Dear Sir,

National Blood Transfusion Council (NBTC) in close coordination with State Blood Transfusion Councils (SBTC) is committed for promotion of voluntary blood donation program and access to safe blood to fulfil the clinical requirement of blood throughout the country. There are 3311 licensed blood centres in the country, which are collecting around 12.4 million units of blood per year.

In view of the outbreak of COVID 19 and complete lock down since 25th March, 2020, all modes of transportation as well as movement of common people is compromised which also resulted in limited movement of Blood Mobile and Transportation Vans as well as blood donor for voluntary blood donation.

To overcome this challenge Ministry of Home Affairs have issued a communication to The chief Secretaries/ Administrators/ Advisors to Administrators, Director General of Police of All States and Union Territories and Commissioner of Police, Delhi to give suitable directions to State, District and field level officers to facilitate the unhindered movement of blood mobile vans, blood transportation vans and movement of voluntary blood donors for voluntary blood donation.

You are requested to issue suitable permission letter from State Blood Transfusion Councils to blood mobile team of blood mobile van and blood transportation van for their movement. You may also direct the blood centres identified by State Blood Transfusion Councils to issue Donor Appointment Letters to the blood donors, which will facilitate their movement towards the blood centres for voluntary blood donation.
I am very sure that under your able leadership and guidance the voluntary blood donation program continues to be implemented effectively even in this period of COVID-19 pandemic and conditions of lockdown. This will go a long way in saving the lives of all the patients requiring blood for their medical conditions by ensuring the sufficient and regular supply of safe and adequate blood throughout the country.

Enclosures:

a) Donor Appointment Letter.

b) Communication from Ministry of Home Affairs for Voluntary blood donation

Dr Sanil Gupta,
Additional Director General,
BTS and NBTC, NACO

To,
The Project Directors,
All State/UT AIDS Control Societies.

Copy To,
The Directors,
State Blood Transfusion Councils.
DONOR APPOINTMENT LETTER
TO WHOMSOEVER IT MAY CONCERN

Please allow the bearer of this pass unimpeded before the time of expiry as he or she is on his way to the blood centre to donate blood for a requirement.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of the Donor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ID Proof of the Donor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date and Time of Appointment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Address of Donor</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

To verify the pass, please call the blood centre at No............... , Ext No..........
IMMEDIATE

No. 11034/01/2020-IS.IV
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(INTERNAL SECURITY-I DIVISION)
******

North Block, New Delhi
Dated, the 15th April, 2020

To

1. Chief Secretaries/ Administrators/ Advisers to Administrators, All State
   Governments/ Union Territories.

2. Directors General of Police, All States/ Union Territories

3. Commissioner of Police, Delhi

Sir/Madam,

(Copy enclosed) received from Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
regarding promotion of voluntary blood donation program through National Blood
Transfusion Council in coordination with the State Blood Transfusion Councils (STBCs)
to fulfill the critical requirement of blood throughout the country.

2. In this regard, it is requested that suitable directions may be given to the State,
District and other field level officers to facilitate the unhindered movement of blood
mobile vans and transportation vans and movement of the voluntary blood donors. It
may be ensured that blood mobile teams are identified through permission letters from
STBC and Donor Appointment Letters issued from licensed blood centres.

Encl: As above.

Yours faithfully,

(Srinivasu K.)

Deputy Secretary to the Government of India

Copy to the Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Nirman Bhavan,
New Delhi.
Dear Ajay,

Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, through National Blood Transfusion Council (NBTC) is committed for promotion of voluntary blood donation program to fulfil the clinical requirement of blood throughout the country. NBTC works in coordination with State Blood Transfusion Councils in various States for promotion of safe blood access and voluntary blood donation. There are 3311 licensed blood centres in the country which are collecting around 12.4 million units of blood per year.

In view of the outbreak of COVID 19 and complete lock down since 25th March, 2020, all modes of transportation as well as movement of common people is stopped. Though the overall requirement of blood has come down, collection of blood from healthy voluntary blood donors is essential to be continued to meet the requirements of thalassemic children, pregnant women and other emergency need for blood transfusions even during this period. As a result of the lockdown, collection and transportation of blood and blood components has become a challenge and media has reported blood shortage in blood centres in some parts of the country.

State Blood Transfusion Councils have taken all necessary steps to maintain adequate stocks of safe and tested blood by judiciously continuing blood donation activities, but are facing difficulties in getting the permission for movement of blood mobile vans, blood transportation vans and voluntary blood donors are finding it difficult to reach blood centres and outdoors to donate despite having Donor appointment letters.

It is requested that suitable directions may be given to the law enforcement officers at State and District level to facilitate the unhindered movement of blood mobile vans and transportation vans and the movement of voluntary blood donors. It will be ensured that the blood mobile teams are identified through permission letters from State Blood Transfusion Councils and Donor Appointment Letters issued from licensed blood centre. This support will go a long way in ensuring uninterrupted collection of blood throughout the country and mitigation of any shortage thereof.

Yours sincerely,

Preeti Sudan

Shri Ajay Kumar Bhalla
Secretary
Ministry of Home Affairs
North Block, New Delhi-110001.

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