

Date:

To

**Shri Narendra Modi**

**Hon'ble Prime Minister**

**Govt. of India**

**New Delhi**

Sir,

We, the Central Trade Unions, while taking the lockdown as necessary step as a preventive measure to stop spread of Covid-19 infection, believe that Rs. 15000 crores allocated to the health sector in your address to the nation on 24<sup>th</sup> March too meager. You would agree that there is dire need of the country for testing and providing of all out medical help to all those infected cases. A war like preparedness is required for provision of ventilators, masks, increased bed capacity, availability of medicines, maintenance of hygiene etc. The front soldiers in the case of medical help are our doctors, nurses, other para-medical staff and cleaning staff etc. who need to be taken care of. But it is they who are being neglected and not fully equipped as the requests and complaints from them including from AIIMS Resident Doctors Association, the Nurses organizations from various parts of the country are all in open for all to see. We are dismayed at the fact that the government of India allowed export of all these required equipments in fighting Covid-19 till 19<sup>th</sup> March 2020 despite WHO guidelines to stop it in the beginning of February itself.

It must have come to your notice that the shameful acts of harassment of doctors, nurses etc. to vacate residential premises have occurred in various cities. The shameful instances of harassment of those working in airlines including Air India staff which brought stranded Indians from abroad have also come to light. This must be taken cognizance of by the concerned authorities and the guilty be booked to give clear signal to the society in this regard.

We have been receiving complaints from our unions that the workers and employees of the permitted essential services by the government are not being allowed to commute the work places by police in many areas despite they have ID proofs provided by the government departments and public sector offices.

The poor masses who are daily wagers/casual/migrant/ agriculture workers or are self employed as hawkers-vendors, those who are coolies/porters/loaders unloaders, construction and domestic workers etc. are losing their livelihood in the lockdown/curfew situation, have been left in lurch for nothing to bank upon. They need immediate financial relief, free ration and free fuel to cook food. In our

understanding in many a cases for destitutes, the food should be provided from govt. run outlets.

This requires big economic package from the government. The clean drinking water and other water needs for washing hands and bodies, the needs of hygiene and sanitation are very essential specially in this Pandemic situation.

We were aghast that the Finance Minister was only busy in announcing increase in deadlines for filing IT returns, GST, about TDS or the cases under bankruptcy act etc. but there was no announcement made for the 40 crores out of about 54 crores of working people who are looking towards the incumbent government for help.

We demand from your government to immediately come out with clear policy and package to deal with all these issues at the earliest otherwise anxieties of no work and no food amongst masses will create problems in dealing with Covid 19 Pandemic. The govt. has to immediately increase the financial package for health to tackle emergent needs of medical fraternity and the expansion of health infrastructure.

We demand minimum of Rs. 5 lakh crore package from Central Government to meet this calamity.

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