

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 08.08.2020 TO ASSESS THE  
SITUATION OF DRIVERS AND HANDYMEN STRANDED ALONG THE  
NATIONAL HIGHWAY IN KOLASIB DISTRICT AND OTHER ISSUES**

**Chairman:** Chief Secretary, Government of Mizoram

**Venue:** Secretariat Conference Hall

**Date and Time:** 8<sup>th</sup> August, 2020 (Saturday) at 12:30 PM

A meeting was convened by the Chief Secretary on 08.08.2020 to assess the situation of drivers and handymen of trucks stranded along the national highway between Vairengte and Sethawn, Kolasib and the risk posed to the people of villages locate along the route, and other issues. The list of members who attended the meeting is enclosed.

Following is a record of the main points of discussion and the decisions taken:

1. Deputy Commissioner, Kolasib shall undertake to ensure that all trucks and vehicles currently stranded along the national highway within Kolasib district due to road damage are spaced out in such a manner that they do not mingle amongst themselves or with the local population and that they are not parked within the immediate vicinity of towns and villages. They should strictly adhere to Clause B.5 of the State Government (Disaster Management & Rehabilitation Department)'s Order No.B.13021/101/2020-DMR/Pt-III dated 31.07.2020 with regard to cooking their own food and observe 'Standard Operating Procedure for Social Distancing' and hygiene.

***Action: DC, Kolasib***

2. All Deputy Commissioners shall also enforce strict compliance with Clause B.5 of the State Government (Disaster Management & Rehabilitation Department)'s Order No.B.13021/101/2020-DMR/Pt-III dated 31.07.2020 with regard to unloading of goods brought in from outside the State and ensure that social distancing and hygiene protocol is observed by all concerned at each destination/unloading point. It was also decided that the cooperation of the Local/Village Task Forces may be solicited in this regard.

***Action: All DCs/DDMAs***

3. The meeting desired that goods bound for Aizawl may be unloaded at a transshipment point without entering the city after which the trucks may immediately return to their station of origin. However, the suggestion of Ch. Saprawnga Truck Terminus at Rangvamual was not considered feasible in view of its proximity to human habitation (Rangvamual and Phunchawng). It was also felt that the space and facility of Ch. Saprawnga Truck Terminus was inadequate considering the volume of goods/trucks bound for Aizawl alone.

4. The importance of strictly maintaining Zoram Medical College as a dedicated COVID hospital was discussed and Director, ZMC was advised not to admit any non-COVID patient and to explore the possibility of shifting even those non-COVID patients who are presently admitted in ZMC to other hospitals.

*Action: Director, ZMC*

5. Zoram Medical College shall maintain a proper inventory management system particularly for the reagents and consumables for the RT-PCR machines. Director, ZMC reported that presently, they have about 5000 RT-PCR test reagents which were considered to be precariously low.

*Action: Director, ZMC*

6. The meeting also discussed instances where an entire village/locality was declared as a containment zone by the Deputy Commissioners concerned. It was felt that declaration of large areas as containment zones is not only disruptive for the community but also unnecessary and therefore, Deputy Commissioners may identify a specific street, building or cluster of buildings as containment areas in consultation with the district health authorities.

*Action: All DCs/DDMAs*

7. TrueNat testing machines currently in transit and reported to have reached Silchar should be followed up earnestly so that they reach their destination districts and installed as soon as possible.

*Action: H&FW Dept*

8. It was reported that the stock of diagnostic chips for the TrueNat machine at Lunglei is running low and necessary procurement be immediately undertaken.

*Action: H&FW Dept*

9. It was reported that the present stock of Rapid Antigen Test kits is approximately 7,600. The Chairman expressed his desire that at least 10,000 kits should be available at all times. It was, therefore, decided that Mission Director, National Health Mission may undertake to procure at least 10,000 Rapid Antigen Test kits under the National Health Mission funds immediately.

*Action: Mission Director, NHM/H&FW Dept*

10. Upon a suggestion from the Non-Government Hospitals Association of Mizoram, the meeting also decided that Health & Family Welfare Department may take necessary steps for enabling private hospitals to conduct Rapid Antigen Tests by suitably amending "The Mizoram Epidemic Diseases (COVID-19) Regulations, 2020".

*Action: H&FW Dept*

11. Contact tracing of COVID-19-positive persons should be done in a more extensive manner by tracking their travel history and secondary contacts in more detail. In the

case of the drivers and handymen recently tested positive within Kolasib district also, their detailed travel history and contacts beyond their primary contacts should also be traced.

*Action: H&FW Dept/DGP*

12. All contacts of COVID-positive persons who have tested negative using RT-PCR should be given proper counselling and advised to observe strict home quarantine under the watch of the Local/Village Task Forces. Rapid Antibody Test may be conducted after completion of the home quarantine period.

*Action: H&FW Dept*

13. Representatives of the Indian Medical Association, Mizoram expressed their concern regarding the possibility of contagion among frontline health personnel and fatigue setting in among those involved in the containment and prevention of the spread of COVID-19 in the State and suggested that the State Government may draw up a strategy for deployment of its human resources on a bi-monthly basis or in such a staggered manner as to pre-empt any eventuality of human resource crisis.

