

OFFICE OF THE STATE COMMISSIONER FOR RIGHTS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES, TELANGANA

SMT. B. SHAILAJA, M.A., L.L.B STATE COMMISSIONER

Lr. No.COVID-19/RPwDs/2020 Dated: 03-04-2020

To:

All Collectors & District Magistrates in Telangana State.

Sir/Madam,

Sub: Issuance of Passes to the Caregiver (attendant) of Persons with Disabilities(PwDs) during lockdown.

The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Government of India issued guidelines (copy enclosed) wherein it states that keeping in view of the essential requirements of persons with severe nature of disabilities and senior citizens, the need for providing passes to the Caregivers (attendants)of such persons, on request, during lock down period, liberally has been emphasised. The following procedureneed be followed in this regard:

i. The request for CAREGIVER PASS should be submitted by the PwD or his/her legal guardian/representative along with PwD's Disability Certificate to the concerned authority designated for the purpose by the District Collector.

ii. The option of emailing the request and/or calling the Collectorate helpline with details should be made available immediately

iii. Mandal level/ Area Level authorities may be identified for decentralized issuance of passesas the caregivers may not be able to travel to District Head Quarters. The passes are to be processed the same day of application.

iv. In the absence of PwD's Disability Certificate/Sadarem Certificate, a Medical Certificate issued by a recognized/registered Medical Practitioners to be taken into account. In case of poor/ illiterate PwDs, self- declaration will be sufficient during this lockdown period.

v. ID Proof of Caregivers such as Aadhar Card / Ration Card / Voter ID shall not be insisted upon as many of the Caregivers do not those specific ID CARDS. Any ID card / self- declaration will be sufficient during this lockdown period.

vi. The name and address of the Person with Disability and the name & contact details of his/her Caregiver shall be mentioned in the Passes.

vii. The passes should be issued after scrutiny of the genuineness of the case and strict instructions of sanitization procedures to be made mandatory for caregivers which are required to contain spread of COVID-19 during lockdown period.

viii. In case of emergency and if caregivers are required to move urgently, then suitable instructions may be given to the Police Department not to stop such caregivers and ensure right of passage duly noting the vehicle number and mobile number of the caregiver which can be verified for violations later if any.

ix. Any attempt to Misuse of such caregiver passes should be dealt with stringent punishments under the law

x. Overall the movement of caregivers to PwDs/ Senior Citizens in medical need should be made seamless without hurdles by ensuring the above mentioned steps.

In view of the above, the Collectors and District Magistrates in the state are requested to issue instructions to the authorities concerned for issuing the passes to the Caregivers/ Attendants of the PwDs. The District Welfare Officers of Women, Children, Disabled and Senior Citizens Department who are in possession of the data of such persons in the district are instructed to coordinate the matter.

STATE COMMISSIONER

Copy to the District Welfare officers, Women, Children, Disabled and Senior Citizens Dept., of all Districts except Hyderabad and the Assistant Director, Welfare of Disabled and Senior Citizens, Hyderabad District to pursue the matter

Copy to the Commissioner of Police, Hyderabad, Cyberabad & Rachakonda for favour of kind information and for issue of necessary instructions to field staff.

Copy to the Special Secretary to Government, Women, Children, Disabled and Senior Citizens Department, Government of Telangana, Hyderabad for favour of information.