### No. 40-3/2020-DM-I(A) **Government** of India **Ministry of Home Affairs**

North Block, New Delhi-110001 Dated 23<sup>rd</sup> March, 2021

#### **ORDER**

Whereas, an Order of even number dated 27.01.2021 was issued for containment of COVID-19 in the country, for a period upto 28.02.2021, which was further extended for a period upto 31.03.2021 vide an Order of even number dated 26.02.2021:

Whereas, in exercise of the powers under section 6(2)(i) of the Disaster Management Act, 2005, National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) has directed the undersigned to issue an order with guidelines for containment of COVID-19 in the country;

Now therefore, in exercise of the powers, conferred under Section 10(2)(1)of the Disaster Management Act 2005, the undersigned hereby directs that guidelines for effective control of COVID-19, as annexed, will be in force upto 30.04.2021.

Jan 13/03/2021

**Union Home Secretary** and, Chairman, National Executive Committee (NEC)

To:

1. The Secretaries of Ministries/ Departments of Government of India

2. The Chief Secretaries/Administrators of States/Union Territories (As per list attached)

#### Copy to:

i. All Members of the National Executive Committee

ii. Member Secretary, National Disaster Management Authority

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## Guidelines for effective control of COVID-19

### [As per Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) Order No. 40-3/2020-DM-I (A) dated 23<sup>rd</sup> March, 2021]

The coordinated effort of Central and State/UT agencies has resulted in a sustained decline in the number of active COVID-19 cases in the country, continuously for about 5 months. A fresh surge in COVID-19 cases, in some parts of the country, however, is a cause of concern. At this juncture, the substantial gains achieved against the spread of COVID-19 need to be consolidated, and the chain of transmission of the pandemic effectively broken, with a view to expeditiously restore complete normalcy.

With the last guidelines issued by Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) on 27.1.2021, all economic and other activities have been opened up in a phased manner, with the stipulation that the prescribed Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) be scrupulously followed. In order to ensure that the resumption of activities is successful, it is imperative to strictly enforce the **Test- Track-Treat** protocol in all parts of the country; ensure that COVID appropriate behaviour is scrupulously observed by everyone; and, the ongoing vaccination drive – the largest in the world – is scaled up rapidly, to cover all the target groups.

The following guidelines are issued to be effective from 1st April, 2021.

# Effective enforcement of the Test-Track-Treat protocol

Test

1. With sustained effort, the capacity of total daily tests that can be conducted across the country has gone up substantially. There is need to ensure that the tests being conducted are uniformly distributed across all districts, with adequate testing to be done in districts reporting higher number of cases. The proportion of RT-PCR tests in the total mix should be scaled up, on best effort basis, to 70% or more. States and UTs, where the proportion of RT-PCR tests is less, should rapidly increase testing through this protocol, to reach the prescribed level.

### Track

- 2. The new positive cases detected as a result of intensive testing need to be isolated/ quarantined at the earliest; and, their contacts have to be traced at the earliest, and similarly isolated/ quarantined. Containment Zones, accordingly, have to be demarcated, and prescribed containment measures implemented within such Zones.
- **3.** Effective demarcation of Containment Zones, in vulnerable and high incidence areas, is key to breaking the chain of transmission and controlling the spread of the virus. Containment Zones shall be carefully demarcated by the district authorities, at the micro level, taking into consideration the guidelines prescribed by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

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(MoHFW) in this regard. The list of Containment Zones will be notified on the websites by the respective District Collectors and by the States/UTs. This list will also be shared with MoHFW on a regular basis.

- 4. Within the demarcated Containment Zones, containment measures, as prescribed by MoHFW, shall be scrupulously followed, as under:
  - i. Only essential activities shall be allowed in the Containment Zones.
  - ii. There shall be strict perimeter control to ensure that there is no movement of people in or out of these zones, except for medical emergencies and for maintaining supply of essential goods and services.
  - iii. There shall be intensive house-to-house surveillance by surveillance teams formed for the purpose.
  - iv. Testing shall be carried out as per prescribed protocol.
  - v. Listing of contacts shall be carried out in respect of all persons found positive, along with their tracking, identification, quarantine and follow up of contacts for 14 days (80% of contacts to be traced in 72 hours).
  - vi. Surveillance for ILI/ SARI cases shall be carried out in health facilities or outreach mobile units or through fever clinics in buffer zones.
  - vii. It shall be the responsibility of local district, police and municipal authorities to ensure that the prescribed Containment measures are strictly followed. State/ UT Governments shall ensure accountability of the officers concerned in this regard.

