

Government of India
Directorate General of Health Services
Central Drugs Standard Control Organization

Date: 25.03.2020

To,

All Port offices of CDSCO,

Subject: Release of Consignments of Vaccine and critical IVDs-certain instructions issued – regarding.

Sir/Madam,

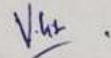
This office had received representation from the importers stating that the consignments of Vaccines and critical IVDs could not be released from the port offices as the samples could not be sent to the notified laboratories in view of the lock-down announced by the Government of India due to COVID-19 pandemic.

This matter has been examined carefully by the committee and in view of the criticality of these products it has been decided in larger public interest, till further orders that the consignments of the Vaccines and critical IVDs and blood products (which are usually sampled 100% for testing) may be released by all the port offices based on the review of documents, protocol, certificate of release of batch by the manufacturer and satisfactory history of the product, subject to the following conditions-

1. Sufficient quantity of the vaccines/IVDs (HIV, HbsAg etc), blood products should be drawn for analysis and stored at the prescribed storage conditions by the importers after putting mark for security by the port officers of CDSCO and the samples should be sent to the notified laboratories for evaluation at earliest when the logistics are restored.
2. The importer should submit an undertaking stating that their product released in this circumstance will be recalled in case the sample does not clear the evaluation by laboratories.

The port officers are hereby requested to follow the aforesaid procedure in order not to hamper the supplies of essential vaccine, diagnostics and blood products in public interest due to the situation arisen by COVID 19 outbreak, lock-down, logistics problem, man power problem at each level including at labs.

Yours Faithfully



(Dr. V.G. Somani)
Drugs Controller General (India)

Copy to:

1. All Zonal and Sub-Zonal offices of CDSCO
2. PS to JS (R), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare