

INDIAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION (HQs.)

(Registered under the Societies Act XXI of 1860)

Mutually Affiliated with the British & Nepal Medical Associations

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To Shri Rajesh Bhushan, IAS Secretary of Health and Family Welfare Government of India

Respected Sir,

Sub: Requesting an extension of the PMGKP insurance policy in relation to, Do No Z.21020/16/2020/PH dt 24th March 2021 from your office.

The Indian Medical Association extends its greetings. The Indian Medical Association is grateful to the Ministry for launching the PMGKP insurance scheme with the objective of enabling the martyred health care professional families to receive financial support to the tune of 50 lakhs.

However, due to the stringent norms and the continued apathy in various administrative ladders, it is painful to note out of the 756 modern medicine doctors who had sacrificed their life, only 168 out of them could reach out to this benefit, and totally only 287 health care professionals have received these benefits.

As the executive authority of the health care, when on the battle against the corona infection, our colleagues who have valiantly fought in the front line to save thousands of lives and reduce the public mortality by around 1%, is it not our responsibility to reach out to them proactively to recognize, honor and comfort them in lieu of their martyred forfeiture of life.

Indeed, there is an apparent delay from the families to seek help as most of them are shattered and engulfed in the procedural difficulty in getting the legal hire certificate, cause of death certificates, certificate of authenticity to prove they have worked in covid health care, and the rising pandemic. Many applications are still stacked up in Joint Directorates of their districts.

In response to the list and details of martyred doctors submitted by IMA, the Central Bureau of health intelligence has taken up the responsibility to trace and verify the list of martyrs. We appeal, once the verification is done, they shall be directly authorized to receive the benefits of this PMGKP.

As the Pandemic second wave is spreading, the WHO has warned 14% of Health Care Professionals are likely to be infected and the mortality among them is much more than the general public we need to keep this insurance option open and made it much more user-friendly. There is a growing shortage of doctors as they are overworked and stressed out, it is the responsibility of the Government to keep their morale high with adequate care and open-minded support.

Hence IMA appeal and beseech you, sir, to extend the PMGKP insurance for another 6 months, expedite and ease out the procedures bottlenecks and ensure all our health care professionals are recognized, honored as martyrs, and adequately compensated for their dedicated services and comfort their families with motherly attitude.

With kind regards Yours Sincerely

> Dr. J A Jayalal National President, IMA

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Honorary Secretary General, IMA