GOVERNMENT OF KERALA

Abstract
Disaster Management Department - COVID-19 containment activities - relaxation and restrictions from 5th August-2021 - Orders issued.

DISASTER MANAGEMENT (A)DEPARTMENT
G.O.(Rt)No.564/2021/DMD Dated, Thiruvananthapuram, 04/08/2021

ORDER

Targeted COVID-19 containment activities were undertaken by the State in the last few months. On 30.07.2021, Hon.Chief Minister, in his regular COVID-19 core group meeting, directed to evolve a COVID-19 containment strategy focusing public health needs and livelihood concerns. Subsequent to this, the State Health Experts' Committee met on 01.8.2021 and the undersigned took meetings with Secretaries of Government, Enforcement agencies and Chairman, State Health Experts' Committee on 31.07.2021 and 02.08.2021 respectively to examine the COVID-19 containment strategy. The team sent by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India met with the undersigned on 02.08.2021 in which containment at micro-level was emphasized by the team.

The expert opinions in the matter and the concerns regarding the effect of prolonged closure of establishments on livelihood have been considered in entirety. Accordingly, it is identified that a focused strategy based on micro-containment as well as access control to indoor spaces of public gathering is required to be implemented in the state.

Accordingly, the undersigned in his capacity as Chairman of the State
Executive Committee of State Disaster Management Authority, in exercise of the powers conferred under Sec.20 (3) of the Disaster Management Act-2005, hereby issues the guidelines as given in the Annexure for strict implementation by the enforcing authorities with effect from 00:00 Hrs of 5th August-2021. These guidelines are in supersession of the previous guidelines issued by the Government read as (1) to (11) above.

(By order of the Governor)

Dr V P Joy
Chief Secretary

Additional Chief Secretary, Home & Vigilance Department
Additional Chief Secretary, Revenue & DM Department
Principal Secretary, Health & Family Welfare Department
All Additional Chief Secretaries/ Principal Secretaries/ Secretaries
All Heads of Departments including State Police Chief
All District Collectors
All District Police Chiefs
Copy to:
Private Secretary to Chief Minister
Private Secretary to all Ministers
Special Secretary to Chief Secretary
Director, I & PRD/Web and New Media
Office Copy/ Stock file

Forwarded /By order
Signed by Jayachandran K P
Date: 05-08-2021 14:16:12
Reason: Approved
Annexure

i. Special intensified stringent lockdown restrictions will be enforced in the LSGIs with critical spread based on the Weekly Infection Population Ratio (WIPR). WIPR is the total number of COVID-19 infections reported in the week multiplied by 1000 divided by total population of the panchayath or urban ward. In panchayaths/urban wards with WIPR of more than 10, special intensified stringent lockdown restrictions shall be imposed. District Disaster Management Authorities shall publish this list by the evening of every Wednesday with data from Covid19 Jagratha portal and disseminate information accordingly.

ii. Shops, markets, banks, offices, financial institutions, factories, industrial establishments, open tourist spaces and other establishments can function from Monday to Saturday. All shops, tourism centres and other establishments should display the status of vaccination of employees and the number of customers permitted at a time. It shall be the responsibility of the owner of such establishments to avoid crowding inside and outside the shop. Enforcement agencies will conduct checks and take action to ensure the above.

iii. All establishments in the public sector, including government offices, PSUs, companies, autonomous organizations, commissions etc. will function from Monday to Friday.

iv. Only persons who have taken at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine before two weeks, or who are in possession of RT-PCR negative certificate taken 72 hours before or who is in possession of COVID-19 positive results more than a month old will be allowed inside (workers/visitors) in shops, markets, banks, public and private offices, financial institutions, factories, industrial establishments, open tourist spaces and other establishments.

v. All persons (whether belonging to the categories mentioned in point (iv) or not) can move out of home for essential activities like vaccination, COVID19 testing, medical emergency, purchase of medicine, death of relatives, marriage of close relatives, local travel to catch long route bus/train/flight/ship, examinations etc.

vi. To avoid crowding, all shops and establishments can function from 7 am to 9 pm. People will be allowed inside the shop only on the basis of the shopping area (1 person per 25 sq ft.) Hotels and restaurants will be allowed online delivery till 9:30 PM.

vii. All transport vehicles (public and private) shall be permitted with strict adherence to COVID-19 protocols.

viii. All competitive, recruitment and university examinations/sports trials shall be permitted.

ix. There will be complete lockdown on 8th August 2021 (Sunday) with the permissible activities ordered in GO(Rt)No.459/2021/DMD dated 07/06/2021 and GO (Rt)No.461/2021/DMD dated 10/06/2021. However, there shall be no lockdown on 15th August 2021 (Independence day).
x. Children who have not been vaccinated can accompany adults in point (iv).
xii. DDMAs shall declare containment zones and shall ensure that entry/exit is not allowed from these containment zones, except for emergencies.
xii. Schools, Colleges, Tuition Centres, Cinema theatres, in-house dining in Hotels and restaurants etc. will not be permitted. Malls can be permitted to open only for online delivery. Educational institutions can be opened for imparting online education only. Dining will be allowed in open areas, inside vehicles, parking lots etc. maintaining six ft. distance.
xiii. Accommodation facilities like hotels, resorts etc will be allowed in bio-bubble model in all areas on all days.
xiv. Public functions, social, cultural and political gatherings are not permitted. However, marriages and funerals will be allowed with participation of maximum 20 persons. Places of worship shall strictly limit the maximum number of persons to 40 with each person having a minimum of 25 sq.ft area. For lesser area, the maximum number of persons shall be reduced proportionately.
xv. All departments shall conduct online/social media campaigns to effectively implement the restrictions.
xvi. All departments concerned shall ensure that appropriate COVID protocol is followed in all areas. Specifically, Transport Department (Bus stops and bus depots), Fisheries Department (Fish markets, harbours and fish landing centres), LSGD (Markets and public places), Labour Department (Loading and unloading centres), Industries Department (Industrial areas and manufacturing units) etc will take coordinated action for the purpose. District Collectors shall appoint Sectoral Magistrates for strict enforcement of regulations.
xvii. Police Department and Local Self Government Institutions concerned shall convene meetings with traders’ associations of the area to ensure that crowding inside and outside the shops does not happen. Shops shall make necessary arrangements specifically for this purpose. Home delivery/ On-line delivery shall be encouraged.
n. Rapid Response Teams (RRT) shall be deployed at ward level for effective contact tracing and surveillance including monitoring of home quarantine and moving patients to Domiciliary Care Centres (DCC).