

Government of India
Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
(UPA-II Division)

Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi
Dated: - 28th March, 2020

To

Mission Directors, SULM
All States/UTs

Subject: Provisioning of free food for the urban homeless in the NULM shelters during lock down in view of COVID 19 outbreak - reg.

Madam/Sir,

I am directed to say that, being sensitive to the plight of the urban homeless in coping with nationwide lockdown in the country to break the chain of infection caused by the spread of **Coronavirus**, there is an urgent requirement to support them as they may not have any available source of livelihood.

2. The Operational Guidelines of SUH provide for O&M cost of shelters which includes various expenditures including cost of food in respect of 10% of the homeless who are old and divyangjans. The rationale for the remaining homeless not being provided with food is that they may be engaged in their own livelihood activities and thus can cater to their food requirements. However, due to the lockdown in view of coronavirus outbreak, these urban homeless may have lost livelihoods temporarily. There is, therefore, an urgent requirement to provide them with food so that they can sustain themselves.

3. As per information emanating from various quarters, some of the States/UTs are making arrangements for providing food to the workers of informal sector. Accordingly, the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs has decided that during the period of nation-wide lockdown, all the urban homeless available in DAY-NULM shelters should be provided with three hygienically-prepared meals a day. For this an amount upto Rs.100/- per homeless per day may be incurred from the Mission funds (Central as well as State share) available with the States/UTs. In case of inadequacy of this amount at local level, States/UTs may contribute additional funds from their own resources.

4. As the food is to be provided by the Shelter Management Agencies, it is also requested to ensure clearance of all the dues of the Shelter Management Agencies (SMA). Further, directions may be given for maintaining cleanliness, personal hygiene and provision of sanitizers, hand wash facilities, mask in the shelters. Awareness need to be created among the residents of shelters on preventive measures against **Covid-19**.

5. Lastly, the fresh mobilised homeless/vulnerable person, *(if found ill)* should be referred to the hospital for health check before their staying in the shelters for the urban homeless.

Yours faithfully,


(Surender Kumar)

Under Secretary to the Government of India

Copy to:-

Principal Secretaries (UD)
(All States/UTs implementing SUH)