

GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM  
HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE DEPARTMENT  
DISPUR :: GUWAHATI- 781006

No. HLA.269/2020/179

Dated Dispur, the 24<sup>th</sup> September, 2021.

ORDER

In pursuance of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India judgment dated 30/06/2021 in Writ Petition (Civil) No.554/2021 with Writ Petition (Civil) No.539/2021, and subsequent directions of Ministry of Health & Family Welfare thereupon for simplification of guidelines for issuance of Death Certificate/ official document, the following provisions are hereby put in place in addition to this Department's earlier "Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for issue of a death certificate in the event of death of a COVID-19 positive patient" issued vide this Department's communication No. HLA.269/2020/141 dated 12/07/2021:

1. COVID-19 cases, which are not resolved and have died either in hospital settings or at home, and where a Medical Certificate of Cause of Death (MCCD) in Form 4 \* 4A has been issued to the registering authority, as required under Section 10 of the Registration of Birth and Deaths Act, 1969, will be treated as a COVID-19 death.
2. Deaths occurring within 30 days from the date of testing or from the date of being clinically determined as a COVID-19 case, will be treated as "deaths due to COVID-19", even if the death takes place outside the hospital/ in-patient facility.
3. A COVID-19 case, while admitted in the hospital/ in-patient facility, and who continued as the same admission beyond 30 days, and died subsequently, shall also be treated as a COVID-19 death.
4. A committee shall be constituted in each district with the following members for redressal of the grievances in cases where the MCCD is not available or the next of kin of the deceased is not satisfied with the cause of death given in MCCD (Form 4/4A), and which are not covered by the aforesaid scenarios:
  - (a) Additional District Collector (Health) of the district : Chairperson
  - (b) Joint Director of Health Services of the district : Member Secretary
  - (c) Superintendent of Sub-Divisional Civil Hospital/  
Principal or HOD of Medicine of a Medical College (if  
one exists in the district) : Member
  - (d) A subject expert to be nominated by the Chairperson : Member
5. The Committee shall examine the grievances of the next of kin of the deceased, and propose necessary remedial measures, including comments for issuance of amended Official Document for COVID-19 Death after verifying all facts and data. Further, all such cases may be referred by the Committee with its comments to the State Death Audit Board constituted vide this Department's Order



No.HLB.164/2020/23 dated 12/07/2020. The State Death Audit Board shall take the final decision on all such matters.

6. The applications for redressal of grievances shall be disposed off within 30 days of submission of the grievance.

  
(Anurag Goel, IAS)

Principal Secretary to the Government of Assam,  
Health & Family Welfare Department.


Memo No. HLA.269/2020/179-A

Dated Dispur, the 24<sup>th</sup> September, 2021.

Copy to :

1. Principal Secretary to the Hon'ble Chief Minister, Assam.
2. SO to Chief Secretary, Assam.
3. Director General of Police, Assam.
4. ADGP (L&O) / ADGP (S), Assam.
5. Commissioner & Secretary, Health & Family Welfare Department, Assam.
6. Commissioner & Secretary, Health & F.W. Department & CEO, AAAS, Assam.
7. Chief Executive Officer, Assam Disaster Management Authority, Dispur.
8. Secretary, Health & Family Welfare Department, Assam.
9. Mission Director, National Health Assam, Assam.
10. Deputy Commissioners (all districts), with instruction to ensure adherence to the order.
11. Superintendents of Police (all districts).
12. All Additional/ Joint/ Deputy Secretaries, Health & FW Department.
13. Director of Medical Education, Assam
14. Director of Health Services, Assam
15. Director of Health Services (FW), Assam.
16. Additional Director of Health Services, Assam.
17. Executive Director, National Health Mission, Assam.
18. Addl. Director of Medical Education (Admin.), Assam
19. Deputy CEO, Atal Amrit Abhiyaan Society
20. Principal-cum-Chief Superintendents/ Superintendents, Medical College & Hospital (All)
21. Joint Director of Health Services (all districts).
22. P.S. to Hon'ble Minister, Health & Family Welfare
23. Any other concerned.

By orders etc.

  
Joint Secretary to the Government of Assam  
Health & Family Welfare Department