From

Shri P.K. Mohapatra, IAS,
Additional Chief Secretary to Government.

To

All Collector & District Magistrates
The Commissioner, Municipal Corporation
Bhubaneswar, Cuttack, Berhampur, Sambalpur and Rourkela
All CDM & PHOs

Sub:- Preference for availing vaccination of beneficiaries who have taken online appointment through CoWIN at the CVCs- Reg.

Ref:- D.O. No:1940407/2020/Imm dated, 28th May 2021 of the Govt. of India, Ministry of Health & FW

Madam/Sir,

I am to say that CoWIN, IT platform has been designed & developed for facilitation of COVID-19 vaccination programme across the State. CoWIN platform provides the option for online self-registration & appointments as well as on-site registration & appointments for facilitated cohorts. The MoHFW has also advised self-registration & on-line appointments should be the preferred mode for accessing vaccination and the features for on-site registration should only be used for the purposes of enabling access for facilitated cohorts and for minimizing vaccine wastage.

The MoHFW has noticed that at some Vaccination Centres, both on-line & on-site slots are kept and in such places, it has been observed that the beneficiaries who have booked an on-line appointment have to wait for longer period of time for availing vaccination against on-site slots.

In this context, you are requested to instruct the Programme Officers / Manager, Vaccinators & Verifiers in your district / Corporation to ensure that the beneficiaries who have taken an on-line appointment through CoWIN shall be given preference for availing vaccination over the ones availing vaccination through on-site registration & appointments.

Annexure: MoHFW letter

Yours faithfully,

Additional Chief Secretary to Government
Memo No. 15986/H  
Copy forwarded to the Mission Director, NHM, Odisha for kind information.

Memo No. 15987/H  
Copy forwarded to DFW, Odisha for information & necessary action.

Dated, 31-5-2021  
Deputy Secretary to Government

Dated, 31-5-2021  
Deputy Secretary to Government
Dear Colleague,

The Union Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, has designed & developed Co-WIN IT Platform for facilitation of COVID-19 Vaccination Programme. Co-WIN provides the option for self-registration and appointments as well as on-site registration and appointment for facilitated cohorts. The Ministry has advised that self-registration and online appointments should be the preferred mode for accessing vaccination and the feature for on-site registration should only be used for the purposes of enabling access for facilitated cohorts and for minimization of vaccine wastage.

It has been noticed that at some of the vaccination centers, both online and on-site slots are kept. In such place, it is also observed that the people who have booked an online appointment have to wait for longer period of time for availing vaccination on account of those who walk-in for availing vaccination against on-site slots. Hon'ble High Court of Judicature at Mumbai in PIL(L) No. 11264 of 2021 (Siddhartha Chandrashekhar) and No. 11649 of 2021 (Yogeeta R Vanzara), vide para 5 of their order dated 20th May, 2021, has also reiterated that, "online registrants who have obtained appointments for vaccination upon accessing the CoWIN portal shall be given preference to 'on-spot' registrants in the matter of vaccination".

In view of the above, it is requested that suitable instructions may be issued to all concerned to ensure that the beneficiaries who have taken an online appointment through CoWIN, may be given preference for availing vaccination over the ones availing vaccination through on-site registration/appointment.

Further, it may be ensured that vaccination session may be organized in a manner that adequate sitting arrangements are done in the waiting area, with appropriate distancing, so that elderly citizens do not have to stand in queues at the vaccination centers.

warm regards

Yours sincerely

(Vikas Sheel)

To

Additional Chief Secretary Principal Secretary Secretary (Health)-All States/UTs