ORDER

Keeping in view the risk of spread of infection to the citizens of State seeking health care in the institutions notified for isolation of confirmed cases of COVID-19 i.e. IGMC Shimla, Dr. RPGMC Tanda and SLBSGMC Ner Chowk (at present), in exercise of the powers conferred by the Clause 3 of the Himachal Pradesh Epidemic Disease (COVID-19) Regulations, 2020 notified vide notification No. HFW-A-A (3)1/2020 dated 14-03-2020 under the Epidemic Disease Act, 1897, the following directions are being issued on the recommendations of COVID-19 Technical Advisory Committee:-

i. All routine OPDs in IGMC, Shimla, Dr. RPGMC Tanda and SLBSGMC Mandi at Ner Chowk shall be shut down with immediate effect. However, all patients requiring emergency and immediate attention shall be promptly attended to and the Principals and MS of these institutions shall make necessary arrangement to ensure the same. Furthermore, the treatment being given to the cancer patients on day care basis shall continue as such.

ii. 24X7 control room shall be established in the O/o Medical Superintendent of these institutions and all the queries pertaining to logistics, clinical protocols etc. shall be answered and the staff & Doctors shall be adequately trained/equipped to handle such queries.

iii. The duty rosters should be prepared in such a way that not more one third of the total faculty should be assigned/ exposed for managing patients suspected with COVID-19 and contingency plan should be put in place if the staff has to be quarantined in the coming days.

iv. The rest of the staff which has been rendered surplus due to shutting down of OPDs shall attend hospital regularly and the respective institutional Head shall ensure their appropriate utilization and training as second line of health care providers for management of COVID-19 patients may be considered.

v. The OPDs for the general public at the District Hospitals and other Medical Colleges shall function but the Institutional Incharges shall take precautions for prevention of nosocomial airborne and fomite based transmission.

Additional Chief Secretary (Health) to the Government of Himachal Pradesh
Copy for information and necessary action to:

1. Director Health Services, Himachal Pradesh for necessary action.
2. Director Medical Education and Research, Himachal Pradesh
3. Director Information and Public Relations for wide publicity.
4. All Deputy Commissioners, Himachal Pradesh
5. All Chief Medical Officers, Himachal Pradesh
6. All Principals, Government Medical Colleges, Himachal Pradesh
7. All Senior Medical Superintendents, Himachal Pradesh
8. Medical Superintendents of IGMC Shimla, Dr. RPGMC Tanda and SLBSGMC Mandi at Ner Chowk with the directions that announcements to this effect may be made in the OPD blocks of their respective institutions.

Additional Chief Secretary (Health) to the Government of Himachal Pradesh