

Indian Medical Association

MAHARASHTRA STATE

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Date- 30 October 2020

To,

Respected Shri Narendra ji Modi,

Prime Minister of India

Sub- Regarding Coronavirus vaccination, Govt. of Maharashtra's

Step motherly Treatment to Pvt. Doctors

Respected Prime Minister Sir,

The Corona vaccine will be available to all citizens of India in the next three months. We appreciate the proactive action taken by the Government of India, for your decision that the vaccine would first be given to all the doctors in the country, who treated the Corona Patients regardless of their own lives in the Coronavirus epidemic. It was also decided that the priority will be given to all medical professionals and healthcare workers.

The Central Government finalised to set up a database for this purpose and published a booklet of guidelines in this regard. In these guidelines on the page no. 6 & 7, what kind of doctors will get the vaccination, in very simple language. This includes all government and private hospitals, government doctors, as well as all health workers in private clinics, day OPDs, polyclinics. The central Govt. has planned to vaccinate all these health workers on a priority basis.

The central government then directed all the states to collect the information accordingly. Accordingly, the Hon'ble Health Secretary of the Government of Maharashtra sent an official letter, on 23rd October, to all District Collectors, Municipal Commissioners and Divisional Commissioners.

However, the Hon'ble Health Secretary of Maharashtra changed the guidelines given by the Central Government. In that letter, by changing the point No. 8b, the words **'registered with the district'** were introduced in parenthesis, while enumerating the private medical facilities.

In a subsequent meeting with all the district collectors, Hon'ble Health Secretary of Maharashtra directed that only the doctors and medical staff of the hospitals registered under the Bombay Nursing Home Act should be registered

This has led to the exclusion of doctors from privately run hospitals, clinics, pathology clinics, X-ray-Sonography clinics.

Along with government doctors, private medical professionals have also played a key role in treating patients in the corona epidemic. Of the 61 private doctors who died of corona in Maharashtra, the number of General Practitioners and Private Clinic owners was higher. Yet, we feel that they have been left out for the reason known only to the Govt.

Earlier, the Government of Maharashtra had rejected the applications of 61 private doctors in Maharashtra for 'Korona Kavach' the posthumous insurance of Rs 50 lakh, declared by the Central Govt., citing similar grievances.

Private Doctors have always been denied their requests for getting PPE kits, masks from a certified company and at reasonable prices.

As per the guidelines given by the central government, many of the states in India have begun to include private doctors in their database. But our Maharashtra Government is treating all these private doctors with great disdain.

We appeal you to look into this utter injustice on all the private doctors.

Thanks and Pranam,

Jai Hind

Dr. Avinash Bhondwe

State President

Dr.Pankaj Bandarkar

Hon. State Secretary