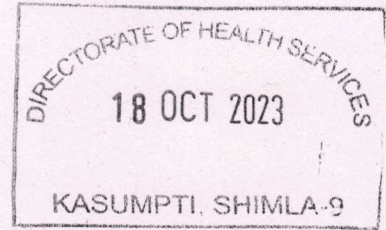


No. HFW-H/BMW/Advisory/2023/
Health & Family Welfare Department.
Himachal Pradesh .

To

All the Chief Medical Officer ,
And
All the Medical Superintendents
H&FW Dte. H.P.

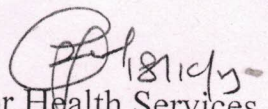


Subject: Regarding proceeding of 8th State Level Advisory committee
Meeting on Bio -Medical Waste Management.

Madam,

Please find enclosed herewith the proceeding of the 8th State level
Advisory committee for the implementation of (Bio Medical Waste Handling and
Management) Rules 2016 which was held on 13-09-2023 at 4.30PM in the
(SHFWTC) at Parimahal under the Chairmanship of Ms.M.Sudha Devi,
Secretary (Health) to the Govt . of H.P for information and compliance please. .

Yours faithfully.


Director Health Services
Himachal Pradesh.

Minutes of the meeting of the State Advisory Committee under Bio-Medical Waste Management Rules 2016 as amended 2020 held under the chairmanship of Ms M. Sudha Devi, Secretary (Health), Government of Himachal Pradesh, on 13/09/2023 at 4.30 PM at SIHFW Parimahal, Shimla, HP.

The following officers/officials attended the meeting:

1. Shri Neeraj Sharma, Special Secretary Health and Director Health and Safety Regulations
2. Dr Gopal Beri, Director Health Services, H.P
3. Dr Sita Thakur, Director Medical Education, Shimla
4. Dr Ambika Chauhan, Joint Director Health Services, HP
5. Dr Jarna Chauhan, Director Dental Health Services
6. Dr. Sunite A Ganju, Professor and HOD, Microbiology, SLBSGCH, Nerchowk, Mandi State & Nodal Officer BWM O/o DHS
7. Dr Devender Sharma, Dy Director Health Services, (HP)
8. Dr Omesh Bharti, Principal SIHFW, Parimahal Shimla
9. Dr Sunil Chauhan, Deputy Director, Animal Husbandry, Shimla H.P
10. Dr Prabhakar Mishra, Deputy Director, Directorate of Ayush, HP
11. Dr Rajan Uppal, CMO Solan, HP
12. Dr Narendar K Bhardwaj, CMO Mandi, HP
13. Dr Parveen Kumar, CMO Bilaspur, HP
14. Mr Rajinder Kumar, Scientific Officer, HPPCB
15. Dr Chetan Chauhan, Corporation Health Officer, MC Shimla
16. Dr Ajay Kumar, Water Sector Expert, Directorate of Urban Development, Shimla
17. Dr Mahesh Jaswal, OSD Director Health and Safety regulations, HP
18. Shri HR Thakur, (CEO) CBMWTF operator Enviro Engineers Una.
19. Shri Hemant Bhardwaj, CBMWTF operator, Enviro engineers, Shimla
20. Shri Kishore Thakur, (General Manager) Enviro Engineers (CBMWTF) Solan
21. Mr Pawan Thakur CBMWTF operator Suraksha Biosanitizer, Kangra
22. Dr Gagandeep, DPO Solan
23. Ms Namrta Sharma, Environment Officer, Department of Env, Science & Technology, HP
24. Dr Preeti Thakur, District Quality Consultant, Mandi

25. Dr Shalu Rathore , Distt Quality Consultant, Solan
26. Dr Kajal Chauhan, Distt Quality Consultant, Bilaspur
27. Ms Meena Sharma, Sr Asst Med V, H&FW O/oDHS

With the kind permission of the Chair, the meeting began with a welcome note by Dr Gopal Beri, Director Health Services, HP. The Director Health Services informed the house that this is the eighth meeting of the State Level Advisory Committee to oversee Biomedical waste management in the state of HP. The meeting is held as per the rules of BMW rules 2016 every six months and the meeting is held to advise and review the Biomedical Waste Management rules 2016 implemented in the state.

The Chair Ms M. Sudha Devi in her opening remarks emphasized upon the continued need of effectual implementation of the Bio Medical Waste Management Rules 2016 in the State of Himachal Pradesh though, the state is ably implementing the BMW rules 2016 as amended and ranks as the best performing state in the country as per the CPCB ranking in 2021.

