



Government of Jammu and Kashmir
Health & Medical Education Department
Civil Secretariat, Srinagar/Jammu.

Notification

Srinagar, the 10th of July, 2026

S.O. 197.—Whereas leprosy is a chronic infectious disease caused by *Mycobacterium leprae*, primarily affecting the skin, peripheral nerves, mucosa of the upper respiratory tract, and eyes; and though curable, delayed detection and untreated cases can lead to disabilities and continued transmission within the community;

Whereas, under the National Leprosy Eradication Programme (NLEP), India has witnessed a remarkable decline in the prevalence rate of leprosy, from 57 cases per 10,000 population in 1983 to 0.57 cases per 10,000 population in 2024–25, reflecting sustained commitment and effective interventions implemented across the country;

Whereas, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, vide letter D.O. No. Z-14020/05/2025-Lep. dated 14th May, 2025, has emphasized the need to strengthen surveillance and timely reporting mechanisms to achieve the national vision of a "Leprosy-Free India" in alignment with the National Strategic Plan 2023–2027 and the Global Leprosy Strategy 2021–2030, and has accordingly requested that leprosy be declared a "Notifiable Disease" in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir;

Whereas, the Mission Director, National Health Mission (NHM), J&K, vide communication No. SHS/NHM/J&K/NLEP/3114-18 dated 21.05.2025, has recommended that leprosy be formally declared a "Notifiable Disease" in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, applicable across all sectors—Government and private healthcare facilities, non-governmental organizations, corporate healthcare providers, and medical institutions (including private medical colleges)—to ensure mandatory and timely reporting of all diagnosed leprosy cases to the respective District Leprosy Officer or Chief Medical Officer;

Whereas, under Section 2 of the Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897 (Act No. 3 of 1897), the State/UT Governments are empowered to declare any disease as a "Notifiable Disease" and to prescribe necessary measures to prevent its spread, and under Section 48 of the Clinical Establishments (Registration and Regulation) Act, 2010, all registered establishments are required to report notifiable diseases as directed by the State/UT Government;

Now, therefore, in exercise of the powers conferred by Section 2 of the Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897, the Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir hereby declares "Leprosy" as a "Notifiable Disease" in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

Accordingly, all Government and private healthcare facilities (including Medical Colleges, NGOs, and corporate healthcare providers) shall immediately report all

diagnosed cases of leprosy to the Chief Medical Officer of the concerned district, with a copy to the District Leprosy Officer and the State Leprosy Officer, National Leprosy Eradication Programme (NLEP), in the format prescribed under the National Leprosy Eradication Programme.

This notification shall come into force with immediate effect and shall remain in force until further orders.

By Order of the Lieutenant Governor of Jammu and Kashmir.

Sd/-

(M.Raju) IAS,

Commissioner/Secretary to the Government

Health and Medical Education Department

No. HD-NHM/160/2025-02(CC:7586112)

Dated: 10.07.2026.

Copy to the:-

1. Financial Commissioner/Additional Chief Secretary to the Hon'ble Chief Minister, J&K.
2. Director General of Police, J&K.
3. Principal Secretary to the Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor, J&K.
4. Commissioner/Secretary to the Government, General Administration Department, Civil Secretariat, Jammu/Srinagar.
5. Joint Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs (Department of Jammu, Kashmir & Ladakh), Government of India.
6. Divisional Commissioner, Jammu/Kashmir.
7. Secretary to the Government, Department of Law, Justice & Parliamentary Affairs, J&K.
8. Mission Director, National Health Mission, J&K.
9. All the Deputy Commissioners of the UT of J&K.
10. Director, SKIMS Soura, Srinagar.
11. Principals of all Government Medical Colleges of the UT of J&K.
12. Principal, SKIMS Medical College, Bemina, Srinagar.
13. Principal, IGGDC Jammu/GDC Srinagar.
14. Director, Archives, Archaeology & Museums, J&K.
15. Director, Health Services, Jammu/Kashmir.
16. Director, FW, MCH & Immunization, J&K.
17. Director, AYUSH, J&K.
18. State Leprosy Officer, National Leprosy Eradication Programme (NLEP), J&K.
19. Pr. Pvt. Secretary to the Chief Secretary, J&K.
20. Pvt. Secretary to Secretary to the Government, H&M Department, Civil Secretariat, Jammu/Srinagar.
21. I/C Website, H&ME Department.
22. Govt. Orde file (w.2.s.c).

(Neha Bakshi), JKAS

Deputy Secretary to the Government,
Health and Medical Education Department.

(Signature)

(Handwritten signature)
10.07.2026