

RAJ BHAVAN JAMMU-180001

No: PS/HLG/2020/34식 Dated: 9<sup>th</sup> April, 2020

Dear Sarpanch ji,

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

**JAMMU & KASHMIR** 

First of all, let me thank you for your cooperation and support to the Government in its efforts to fight the COVID-19 pandemic. I am sure you would agree with me that a disease of such magnitude with no available cure can only be fought with collective efforts of the society. It is with this in mind that we have constituted Panchayat COVID Awareness and monitoring committees under your leadership. With a cure not in sight for at least a few months, the most important part of the whole fight against COVID-19 is prevention. The lockdown was a step in the direction and there are several other measures required to be taken which include physical distancing, wearing masks, zero gathering, maximum possible stay at home, hand washing and general cleanliness. Immunity boosting diet and activities are important. All this would be possible only with the pro-active support of the community and community leaders and it is with this end in mind that the Panchayat COVID Awareness and Management Committees have been framed.

I would urge you and your committee to help in identification of any person who has a travel history to any foreign country or even within the country in the recent past. Even before the government/health agencies come into the picture, local people should take all steps to isolate/quarantine such a person. The committee should monitor all those under home quarantine and ensure there are no violations.

Social and religious gatherings are not to be allowed under any circumstances. Even after the lockdown is lifted, maintaining physical distance and staying at home to the maximum extent possible have to be practised. Promote masks and frequent hand washing with soap among all. In case of symptoms of the disease developing in any of the residents in your Panchayat, do ensure quarantine and inform the health agencies immediately.

With the government machinery working round the clock in light of Sheer magnitude of the problem, community shall have to come forward to take care of its, elderly, disabled, pregnant ladies, children and other vulnerable members of the population. I solicit the participation of the entire community in tackling this disease.

Looking forward to your active support and leadership in keeping J&K safe and healthy.

(G.C. Murmu)