The Chair, Secretary (Health) and all committee members were informed regarding the agenda in 7th meeting and the action taken report was and the status of compliance to NGT order no: O.A No. 710/2017 and 72/2020. In this 8th meeting the agenda items of the seventh meeting were reconfirmed, action taken report presented and the new agenda items drawn from the basis of inputs given by the various stake holders and district monitoring committee BMW were presented in the form of a presentation and discussed in detail with the permission of the chair.

Dr. Sunite A Ganju, Consultant cum State Nodal Officer Biomedical Waste Management O/o DHS, & Professor and Head, Department of Microbiology presented before the house the updated status of implementation of the Biomedical Waste Management in the state of Himachal Pradesh and progress done by the Department of Health and Family under Bio Medical Waste and all the agenda items through a presentation. A detailed report of trainings, BMW generated and lifted by the CBMWTF operators, immunization status and annual report was presented. A total of 2867 HCFs have been inventoried out of which 2782 HCFs (98.6%) have been authorized with district Bilaspur having 99.4% authorizations. It was also informed to the house that the status of authorization is higher than the national average. The top three performing districts are:

SNo	Top three performing Districts			Rank
	District	Authorizations		
1.	Bilaspur	(169/170)	99.4%	1
2.	Mandi	(440/443)	99.3%	2
3.	Solan	230/232)	99.1%	3

The top three performing districts were awarded certificates of appreciation by the worthy Chair Ms M. Sudha Devi for their continued efforts to implement the BMW rules 2016. The chair while congratulating the CMOs and the teams of the three districts also directed that other districts to work towards achieving 100% authorization.

All the Agenda items were discussed in detail one by one and following decisions were taken.

1. Agenda item 1: Status of authorizations of Allopathic Health care facilities

The Chair reviewed the category wise authorization status with respect to applications received, authorization granted, cases under process and cases rejected. The Committee was appraised by Dr. Sunite A Ganju, that the applications for authorization are to be submitted online and all bedded hospitals require CTO as well as CTE for authorizations. The Chair directed that all the CMOs should address the concerns and take up all unauthorized hospitals on priority basis with the respective officers of the Pollution Control Board (PCB) so that 100% authorizations is achieved. The inventory of hospitals should be tallied with the respective regional heads (PCB) so that there is no mismatch. The chair was informed that all CMOs and MSs have submitted the Annual Reports of BMW on time to the HPPCB which has also been acknowledged by the HPPCB. The Chair directed the CMO Una to look into the unauthorized HCFS (163/176) and resolve any underlying issues immediately.

(Action by: CMOs, MSs, Regional Laboratories PCB)

2. Agenda item 2: Status of BMW in Hard and tribal Districts:-

Dr. Sunite A Ganju appraised the Chair in detail about the Status update of captive treatment disposal (deep burial) being adopted in the Allopathic Health Care Facilities of District Kinnaur and Lahaul & Spiti. The route map for the Common Bio Medical Waste Treatment Facility (CBTWF) Operator to

District Lahaul Spiti has chalked out by L&S and the deep burial pits in Kaza are under construction. The Chair directed the CMO L&S to speed up the submission of applications for authorizations and District Kinnaur also to obtain authorization for remaining health care institutions.

(Action by: CMO L&S and HPPCB)

3. Agenda item 3: Status of compliance of NGT order No OA 72/2020

The Committee was informed that the Hon'ble NGT had passed an operative order on dated 23-04-2020 for disposal of COVID-19 waste to incorporate best practices and continued supervision and monitoring and compiling data in an online format. Further, on 20-07-2020 directions were issued for proper segregation of waste so as to lessen the burden the CBMWTF and disposal by deep burial in places where CBMWTFs not available. The Hon'ble NGT reviewed the OA (72/2020) dated 23-04-2020 was disposed on 18-01-2021.

4. Agenda item 4: Review of charges payable to CBMWTF operators:

The chair was informed that the rates for lifting BMW charges were discussed and approved in the 6th state level advisory committee meeting. Accordingly the Government notified the charges payable to the CBMWTF for collection, transport and handling the waste in a scientific manner for all categories of HCFs for Bio-Medical waste vide letter no HFW-A-A(3)2/2020 dated 26/2/2022. Also as per the notification the review was to be done yearly from the financial year 2023-2024. The CBMWTF operators have submitted applications for revision of rates as the transport and handling of Biomedical waste comes under preview of GST now. As such comments were invited from all stake holders on the issue of GST and presented before the committee and as GST is the Governments mandate and needs to be followed. The chair advised that GST is a unified tax system that replaces multiple indirect taxes levied by both the Central and State Governments. Under GST, both the Central and State Governments share the authority to levy and collect taxes on goods and services. The chair directed that as Member Secretary HP pollution Control Board is the Chairman of committee vide letter no STE-F(2)-2/2017 dated 1st August 2019, to rationalize the charges payable to CBMWTF operators final comments may also be taken from HPPCB for inclusion of the GST@12%.

