



# INDIAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION (HQs.)

(Registered under the Societies Act XXI of 1860)

Mutually Affiliated with the British & Nepal Medical Associations

I.M.A. House, Indraprastha Marg, New Delhi-110 002

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**30.08.2020**

**New Delhi**

**To**

**Shri Narendra Modi Ji**

**Honourable Prime Minister of India**

**Government of India**

**New Delhi.**

**Respected sir,**

Government of India has released the statistics that 87000 health care workers have been infected and 573 of them have lost their lives due to Covid. The data has raised concerns all across the country. IMA's data for doctors alone has registered 307 deaths as of today and a total 2006 infected. 188 of those died are General Practitioners who are the first point of contact for people. Doctors suffer a higher viral load and a higher CFR (Case Fatality Rate) as a community. IMA is constrained to point out that they could have stayed back at home during the epidemic safely. They chose to serve the nation in the best traditions of the medical profession. The solatium approved by the National Government for their colleagues in Government Services in all fairness is deserved by the children of these martyrs as well. All doctors who have laid down their lives in fighting this epidemic should be treated at par with the martyrs of Indian Armed Forces and acknowledged appropriately. The surviving spouse or dependent should be provided a Government job as per their qualifications.

There is also the issue of whatever solatium that is in place has failed to reach the unfortunate beneficiaries due to the inadequacy of the chosen instrument and the indifference. The scheme is reported to have been lapsed as well. There is a pressing need to reconsider the same on merit and create dedicated system to administer. A National scheme to support the soldiers fighting a pandemic cannot be allowed to degenerate into just another pecuniary benefit for Government servants. It will remain an indelible injustice on the concept of nationhood itself. We once again appeal to your goodself that such a sacrifice by doctors needs to be acknowledged by the highest office of the nation irrespective of the sectors. An inclusive National solatium for all doctors who have laid down their lives in the calling of the nation only would render justice to the sacrifice of their families.

**Protect the Single and Couple Doctors Setup**

All communications intended for headquarters office should be addressed to the Honorary Secretary General



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We are also writing to you at this juncture since it has been predicted that India will top the world in number of cases in a few weeks. Health Care manpower is precious. Uniform practices have to be put in place throughout the country. Substantial differences are noticed from district to district in how doctors and health care workers are deployed. Their service situations differ and mostly reflect the logistics of the district. Districts are not sensitive to the safety angle and the concerns of stress and fatigue of the medical manpower. Deploying doctors 24 X 7 without intermittent quarantine periods or long working hours in PPE for Covid care is not the same as 24X 7 Covid control from safe offices. How India will emerge out of this challenge will depend on the wise deployment of Human resources cutting across the sectors. Case Fatality Rate and not the total number of cases would define success. Only doctors are capable of making a difference in this rarefied area of CFR. The current CFR of 1.82 is an achievement of Covid Care by the selfless doctors and their team. Empowering the medical profession in real time in Government Services and honourable engagement of private doctors and hospitals in a three tier referral system on war footing will meet the challenge squarely. The current system of administration has led to considerable difficulties for the medical profession in all sectors. The nation deserves a radical approach to the situation. We fervently appeal to you and your Government to bring in appropriate reforms which are long overdue. Indian Medical Association and the doctors of this great nation rededicate ourselves and will stand shoulder to shoulder with our National Government.

Jai Hind.

Thanking you  
Yours sincerely

**Dr Rajan Sharma**  
**National President, IMA**

**Dr R V Asokan**  
**Hony Secretary General, IMA**