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The Association of Physicians of India

To

22.4.2020

Shri Narendra Modiji

Honorable Prime Minister of India

Government of India, New Delhi

Sub: Health care Violence

Greetings from Association of Physicians of India.

Prof Dr.S.Arulrhaj
National President

On behalf of Association of Physicians of India, we appreciate the way the Government of India. Under your able Leadership could tightly handle COVID-19 Pandemic situation, keeping the Incidence & Death rate low

We, on behalf of the Medical Professionals, place the following requests to your kind self for immediate execution sir:

- Health Care Professionals, Police, Sanitary Workers are in the front line fighting against COVID-19. They are fighting to safeguard the life of Citizen risking their own & also their Family.
- We also applaud the effective way by which the death rate due to COVID-19 is minimized to only 592 as of today which everybody should agree it is because of the untiring and selfless service rendered by the frontline warriors, the Health Care Professionals.
- But we are very much hurt and strongly condemn the way the dead body of the three Doctors in Tamilnadu were handled by the public in spite of the standard protocols of MOH were followed in various places.
- It is very disheartening to see the way the Great Souls were chased from pillar to post.
- We deeply regret for the brutal attack on the Health Care Workers who were to do the last rights for the deceased Doctor.
- **Healthcare Violence Incidence:**
 - The Indian Medical Association has reported that 75% of doctors face verbal or physical abuse in hospital premises and fear of violence was the most common cause for stress for 43% doctors.
 - The highest number of violence was reported at the point of emergency care and 70% of the cases of violence were initiated by the patient's relatives.
 - Health care Violence is more common in private sector than public healthcare

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- Popular in corporate there in medium in small Hospitals rare in Family Doctor clinics
- Doctors , Junior Doctor pharmedicals are manhandled, beaten & sometimes murdered too.
- Hospital & equipments are often vandalized.
- The incidence of reported violent crimes against doctors in India has been increasing with the highest violence rate occurring in Delhi, Maharashtra and Uttar Pradesh.
- If such unhealthy practices against Health Care Professionals continue, this may affect the mental status and confidence among the Doctors which may force them to retrieve from the warfront, which may lead to collapse of the entire system fighting the COVID-19.
- **Doctors & HCP feel Humanity is Dying & need to be resuscitated.**
- But the Honorable High court of Chennai Suomoto taken cognizance of this incident & issued notice to the Government of Tamilnadu & its Health Ministry.
- Today morning media assurance by our Honorable Home Minister & our Honorable Tamilnadu Chief Minister are consoling.

We request our Honorable Prime Ministerji to issue the following orders:

- Doctors parting with their life on corona duty to must be given Honorable send off with State Honours like the Honours offered to Military War Victims ,by the respective District Collectors.
- No violence on Healthcare inside or outside Hospital.
- Inhuman way of treating Healthcare Professionals as criminals must be strongly curtailed. Healthcare violence must be punished by strict laws with Non Bailable offence with minimum of 10 years imprisonment.
- Our Honorable PMJi must strongly codemn such behaviours in the Media.
- Doctors must be made to feel safe without the fear of Violence.

Healthcare Protection Act is in place in 24 states of our country. After the Kolkata grievous incidence in June 2019 Medical Professionals & Junior Doctors firmly demanded a National Health care Protection Act to our Honorable Health Minister Shri Dr.Harsh Vardhanji. He also promised to get the act & formed an Inter ministerial committee. This committee requested the support of Indian Medical Association to draft the **Health Services Personal and clinical Establishment Bill 2019** & placed for viewers too. But now the Health Services Personal and clinical Establishment Bill 2019 has gone to be back bench for unknown reason. Sir. It is the right time for our Honorable PM ji's Intervention to bring that Bill as an Act so that lot of confidence will be infused into the Doctors & HCPs so that they can offer effective care to the sick without hesitation or anxiety

Kindly direct the State Governmentsto adopt the following supports:

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- **Government of Odisha's announcement:**
- **CoviD warrior's death** (Doctors and health care personnel irrespective of government or private) family will get Rs 50 lakhs
- In case of Government doctors or health care personnel in case of losing life in Corona duty apart from Rs 50 lakhs his family will continue to receive the Salary he/she would have received till the actual date of retirement.
- **CoviD warriors in case of losing life** will be instituted for this purpose to be conferred on as done in case of Armed Forces
- Any body attacks or obstruct or dishonor doctors or healthcare personnel will be strictly dealt with including invoking of National Security Act (NSA) **Odisha Model** fit to be adopted in all States.
- One crore Compensation for Death of Doctors on Corona duty must be given -**Delhi Model**
- **Hospitals closure:** Corona identified in Hospitals, Doctor & HCP Isolation to be done. Hospital to be sterilized in 24 hrs & permitted to open. --- **Singapore Model.**
- **No Media Projection of Hospitals closure** This process is needed for the continued functioning of Hospitals to offer Emergency Services.
- All Doctors & HCP in Public & Private Sector must be enrolled in PM Insurance Scheme -- "**Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan**" Scheme.
- All Doctors & HCP engaged in Corona War must be tested by Rapid Test Kit frequently.
- Adequate supply chain for Drugs & devices, PPE & ventilators must be maintained to Institutions at affordable cost.
- Adequate Awareness must be offered to Public about the safe method of handling & cremation of the deceased body whether they are public, Doctors or HCP, as per the Guidelines of MOH

We are confident of our PMji's solidarity with Medical Profession at this crucial juncture.

Thanking you sir.

Regards & respects.

Dr Arulrhaj

National President

Association of Physicians of India

Past National President IMA

Past President CMA, UK

CC:

Shri Amit Shah

Honorable Minister for Home affairs

Shri Dr. Harsh Vardhan

Honorable Minister for Health & FW

Government of India

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