(Action by: HPPCB and DHS)

5. Agenda item 5: Lifting of BMW by CBMTF operators in remote rural areas:

The Committee was informed that the Bio-medical waste facility operators have been directed to lift BMW from the remote areas which is still not being done regularly. The chair directed that the CMOs should closely work with the CBMWF operators and develop a complete route plan to lift the BMW in these areas and submit the report to the HPPCB as well as to the DHS office. They may also explore budget provision under Tribal Development Department for transport and scientific handling of Bio Medical Waste.

(Action by: HPPCB; CBMWTF; CMO Kinaur, CMO L&S)

6. Agenda item 6 : On call basis contract

The issues related to on call-basis contract was discussed in detail. The CBMWTF operators informed the house that a viable solution to on call and timings of lifting the BMW should be made. The chair directed that the CMOs should convene a meeting with the respective CBMWTF operators and the Regional Officers PCB to develop a defined route map, call duty officer, so that the BMW is lifted within the reasonable time besides being cost effective.

(Action by: CMOs, Regional Laboratories PCB, CBMWTF operators)

7. Agenda item 7: Status of Sewerage Treatment Plant:

The status of the present STPs was presented and the chair was appraised that most STPs are functional and the effluent is being tested by the Regional Pollution Control Board Officers and the parameters were found to be satisfactory. However to rationalize the use of STPs 58 institutions have sought exemption where the functioning bed strength is less than 10 beds and IPD/OPD load is less from the HPPCB. The committee was of the opinion that rationalization of the STPs is important so that there is no waste of Government money and the chair directed that the functioning bed strength can be taken as the base for installation for an STP. An affidavit may be given by the respective CMOs as to the functioning bed strength and patient load and also inform the HPPCB in case of increase of bed strength. Accordingly the HCFs may be given exemption from installation of STPs for the present.

(Action by: HPPCB, CMOs, Regional Pollution Control Board Officers)

8. Agenda item 8: Allocation of new STPs

The committee was informed there an additional demand is being raised for STPs in new as well as some old institutions by the CMOs. In the 7th SLAC meeting the committee had decided that all new

institutions should incorporate the provision for liquid disinfection as well as STP in the construction plan before any approval is given to the new construction. The chair directed that all CMOs should note that any new construction plan of HCFs should include provision of requisite ETP/STP as per bed strength and requirement of the institution. Regarding requirement of STPs in the old institutions the respective CMOs should connect to the Jal Shaki Vibagh as the department has all the expertise in operating and maintaining most STPs of the state. Hence all CMOs should closely work with the Department and get the requisite STPs approved, installed and functional at the earliest and obtain authorization from HPPCB. The sewage management system should be given utmost priority so that there is no untoward impact on the water resources.

(Action by: CMOs)

9. Agenda item 9: Budget additionality

The chair was informed that additional budget was required under for machinery and equipment to operationalize the already existing STPs which have been installed and additional budget as per requirement received will be put up in the financial year 2023-2024.

(Action by: DHS)

10. Agenda item 10: Status of allied departments

The status of allied departments was also presented. The Chair directed to focus and prioritize on the remaining unauthorized facilities for obtaining necessary authorizations.

(Action by: Allied departments)

11. Agenda item 11: Development of BMWM website

The committee members were informed that as per BMWM rules 2016 a BMWM website is mandatory and the funds have already been distributed to the Zonal and Regional hospitals to create a link in the existing website. The chair directed that the remaining ZH and RH should expedite the process.

(Action by: MS ZH and RH HP)

12.4 Agenda item 12: Any other items with permission of the chair

The management of Biomedical waste in schools was discussed and the committee decided that they also have to follow the BMW rules 2016 and as amended from time to time and the Education department along with the regional officers of PCB should monitor as per their mandate and does not come under the of the Department of Health. Similarly the Army Hospitals have their own monitoring system in place for biomedical Waste management as per the Central Pollution Control Board under sub-rule (2) of rule 11, may inspect any Armed Forces health care establishments after prior intimation to the Director General Armed Forces Medical Services.

The Chair in her closing remarks directed that all necessary steps should be taken proactively to get all the remaining unauthorized health care facilities authorized. The applications should be resubmitted online after removal of objections to HPPCB. For all new bedded HCFs biomedical waste management system should be a pre-requisite and should be incorporated in their construction plans and others HCFs can make contact with Jal Shakti Vibagh for installation of the STPs at the earliest so that all hospitals are authorized. The chair also informed the house that the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal is closely monitoring the same, besides being a significant health issue. She also highlighted that all stake holders should aim at 100% authorization.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

M. Sudha Devi

Ms. M. Sudha Devi
Secretary (Health), Government of H.P
Chairman State Advisory Committee BMW -2016