D.O. No. Q-11/1/2020-NLM-DADF

Dear Sir/Madam,

Please refer to the order issued by Union Home Secretary dated 24th March, 2020 and 25th March, 2020 under the Disaster Management Act, 2005 and letter issued by the Secretary, DPIIT, Government of India on 23rd March, 2020 regarding need for continued functioning of food industry and their suppliers (copy enclosed).

2. In order to clarify the list of essential food items, the Secretary, Ministry of Food Processing Industries has issued a letter along with the list of items those can be considered as essential food items. The list of essential food items also include egg, meat and fish (copy enclosed).

3. However, this Department has received a representation from the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) saying that during the lockdown situation, all the meat plants including export oriented plants has also been shut down. Further, raw materials are also not available as the sources of the raw materials have also been shut down.

4. I would, therefore, request you that the District Administration may be advised to allow the meat processing plants to operate with Government of India covid-19 guidelines with Strict sanitization measures and maintaining the social distancing and also ensure the raw materials supply chain by the meat processing plants.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Dr. O.P. Chaudhary)

27.3.20

To,

Chief Secretary of all the States and Union Territories

Copy to:

Additional Chief Secretary/ Principal Secretary / Secretary of Animal Husbandry of all States and Union Territories.