*Action: H&FW Dept*

14. Health & Family Welfare Department shall ensure that the pamphlets containing necessary information and advice on COVID-19 which were disseminated through the Deputy Commissioners have actually reached each and every household in the State.

*Action: H&FW Dept*

15. Steps may be taken to ensure that a clear understanding of the term, 'contact', including 'primary' and 'secondary' contact, is explained to all Local/Village Task Forces in the State so that there is no ambiguity in its understanding and interpretation among the public.

*Action: H&FW Dept*

16. The meeting also voiced its concern regarding non-compliance of the Government's directive regarding the assembly of persons, particularly at funerals and weddings. It was agreed that stricter enforcement of the directive needs to be undertaken by the Local/Village Task Forces in coordination with the police. It was, therefore, decided that Chief Secretary may convene a meeting on 12.08.2020 (Wednesday) with the Central YMA, church leaders and concerned Departments of the State Government regarding the matter. It was also decided that the Presbyterian Church may be requested not to organise the annual children's meet (Naupang Inkhawmpui).

*Action: DM&R Dept*

17. All porters/coolies operating in the State who come into close contact with drivers and handymen of incoming goods carriers on a regular basis should be tested with Rapid Antigen Tests.

*Action: H&FW Dept*

18. Local Task Forces and the police should be adequately sensitised regarding the guidelines and protocol prescribed by the State Government for hotel quarantine and to ensure strict adherence to the guidelines and protocols by the management and staff of the hotels being used as quarantine facilities.

*Action: DDMA's concerned*

19. Arrangements may be considered for quarantining all health personnel involved in swab sample collection.

*Action: H&FW Dept*

20. The list of all Dedicated COVID Hospitals, Dedicated COVID Health Centres and COVID Care Centres, along with the number of beds, may be submitted to Chief Secretary. A regular update regarding occupancy of the beds should also be shared.

*Action: H&FW Dept*

The meeting was concluded with a vote of thanks from the Chair.

**Sd/-LALNUNMAWIA CHUAUNGO**

Chief Secretary,

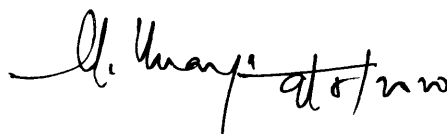
Government of Mizoram

: *Aizawl, the 9<sup>th</sup> of August, 2020*

**Memo No.B.13021/101/2020-DMR**

Copy to:

1. P.S. to Chief Minister, Mizoram
2. P.S. to Deputy Chief Minister, Mizoram
3. P.S. to Minister, Health & Family Welfare Department
4. P.S. to Minister, Disaster Management & Rehabilitation/Home Department
5. Sr. PPS to Chief Secretary, Mizoram
6. Director General of Police, Mizoram for immediate necessary action.
7. Secretary, Health & Family Welfare Department for immediate necessary action.
8. Secretary, Home Department
9. All Deputy Commissioners/Chairpersons, DDMA with a request to act upon the action points assigned to them immediately waiting for a separate communication.
10. All members concerned for information and necessary action.
11. Guard file.



**(Dr MALSAWMTLUANGA FANCHUN)**

Under Secretary to the Government of Mizoram  
Disaster Management & Rehabilitation Department

# ATTENDANCE SHEET

Dated: 8<sup>th</sup> August, 2020

Sl. No.	Name & Designation	Department	Signature
1.	Lalnunmawia chawngi	Chief Secretary	
2.	L.H. Shaukua IGP(LSD)	IGP (LSD)	<u>Luwe</u>
3.	Lalbaik Thanga Khuaigta	DIG (NR)	<u>Luwe</u>
4.	Dr. Chawngthuyngmaw	Hony Secy, IMA	<u>Lu</u>
5.	Dr. Rosanhuia	President IMA	<u>Lu</u>
6.	Dr. Lalbaik Khuaigta	Executive IMA	<u>Lu</u>
7.	Dr. Lalnunmawia Saita	ID DITALE	<u>Lu</u>
8.	Dr. T. Lalnunmawia	DITALE	<u>Lu</u>
9.	Dr. Paamau Lalnunmawia	SNO (IDSP)	<u>Lu</u>
10.	Dr. Vanlathuana Chhyt	Secy NCHAM	<u>Lu</u>
11.	RAMPINLIANI, Addl Secy	DMBR, Home	<u>Lu</u>
12.	Dr. Chawngthuyngmaw	President- MADA	<u>Lu</u>
13.	Dr. Lalnunmawia	Health.	<u>Lu</u>
14.	Dr. Eric Zomawia	MD NCHAM	<u>Lu</u>
15.	Dr. H. Lalchunngmawia	DHS	<u>Lu</u>
16.	Lalbaik Thanga	Secy, Home/DITR	<u>Lu</u>
17.	Dr. R. Lalchunngmawia	SNO CP	<u>Lu</u>
18.	Dr. Khuaigta	SNO (Reg)	<u>Lu</u>
19.			
20.			