



20.04.2020

To
Shri. Narendra Modi Ji
Honorable Prime Minister
Government of India

Dear Sir,

Sub: Protecting and according State honor to martyred COVID-19 warriors

The COVID-19 pandemic has created an unprecedented crisis all across the world including our country. However due to the prompt and appropriate timely actions of our Government, the pandemic is showing a trend of slowing down, which has received international appreciation a fact of which every Indian is proud.

The entire private healthcare sector in our country is with the Government in tackling this huge challenge. Medical professionals including doctors, nursing staff, paramedical, Asha workers and other supporting staff are willingly serving in the frontline, taking care of those who are affected, and many breadwinners have lost their lives while ensuring the safety of other citizens.

It is the Government support and societal encouragement which is crucial in keeping the morale and confidence of our health warriors always high.

Sir we are grateful to you for your repeated exhortation to the public to support the health workers and respect them and hold them in high esteem for the commitment and selfless dedication with which they are serving the COVID-19 afflicted patients.

However instances of stigmatization of healthcare workers, attacks on them and eviction from the places of stay has become a serious issue which is subjecting them to further stress and strain.

In the last few days two of our very committed frontline workers were martyred while in active service. The families of Dr. Sailo who was largely responsible for bringing healthcare to Shillong and Dr. Simon from Tamil Nadu who died soon after operating on a Covid patient, and their mortal remains were subjected to unacceptable and unthinkable humiliation after being martyred. These are among the few of the many incidents from across the Country.



ASSOCIATION OF HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS - INDIA

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As a medical community, Sir we implore you, Hon'ble Prime Minister of India to take up this serious issue. Our healthcare warriors have shown by their actions that they are willing to lay down their lives to safeguard the citizens of our country.

It is our fervent plea that this unacceptable situation be remedied, employing extraordinary measures to protect our healthcare warriors, and in the event of their laying down their lives, allow them a peaceful passing on with dignity and honour.

Let the families who have sacrificed their dear ones in this battle understand that the nation is grateful to them for the ultimate sacrifice.

Therefore we request that urgent and effective action be taken including issuing of ordinance to safeguard our colleagues from the harassment. We also appeal that every death in the line of duty during this pandemic should be accorded the status of a martyr and the mortal remains to be laid to rest with state honors.

We (the private healthcare sector) and the Government are committed to jointly combat the COVID-19 crisis facing our country.

Thanking You,

Warm Regards,

Dr. Alexander Thomas
President, AHPI

Dr. Girdhar Gyani
Director General, AHPI

- Copy to: 1. Shri. Amit Shah, Ministry of Home Affairs, GOI.
2. Dr. Harsh Vardhan, Hon'ble Union Minister, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, GOI
3. Shri. C K Mishra, Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate change and Chairman of the MHA empowered group on 'Availability of hospitals, Isolation and Quarantine facilities, Disease surveillance, testing and critical care training'.
4. Smt. Preeti Sudan I.A.S, Union Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, GOI.
5. Mr. Amitabh Kant, CEO, NITI Aayog.

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