To,

The Principal Secretary(T)/Secretary(T) of all the States/UTs
The Transport Commissioners of all the States/UTs

Subject: Measures to restrict the travels by citizens due to Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) - reg.

Sir/Madam,

As you may be aware that the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) cases have now been confirmed in more than 90 countries. M/o Health & family Welfare has been coordinating the efforts of the Central Government in this regard and has also been working with State Governments in order to mitigate the impact of the outbreak in India.

2. A public health situation of this scale requires a concerted and whole of government approach in order to prevent further importation of cases and to build up a comprehensive and robust response system. It is therefore required to step up efforts and fully mobilize all resources to in preparedness, control and containment measures.

3. Accordingly, it is requested that all necessary steps may be taken to ensure the following:

(i) To highlight the importance of ‘social distancing’ in controlling the spread of Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). Also maximum publicity be made in this regard.

(ii) Appropriate publicity be made intimating that this is stage where we can control the spreading of the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) by adopting various precautionary measures.

(iii) To minimise travel numbers, public may be advised through appropriate means to avoid the same if it is not unavoidable and a facility of extending refund be considered where passengers have done their bookings.

(iv) Wherever possible, arrangements may be made for sending SMSs to the passengers by the State Transport Authorities to make awareness on the above lines.

Yours sincerely,

(Sudip Dutta)
Under Secretary to the Government of India
Tel No. 011 -23357125

Copy for information to: ED, ASRTU – with the request to take up with all the concerned authorities for wide publicity.
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2. A public health situation of this scale requires a concerted and whole of government approach in order to prevent further importation of cases and to build up a comprehensive and robust response system. It is required to step up efforts and fully mobilize all resources to support the efforts of the M/o Health & Family Welfare in preparedness, control and containment measures.

3. It is requested that all necessary steps may be undertaken in the Public Transport Vehicles to ensure sanitation of seats, handles & bars. The hygiene and sanitation may please be stepped up at all the Bus Terminals and the display of public health messages may be ensured on public transport vehicles, Bus Terminals and the Bus Stops.

4. You are requested to kindly take expeditious action and mobilize all necessary support in this regard. This advisory may also be disseminated amongst the organizations/agencies etc. under your administrative control.

5. A copy of the DO letter dated 8th March, 2020 received in this regard from the Cabinet Secretary is enclosed as ready reference.

Yours sincerely,

(Sudip Dutta)
Under Secretary to the Government of India
Tel No. 011 -23357125

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