Subject: Measures for financial assistance during the lock down period due to COVID-19.

CIRCULAR

A 21 day lock down in the entire country has been announced beginning mid night of 24th March, 2020. In view of above, following measures shall be taken up immediately: -

1. Overdraft facility in Jan-Dhan Accounts:

   There are 22.10 lakh Jan Dhan Accounts in UT of J&K, out of which 16.05 lakh accounts are with J&K Bank and rest of 6.05 lakh accounts with other banks. Jan-Dhan Accounts have a built in facility for overdraft which is granted on individual requests. Banks shall be requested to allow this facility to needy persons.

   (Action by Chairman, J&K Bank/Convenor UTLBC)

2. ESIC registered workers:

   There are 2.26 lakh workers registered with ESIC. The Regional Director, ESIC shall be requested to ensure that all ESIC hospitals and employers extend relief/compensation including wages as envisaged in the ESIC scheme promptly to all the insured persons as per directions of Central Government.

   (Action by Commr./Secretary, Labour & Employment)

3. J&K Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Board:

   There are a total of 3.50 lakh workers registered with Building & Other Construction Workers Welfare Board. An assistance of Rs.1000/- per worker costing around Rs.36 crore may be released to registered workers strictly through DBT for purchase of ration.

   (Action by Commr./Secretary, Labour & Employment)
4. Old Age Pension:

Two installments of pension relating to old age, disability and women in distress may be paid immediately for nearly 7.7 lakh persons including 1.7 lakh pending cases.

(Action by Principal Secretary, Social Welfare Deptt.)

5. Disaster Management Relief, Rehabilitation and Reconstruction:

Rs.45 crore have been released for the purpose of covering cost of quarantine, cluster containment operation, food, lodging etc. for management of COVID-19 under Disaster Response Fund. It was decided that besides above, free ration to destitutes, daily wage earners under distress, slum dwellers etc. may also be extended under Disaster Response Fund.

(Action by Secretary, DMRRR)

6. Entertainment of bills which could not be presented in Treasuries during 2019-20:

There are nearly 6500 DDOs attached with 121 Treasuries. In view of lock down, many bills will not get presented as DDOs may not be able to function fully. Therefore, it was decided that all bills pertaining to authorized works or procurement of goods and services as per rules that could not be presented due to lock down, shall be entertained during 2020-21.

(Action by DGAT/DG Budget)

7. Ration under PDS and Mid-Day Meal Scheme:

It was decided that the process of providing two months ration to all persons covered under PDS and children covered under Mid-Day Meal scheme shall be completed immediately.

(Action by Principal Secretary, School Edu. and Secretary, FCS&CA)

By order of the Lieutenant Governor.

(Dr. Arun Kumar Mehta), IAS, Financial Commissioner, Finance Department

No. FD-VII-Gen(190)DBT/2016-I Dated: 25.03.2020

Copy to the:

1. Advocate General, J&K High Court Srinagar/Jammu.
2. All Financial Commissioners.
4. All Principal Secretaries to Government.
5. Principal Secretary to Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor.
6. Principal Resident Commissioner, 5-Prithvi Raj Road, New Delhi.
7. All Commissioners/Secretaries to Government.
8. Chief Electoral Officer, J&K.
11. Chief Vigilance Commissioner, J&K.
12. Principal Secretary to the Hon'ble Chief Justice, J&K High Court, Srinagar/Jammu.
13. Registrar General, J&K High Court, Srinagar/Jammu.
14. Director Anti-Corruption Bureau, J&K.
15. Director General, Accounts & Treasuries, J&K.
16. Director General, Audit and Inspection, J&K.
17. Director General, J&K Funds Organization.
18. Director General, Budget Division, J&K.
19. Director, Local Fund Audit & Pensions, J&K.
20. Director Information, J&K.
21. All Head of Departments/Managing Directors/CEO of State PSUs/Autonomous Bodies/Societies.
22. Secretary, J&K Public Service Commission.
23. All District Development Commissioners.
24. Secretary, J&K Legislative Assembly/Legislative Council.
25. Director/Principal, Northern Zonal Accountancy Training Institute, Jammu.
27. All Directors of Finance/Financial Advisors & CAOs.
28. Principal Accountancy Training School Srinagar.
31. Private Secretary to Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor.
32. Private Secretary to Hon'ble Advisors (S)/(F)/(B)/(BK) to Lieutenant Governor.
33. Private Secretary to Chief Secretary.
34. Private Secretary to Financial Commissioner, Finance Department.
35. All Treasury Officers.
36. Incharge website, Finance Department (www.jakfinance.nic.in).
37. Incharge website, GAD (www.jkgad.nic.in).