
- This would help ensure that cities are clean and sanitized when the lockdown is lifted and citizens can come out of their homes.

2. Safe disposal of waste from quarantined households:

- For all households where residents are under quarantine, ULBs may provide them with **especially marked, yellow garbage bags** for disposing of their wet and dry wastes.
- Waste from such quarantined households should be treated as **bio-medical waste**.
- Hence, these wastes should be **collected** by ULBs **separately** (preferably in separate collection vehicles) and **transported separately**, without mixing with the regular waste from other households.
- The **vehicles** collecting these quarantined wastes should be **thoroughly disinfected and cleaned daily**.
- Waste from quarantined households should be disposed off **only through incineration**.
- In case incineration facilities are not available, **as a last resort**, these waste may be buried in a deep pit in the ground, so that they cannot contaminate any other surface

3. Safe disposal of masks and other related waste from non-quarantined households

- Other wastes used for protection like mask or gloves etc. from non-quarantined households should be treated as **domestic hazardous waste, wrapped in separate wrapper**, collected and transported **separately without mixing** with normal household waste.

4. Welfare and protection of Sanitary workers engaged in collection and transportation of COVID-19 waste:

- All sanitary staff involved in collecting and transporting the above hazardous wastes should be compulsorily provided with **personal protective kits**.
- Fresh protective kits should be provided daily to staff engaged in collection of waste from quarantined households.

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- Before leaving for collection duty, and after returning to their duty station, every sanitary staff shall be subjected to **thermal checking**, and **mandatory handwashing with soap**.
- In case any staff should be feeling any physical discomfort, he / she should be sent for **medical examination** and subsequent treatment as may be required.
- Each staff should deposit their used masks / gloves / protective gear in a designated, cordoned-off area, and such **used protective gear** is to be treated as **hazardous bio-medical waste**, to be disposed off through incineration.
- ULBs may refer MoHFW guidelines:
<https://www.mohfw.gov.in/pdf/GuidelinesonrationaluseofPersonalProtectiveEquipment.pdf> in this respect.
- In case, because of the ongoing lockdown, sanitary workers (including those employed on contract) are unable to report for duty, their daily / regular wages **should continue to be paid**, and care taken to ensure that their employment / livelihoods are **not affected** because of their absence.

5. Awareness and enforcement:

- All community and frontline workers may be supplied with copies of the MoHFW guidelines for Prevention and Management of COVID-19:
(<https://www.mohfw.gov.in/pdf/PreventionandManagementofCOVID19FLWEnglish.pdf>;
<https://www.mohfw.gov.in/pdf/PreventionandManagementofCOVID19FLWHindi.pdf>).
These may be translated into local language wherever necessary.
- ULBs may **widely disseminate** relevant guidelines and **awareness messages** on COVID-19 for citizens through local print and electronic media
- **Strict penalty and enforcement** may be ensured for any unregulated disposal of COVID-19 waste by any person (s), including waste collectors.
- ULBs may work closely with **District health authorities** to ensure all of the above.


(Vinod Kumar Jindal)

To: Principal Secretary – Urban Development of all states / UTs

Copy: Mission Directors of all States / UTs: with a request to ensure compliance by all ULBs