



आलोक सक्सेना
संयुक्त सचिव
Alok Saxena
Joint Secretary



राष्ट्रीय एड्स नियंत्रण संगठन
स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय
भारत सरकार
National AIDS Control Organisation
Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
Government of India

C-11011/10/2020-NACO (TI)

19th October 2020

Dear Sir/Ma'am,

Sub: Identification of Sex Workers by NACO to implement the Hon'ble Supreme Court Case No IA 80140 / 2020, in Criminal Appeal No(S).135 / 2010 and its directives dated. 29.09.2020 – reg.

National AIDS Control Organization (NACO) has been implementing National AIDS Control Programme (NACP) through State AIDS Control Societies (SACS) across the country to work with High Risk Groups (HRG) including Female Sex Workers, Men having Sex with Men, Transgender/Hijras, Injecting Drug Users and Bridge Population (BP) viz., Migrants and Truckers. SACS have been implementing Targeted Intervention and Link Worker Scheme projects engaging Non Governmental Organizations (NGO)/Community Based Organizations (CBO) to reach out to HRGs and BP with HIV prevention services including Clinical services.

2. It is in this context that the Hon'ble Supreme Court (vide order dated 29.09.2020 in Criminal appeal No(S).135/2010) has directed States/UTs as below:

"It is incumbent on the Central Government and the State Governments/ Union Territories to rescue the sex workers who are in dire straits. Starving sex workers are entitled to be provided with dry rations. Therefore, we direct the State Governments and the Union Territories to provide dry rations to the sex workers who are identified by National Aids Control Organization (NACO) without insisting on proof of identity. The District Legal Services Authorities are directed to take active steps in assisting the distribution of dry rations to the sex workers without insisting on proof of identity.

The State Governments and Union Territories are directed to file compliance reports within a period of four weeks from today giving details of the distribution of dry rations to the sex workers."

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3. In order to comply with above directions of Hon'ble Supreme Court, NACO – Ministry of Health & Family Welfare has issued Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) to SACS inter alia directing them to facilitate directions to identify Sex Workers compliance to Hon'ble Supreme Court order dated 29.09.2020. A copy of the same is attached herewith as Annexure – I.

4. The list of Project Directors of State AIDS Control Societies (SACS) with name and contact details is attached at Annexure - II for your ready reference and perusal. Should any further assistance be needed, you may contact Dr Shobini Rajan, Deputy Director General, NACO at shobini@naco.gov.in.

Kind regards,

Yours Sincerely,



(Alok Saxena)

Encl: Annexure - I - Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) to SACS
Annexure - II – List of Project Directors of State AIDS Control Societies

To,

1. Secretary, Department of Women and Child Development,
2. Secretary, Department of Food & Public distribution
3. Member Secretary, National Legal Services Authority
4. Secretary, Department of Social Justice and Empowerment

Copy to:

1. PPS to AS & DG, NACO & NTEP
2. Project Directors,
All SACS/DACS