

AJAY BHALLA, IAS



गृह सचिव
Home Secretary
भारत सरकार
Government of India
North Block,
New Delhi

D.O. No. 40-3/2020-DM-I (A)

30th March, 2020

Dear *Chief Secretary,*

As you are aware, smooth working of banks and related activities across the country are essential. Further the Government has announced a financial package under the Prime Minister Garib Kalyan Yojana under which approximately Rs. 27,500 crores are going to be disbursed during this week and in the coming weeks to the targetted public through bank branches, ATMs and business correspondents (BCs).

2. Under the guidelines on the lockdown measures as issued under the Disaster Management Act, vide Orders dated 24.03.2020, 25.03.2020 and 27.03.2020, banks, ATMs including IT vendors for banking operations, Bank Correspondent and ATM operation and cash management services have been exempted. Department of Financial Services, however, has informed that many States have issued instructions with reduced working hours, functioning of limited number of branches, restriction on movement of personnel related to filling of cash into ATMs, maintenance of ATMs, etc.

3. In view of the above facts, necessary instructions may please be issued by the State Governments/UT Administration to their field functionaries to ensure that:

- a) Bank branches remain functional.
- b) Cash management and maintenance agencies of ATMs are allowed.
- c) Banks are permitted to remain open and functional for extended working hours, if necessary, on 30 & 31 March for their annual closure and government business.
- d) Local District/State/Police administrations are in preparedness to coordinate with banks during the disbursement of money to the people covered under PM Garib Kalyan Yojana.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,


(Ajay Bhalla) 30/03/20

To
The Chief Secretaries of all States

Copy for information to :- Secretary, Department of Financial Services