

21st March 2020

COVID-19: Instructions for safe disposal of waste from quarantined households

Dear Sir / Madam,

Under Swachh Bharat Mission (Urban), we are collectively working to ensure scientific disposal of municipal solid waste in all cities and towns. Parallely, we are also committed to ensure that the welfare of our sanitary workers are taken care of. Accordingly, given the COVID-19 situation evolving across the country and the associated health hazards, instructions may be issued to all municipal bodies to take the following steps immediately:

1. Safe disposal of waste from quarantined households:

- *For all households where residents are under quarantine, ULB may provide them with **pecially marked** garbage bags for disposing of their wet and dry wastes.*
- *Waste from such quarantined households should be treated as **domestic hazardous waste**.*
- *Hence, these wastes should be **collected** by ULBs **separately** (preferably in separate collection vehicles) and **transported separately**, without mixing with the regular waste from other households*
- *Waste from quarantined households should be disposed off **only through incineration**.*
- *All sanitary workers (including contractual workers and informal sector waste pickers) involved in collection and transportation of waste from quarantined households should be **trained** to handle such wastes safely and should be provided with **Personal Protective equipments**.*

2. Sanitary workers' attendance:

- *In case, because of lockdown or any other related situation in any city, sanitary workers are unable to report for duty, their daily / regular wages **should continue to be paid**, and care taken to ensure that their employment / livelihoods are **not affected** because of their absence.*

u/s

(V.K.Jindal)

Joint Secretary and National Mission Director-SBM (Urban)

To: Principal Secretary – Urban Development of all states / UTs

Copy: Mission Directors of all States / UTs: with a request to ensure compliance by all ULBs