

नेशनल सफाई कर्मचारी फाईनेंस एंड डेवलेपमेंट कॉरपोरेशन (सामाजिक न्याय एवं अधिकारिता मंत्रालय के अंर्तगत भारत सरकार का उपक्रम) National Safai Karamcharis Finance & Development Corporation (A. Govt. of India Undertaking, Under the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment)



NSKFDC/Proj/M. Corp/449/2020-21/01

By Post/E-mail Dated: 07.04.2020

To,

The Municipal Commissioners/CMOs/EOs of Municipal corporations/ Municipalities/Nagar Parishads/Nagar Panchayats of various States/UTs

Subject: Ensuring Health and Safety of Sanitation Workers and Wastepickers in the wake of spread of COVID-19

Sir/Madam,

As you may be aware, National Safai Karamcharis Finance and Development Corporation (NSKFDC) is an apex corporation under the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Govt. of India working for the all round socio economic upliftment of its target group which includes Safai Karamcharis including Wastepickers, Manual Scavengers and their Dependents through various loan and non loan based programmes.

Considering the countrywide health crisis due to Coronavirus disease (COVID-19), which has also been declared a pandemic by World Health Organisation (WHO), it is necessary to take effective measures to prevent its spread across the country and also protect our frontline workers who are our best defence to contain and mitigate this pandemic.

You would appreciate that Sanitation workers, Wastepickers and other informal waste collectors are among these silent groups of people who are working tirelessly to prevent the spread of Coronavirus. When it comes to risking their lives for the protection of others, in the present times, they are at par with doctors, healthcare workers and policemen. Therefore, it is imperative for us to understand and provide best support, manage, and protect these individuals as they also face highest risk of becoming infected themselves given their nature of work and exposure.

In view of the above, it is requested to kindly arrange to put in place a Standard Operating Procedure (SoP) for each ULB to ensure health and safety of Sanitation workers and Wastepickers. The SoP may also include following to prevent the spread of COVID-19:

1. Mandatory orientation of Sanitation Workers and Wastepickers on COVID-19, Social Distancing norms and key precautionary measures to be taken including frequent hand-washing, avoid touching their face and wearing Personal Protective Equipments (PPE).

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हम हिन्दी में पत्राचार का स्वागत करते हैं

- 2. List of Do's and Dont's to be practiced while performing their duties and extending necessary support to them.
- 3. Providing appropriate Personal Protective Equipments, which may include masks, gloves, gumboots, jackets etc. and hand sanitizers, soaps for their safety.

It is requested to take immediate action on above to ensure health and safety of our Sanitation workers and Wastepickers so that we are able to collectively fight and overcome the unprecedented health crisis posed by COVID 19.

ours sincerely.

Economic Advisor, MoSJE, Govt of India

Economic Advisor, MoSJE, Govt of India & Managing Director (NSKFDC)

<u>Copy to:</u> Sh. V. K. Jindal, Joint Secretary (SBM), MoHUA with a request to also issue necessary directions to the concerned for above.