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Open letter to Hon'ble Prime Minister Narendra Modi with consent of 161 doctors from PAN India

Sub: No evidence to prove deaths occurring due to the Novel Coronavirus

To, The Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, South Block Raisina Hill New Delhi -110011 India

Date: 24 May 2021

Cc to

- 1. Hon'ble Health Minister
- 2. Hon'ble AYUSH Minister
- 3. MoHFW
- 4. All State Chief Ministers
- 5. All District Magistrates
- 6. All M.Ps
- 7. All MLAs

SUB: No evidence to prove deaths occurring due to the Novel Coronavirus

Respected Sir,

We are writing to bring to your notice that to date there is no proof of deaths due to the Novel Coronavirus. For the past one year, life has come to a standstill with people losing jobs and lives all in the name of Covid-19. The atmosphere of fear is too prevalent and unavoidable. The constant portrayal of the grim situation coupled with misinformation by the Indian media is farther from the truth.

To prove our point, we would like to base our claims purely on facts and evidence. Here, we would like to highlight documents published by FDA (U.S Food and Drug Administration) regarding the efficacy of RT-PCR test released on <u>04th February,2020</u> (Please refer to page 40) and latest document released on <u>16th April 2021</u> (refer page 1).Both the documents clearly state that the RT-PCR test is only capable of checking the presence of genetic material of coronavirus in one's body. As cited in the document CDC 2019-Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV) Real-Time RT-PCR Diagnostic Panel, "<u>Detection of viral RNA may not indicate the presence of infectious virus or that 2019-nCoV is the causative agent for clinical symptoms.</u>"

The document further points out that, "<u>This test cannot rule out diseases caused by other bacterial or viral pathogens</u>". It is often seen that when a person is sick, upon diagnosis various other co-infections (viral, bacterial, fungal) are also seen. This means simultaneously various other viruses and bacteria have the potential to infect the person. So, it will be incorrect to label it as an infection solely due to Coronavirus.

We would also like to bring to your notice a guideline published by ICMR (Indian Council of Medical Research⁵ in the month of May 2020. According to the guideline, whenever death happens it is mandatory to conduct an RT-PCR test of the deceased. If the test results are positive, (even if the patient expired due to suicide/accident/any other ailments), the cause of the death will be mentioned as 'Death due to Novel Coronavirus'.

The document further states that even if the test is negative before death; the doctor has complete discretion to attribute the death due to suspected Covid-19.

It is our humble appeal to stop the spread of misinformation and fear amongst the citizens. In the absence of any evidence to prove deaths due to the Novel Coronavirus, the need of the hour is to halt the ongoing vaccination drive, uplift the lockdown, bring back the normalcy and promote natural immunization. To support all our above claims, all the necessary documents have been provided for your reference below.

References:

Ref: 1 : CDC 2019-Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV) Real-Time RT-PCR Diagnostic Panel : (Please refer Page 40)

Link to Download Ref 1: https://www.fda.gov/media/134922/download

Ref 2: Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) of The Amazon Real-Time RT-PCR Test For Detecting SARS-CoV-2 (Please refer page 1)

Link to Download Ref 2: https://www.fda.gov/media/147053/download

Ref 3: SARS-CoV-2 and influenza virus co-infection

Link to download Ref 3: https://www.thelancet.com/action/showPdf?pii=S0140-6736%2820%2931052-7

Ref 4: Concurrent Chikungunya and Dengue Virus Infections during Simultaneous Outbreaks, Gabon, 2007

Link to download Ref 4: https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/eid/article/15/4/08-0664_article

Ref 5: Guidance for appropriate recording of Covid 19 related deaths in India (Please refer Page 4)

Link to download Ref 5: https://nidm.gov.in/covid19/PDF/covid19/state/Himachal%20Pradesh/257.pdf

Yours sincerely,

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