

RT-23018/33/2021-T
Government of India
Ministry of Road Transport & Highways
(Transport Section)

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Transport Bhawan, New Delhi

Dated 12 April, 2021

To,

Principal Secretary (Transport), Secretary (Transport)/Transport
Commissioners of all States/UTs

Subject: Advisory in view of rising Covid-19 cases across the nation- Ease of Medical Oxygen Supply-Reg.

Madam/Sir,

With reference to the subject cited above, I am directed to state that in view of the manifold rise in Covid-19 cases, there has been a rise in demand of Medical Oxygen at hospitals across the States/UTs. While efforts are being made at Central and State level to fulfil these demands and facilitate the availability of Medical Oxygen at hospitals, the need was felt for a detailed deliberation to ensure facilitation in this regard. Accordingly, a meeting was organized by this Ministry on 12.04.2021 with some State Transport Commissioners, DPIIT and leading manufacturers .

2. In view of certain issues brought to the notice of this Ministry regarding problems being faced by certain Transport Vehicle operators in the carriage , transportation and delivery of Oxygen Cylinders or Oxygen Tanks across the States or within a State, and that oxygen is an important item required for the treatment of COVID-19, the Ministry had issued a Notification, numbered SO 3204 (E) dated 21st September 2020 for exemption of Permit requirements as required under Section 66 of the Motor Vehicles Act 1988 till 31st March 2021. This exemption has been extended further till 30th Sept. 2021 vide SO 1441 (E) dated 01st April 2021. (Enclosed herewith and available on MoRTH website as well).

3. Further, after detailed deliberation in the meeting, it has been decided that all States/UTs may ensure implementation of the following to ensure seamless movement of Medical Oxygen Carrying Vehicles-

i. There shall be no restrictions on the movement of Medical Oxygen carrying Vehicles. They shall be permitted to ply round the clock, without any hindrance whatsoever.

ii. Every Medical Oxygen Carrying Vehicles must preferably have two drivers to take care of fatigue issues while ensure the continuous movement of Oxygen carrying vehicles.

iii. The compliance of SO 1441 (E) dated 1st April, 2021 vide which exemption of permit requirements for carriage of Medical Oxygen Cylinders or Oxygen tanks was extended to 30th September, 2021, shall be strictly ensured.

iv. It is requested that States/UTs may restrict the use of Oxygen in industry and divert the same to health sector to take care of the enhanced demand of Medical Oxygen. Efforts should also be made for diverting other gas tankers being used for Nitrogen or Argon into use as Oxygen tankers.

iv. It is also requested that continuous deliberations with Oxygen Manufactures/Suppliers/Transporters/any other concerned agency may be done at the State level to remove bottlenecks for Medical Oxygen Supply.

v. Pricing of Oxygen carrying be closely monitored and suitable price regulation may be imposed if needed.

4. Accordingly, all States/UTs are required to ensure compliance of the points mentioned in para 3 above on immediate basis.

Encl.-As above

Yours faithfully,


(Dr. Piyush Jain)
Director (MVL)

Copy to:

1. PPS to AS, MoRTH
2. PPS to JS(T)
3. PS to Dir(T)
4. Director, DPIIT