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Health and Family Welfare Department
Letter No.15513/P1/2020-1, Dated:23.06.2020
Thiruvalluvar Aandu-2051, Sarvari, Aani-9

From
Dr.J. Radhakrishnan, I.A.S.,
Principal Secretary to Government.

To
✓ All District Collectors.

The Director of Public Health and Preventive Medicine,
Chennai – 600 006.

The Director of Medical Education,
Chennai – 600 010.

The Director of Medical and Rural Health Services,
Chennai – 600 006.

All Deans of Medical Colleges. (through Director of Medical Education)

Sir/ Madam,

Sub: COVID-19 – Health and Family Welfare Department – Guidelines on Dead Body Management – Orders issued – certain instructions – Regarding.

Ref: 1. G.O.(Ms)No.178, Health and Family Welfare (P1) Department, dated 08.04.2020.
2. Letter from the Director General of Health Services, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, New Delhi, D.O.No.Z.28015/131/2020-EMR, dated 14.06.2020.

In continuation of the Government order first cited, I am directed to state that Government of India has referred the issues raised regarding deaths of suspect COVID-19 patients and dead bodies not being handed over to the relatives pending confirmation of test report by the hospitals.

2. In this connection, based on Government of India clarification, I am to request that the dead bodies of suspected COVID-19 cases should be handed over to their relatives immediately and laboratory confirmation of COVID-19

should not be awaited and that these bodies can as a matter of abundant precaution be disposed as per the Guidelines on Dead Body Management available on the website of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, dated 15.03.2020. If such death cases test positive eventually, then the requisite action for contact listing, tracking etc., should be carried out subsequently.

3. This may be strictly adhered for any death due to COVID-19 in the State.

Yours faithfully,

N. Lathe

for Principal Secretary to Government.

V.S.
24.6.20