Government of Jammu and Kashmir
Health and Medical Education Department
Civil Secretariat, Jammu

Subject:- Report on incidence of shortage of oxygen during the night of 22-09-2020 in Ward No. 03, GMC Jammu leading to death of a patient - regd.

Government Order No:- 738-JK(HME) OF 2020
Dated:- 23-09-2020

WHEREAS, the Hon’ble Advisor(B), in a meeting chaired by him in Government Medical College, Jammu on 23.09.2020, ordered to enquire into the shortage of oxygen in the Covid-19 care areas in Government Medical College and Hospital, Jammu;

AND WHEREAS, the Enquiry Committee in this regard, comprising of Dr. Yashpal Sharma, MD, JKMSCL, Mr. Gagan Jyoti, Chief Engineer Mechanical, Engineering Department, Jammu and Dr. Jitender Mehta, Medical Officer, presently on deployment to work in the Control Room, Government Medical College Hospital, Jammu, in their report have highlighted the following points for immediate attention:-

i) The present Manifold room is not properly maintained and its administrative and functional control needs to be shifted immediately to the Executive Engineer, Mechanical and Central Heating Division, GMC Jammu.

ii) The consumption of the oxygen cylinders which is very high needs to be regulated and the consumption of such high quantity of oxygen needs to be inquired in detail. The fillings of cylinders as suggested in the aforesaid paras needs to be regulated by Legal Metrology Department at source of filling.

iii) The Executive Engineer, Mechanical alongwith his teams needs to visit to patient care areas to ensure that the oxygen regulating system in the wards does not have any leakage or wastage and if required the repairs are made on urgent basis.

iv) The requirement of manpower (skilled /unskilled) for running of manifold system should be allowed to be hired by
the Hospital Authority and placed at the disposal of Executive Engineer, Mechanical and central heating division.

v) The Executive Engineer, Mechanical shall also maintain an independent 24*7 control room with positing of senior officers in the GMC Hospital, Jammu.

vi) Proper log books / complaint books / record of the oxygen cylinders need to be maintained at the Engineering section as well.

AND WHEREAS, from the report of the Committee, it imbibes that there has been complete lack of coordination between the Hospital Administration and the Mechanical Engineering Wing of the Hospital. This mis-management has lead to the poor service delivery system to the patients, particularly the patients suffering from COVID-19. There has been mis-management on part of the Hospital Administration and the officers at the helm of affairs have been dealing with the situation in a very casual and un-professional manner, thereby putting the things in disarray and the available resources have not been put to optimal use;

AND WHEREAS, in light of the findings of the Enquiry Committee, it has become incumbent to take some corrective measures and to take action against such of the officers who were associated with the duty of managing Oxygen Supply in Government Medical College Hospital, Jammu.

Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered that:-

i) Mr. Tejinder Singh Soodan, incharge Executive Engineer, Hospital Division, Mechanical Engineering Department, Jammu, is placed under suspension. During his suspension, he shall remain attached in the office of the Chief Engineer, Mechanical Engineering Department, Jammu.
ii) Dr. Deepak Kumar, Medical Officer, presently working as incharge Deputy Medical Superintendent, Super Specialty Hospital, Jammu with the responsibilities of managing Oxygen Supply in Government Medical College Hospital, Jammu, is placed under suspension. During his suspension, he shall remain attached in the office of the Director Health Services, Jammu.

iii) Dr. Harjeet Rai, Medical Officer, presently posted as officer on special duty in the Health and Medical Education Department, is transferred and posted as incharge Deputy Medical Superintendent, Super Specialty Hospital, Jammu vice Dr. Deepak Kumar.

BY ORDER OF THE GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR.

Sd/-
(Atal Dulloo) IAS
Financial Commissioner,
Health and Medical Education Department

No: ME/Gaz/52/2020
Dated: 23.09.2020

Copy to the:-
1. Principal Secretary to the Government, Public Works (R&B) Department. He is requested to immediately post an Executive Engineer (Mechanical) in the Hospital Engineering Division, Jammu.
2. Principal Secretary to the Lieutenant Governor.
3. Joint Secretary (J&K), Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India.
4. Principal, Government Medical College Jammu.
5. MD, National Health Mission, J&K, Jammu.
6. Director, Archives, Archaeology & Museums, J&K.
7. Director Health Services, Jammu.
8. Chief Engineer, Mechanical Engineering Department, Jammu.
9. OSD to Advisor (B) (Incharge Health and Medical Education).
10. Concerned officers.
11. Private Secretary to the Financial Commissioner, Health and Medical Education Department.
12. I/C Website.

(Pamposh Ganju)
Under Secretary to the Government