



राजेश भूषण, आईएएस
सचिव

RAJESH BHUSHAN, IAS
SECRETARY



भारत सरकार
स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण विभाग
स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय

Government of India
Department of Health and Family Welfare
Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

D.O. No.17/S(HFW)/MO/2021
18th April 2021

The Empowered Group-II (EG-II) headed by Secretary, Department for Promotion of Industry & Internal Trade (DPIIT) is mandated by Govt. of India to manage requisite supplies of medical equipments, drugs including medical oxygen across the country in the wake of resurgence of COVID-19 cases. Medical oxygen is one life saving drug, whose supplies are being regularly monitored and managed by this Group.

2. There has been a significant surge in the demand for medical oxygen. Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) has conveyed that this has already reached about 60 percent of the total daily Oxygen production, and is expected to rise further.

3. While every effort is being made to meet the rising demand for medical oxygen, including augmenting daily production and stocks and States/UTs are taking appropriate steps for optimum and rationalized utilisation of available stock of oxygen, the present trend necessitates additional measures. The matter has been deliberated by the DPIIT with all the stakeholders and after due deliberations, it has been considered prudent to restrict industrial usage of oxygen to meet the rising demand for medical oxygen.

4. Accordingly, the EG-II has recommended that the supply of Oxygen for industrial purposes by manufacturers and suppliers be prohibited forthwith from 22.04.2021 till further orders. This recommendation has been accepted & the said prohibition on supply would come into effect from 22/04/2021.

5. The aforesaid prohibition, however, shall not apply to the supply of oxygen for the industries listed hereunder:

- i) Ampoules & Vials
- ii) Pharmaceutical
- iii) Petroleum refineries
- iv) Steel plants
- v) Nuclear energy facilities
- vi) Oxygen cylinder manufacturers
- vii) Waste water treatment plants
- viii) Food & water purification
- ix) Process industries which require uninterrupted operation of furnaces, processes, etc. as approved by respective State governments

6. The industrial units (other than those listed above) which would not be in a position to obtain oxygen are advised to consider alternate measures such as import of Oxygen or setting up their own Air Separator Units (ASU) for generation of Oxygen for their captive requirements.

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7. All Chief Secretaries are advised to ensure effective implementation & compliance of this Order.

Yours sincerely


(Rajesh Bhushan)

**Chief Secretary /Administrator
All States/UTs**

Copy to : **Principal Secretary to PM** for information


(Rajesh Bhushan)

Copy to : **Cabinet Secretary** for information


(Rajesh Bhushan)

✓ Copy to : **Home Secretary** with the request to issue appropriate directions to States / UTs to facilitate effective implementation of the above Order.


(Rajesh Bhushan)