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भारत सरकार
 स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय
 स्वास्थ्य सेवा महानिदेशालय
 Government of India
 Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
 Directorate General of Health Services

D.O.No. Z.28017/38/2026-SAS-III

Dated: 16.10.2026

Dear all,

Subject: Prohibition on Reuse of Single-Use Devices and Disposable Surgical Items in Healthcare Organisations Across the Country.

It has come to the notice of this Directorate that certain private and corporate hospitals are reusing various **single-use medical devices and disposable surgical items**, particularly those used in critical specialties such as **Cardiology, Nephrology, Oncology, Cardiothoracic and Vascular Surgery (CTVS), Neurosurgery**, and other specialised clinical services.

It has been observed that such devices and disposable surgical items, after being used for one procedure, are being subjected to sterilisation and subsequently reused, despite being designated for **single use only**. In certain instances, the full cost of these items is also being charged to patients or reimbursed by the concerned Government authorities.

The practice of reusing single-use devices and disposable surgical items is a serious concern from the perspective of **patient safety, infection prevention and control, regulatory compliance, and healthcare expenditure**. Such practices may constitute violations of the applicable provisions of the **Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940, Medical Devices Rules, 2017, Clinical Establishments Act, 2010**, Standard Infection Prevention and Control protocols, and applicable Biomedical Waste Management provisions. Reuse may also expose patients to significant risks, including cross-infection, device malfunction, loss of performance, and other procedure-related complications.

The matter has been viewed seriously by the **Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India**. It has accordingly been decided that the **reuse of single-use medical devices and disposable surgical items shall be strictly prohibited in all healthcare organisations**, including both public and private healthcare facilities, under the administrative jurisdiction of the Government of India, States and Union Territories.

In view of the above, all **Additional Chief Secretaries/Principal Secretaries/Secretaries (Health), Directors of Health Services of States and Union Territories, Drug Controller General of India, and Drug Controllers of States and Union Territories** are requested to ensure strict vigilance and effective enforcement against the reuse of single-use medical devices and disposable surgical items within their respective jurisdictions. All Single Used Devices/Disposable Surgical items should be utilized strictly in accordance with the instructions and recommendations of the Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM).

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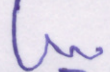
The concerned authorities may also undertake appropriate inspections and monitoring of healthcare establishments to ensure strict compliance with the above directions and take necessary action, as per applicable laws and regulations, in cases of non-compliance.

Note: The Central Government Health Scheme (CGHS) has already issued an Office Memorandum dated **21.12.2016** regarding the above matter to hospitals empanelled under CGHS.

All concerned authorities are requested to ensure **strict compliance and wide dissemination of these directions** among all healthcare organisations under their jurisdiction.

With regards,

Yours Sincerely,



(Loveneesh G. Krishna)

To

- All Chief Secretaries, Additional Chief Secretaries/Principal Secretaries/Secretaries (Health), and Directors of Health Services of all States and Union Territories.
- Drug Controller General of India (DCGI).
- Drug Controllers of all States and Union Territories, through the Drug Controller General of India (DCGI).
- Director General, Central Government Health Scheme (CGHS).

Copy to:

- PPS to Secretary, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India.
- Directors/Heads of all Central Government Hospitals.
- Directors of all All India Institutes of Medical Sciences (AIIMS).