#### <u>Treat</u>

- 5. Quick isolation of COVID-19 patients shall be ensured in treatment facilities/ home (subject to fulfilling the home isolation guidelines).
- 6. Clinical interventions, as prescribed, shall be administered. Capacity building of health workers and professionals shall be an ongoing exercise, to be conducted at all levels, with a view to ensure that the prescribed clinical management protocol is understood clearly and administered accordingly.
- 7. The concerned agencies of the Central and State/ UT Governments shall ensure adequate availability of COVID dedicated health and logistics (including ambulatory) infrastructure, based on their assessment of the case trajectory.
- 8. Effective infection prevention and control practices shall be followed in treatment facilities and by health care workers and professionals.

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### **COVID** appropriate behavior

- 9. State/ UT Governments shall take all necssary measures to promote COVID-19 appropriate behaviour. Strict enforcement of wearing of face masks, hand hygiene and social distancing must be ensured.
- **10.** Wearing of face masks is an essential preventive measure. In order to enforce this core requirement, States and UTs may consider administrative actions, including imposition of appropriate fines, on persons not wearing face masks in public and work spaces.
- 11. Observance of social distancing in crowded places, especially in markets, weekly bazaars and public transport, is also critical for containing the spread of the infection. SOP issued by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) to regulate crowds in market places, shall be strictly enforced by States and UTs.
- 12. SOPs for regulating travel in aircrafts, trains and metro rails are already in place, which shall be strictly enforced. States and UTs shall issue necessary guidelines for regulating travel in other modes of public transport, e.g., buses, boats etc., and ensure that these are strictly complied with.
- 13. The National Directives for COVID-19 Management, as specified in **Annexure I**, shall be strictly followed throughout the country.

### Strict adherence to the prescribed SOPs

- 14. All activities have been permitted outside Containment Zones and SOPs have been prescribed for various activities. These include: movement by passenger trains; air travel; metro trains; schools; higher educational institutions; hotels and restaurants; shopping malls, multiplexes and entertainment parks; yoga centres and gymnasiums; exhibitions, assemblies and congregations, etc.
- **15.** The SOPs, as updated from time to time, shall be strictly enforced by the authorities concerned, who shall be responsible for their strict observance.

### Vaccination

- 16. Government of India has launched the world's largest vaccination drive against COVID-19. The National Expert Group on Vaccine Administration for COVID-19 (NEGVAC) provides guidance on prioritization of population groups, procurement & inventory management, and vaccine selection delivery and tracking. The recommendations of NEGVAC are considered and finalized by the Central Government.
- 17. While the vaccination drive is proceeding smoothly, the pace is uneven across different States and UTs; and, the slow pace of vaccination in some States/ UTs is a matter of concern. Vaccination against COVID-19, in the present scenario, is critical to break the chain of transmission. Therefore, all State/ UT Governments should rapidly step up the pace of vaccination,

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to cover all priority groups, as recommended by NEGVAC and approved by the Central Government, urgently and in an expeditious manner.

### Local restrictions

- **18.** States and UTs, based on their assessment of the situation, may impose local restrictions at district/ sub-district and city/ ward level, with a view to contain the spread of COVID-19.
- **19.** There shall be no restriction on inter-State and intra-State movement of persons and goods including those for cross land-border trade under Treaties with neighbouring countries. No separate permission/ approval/ e-permit will be required for such movements.

### Protection of vulnerable persons

**20.** Persons above 65 years of age, persons with co-morbidities, pregnant women, and children below the age of 10 years are advised to take necessary precautions.

### Use of Aarogya Setu

**21.** Use of Aarogya *Setu* may continue on best effort basis on compatible mobile phones. This will facilitate timely provision of medical attention to those individuals who are at risk.

### Strict enforcement of the guidelines

- **22.** All the District Magistrates shall strictly enforce the above measures. For the enforcement of social distancing, State/ UT Governments may, as far as possible, use the provisions of Section 144 of the Criminal Procedure Code (CrPC) of 1973.
- 23. Any person violating these measures will be liable to be proceeded against as per the provisions of Section 51 to 60 of the Disaster Management Act, 2005, besides legal action under Section188 of the IPC, and other legal provisions as applicable. Extracts of these penal provisions are at **Annexure II.**

23/03/22/ Union Home Secretary

and, Chairman, National Executive Committee

Annexure I

# NATIONAL DIRECTIVES FOR COVID-19 MANAGEMENT

- 1. Face coverings: Wearing of face cover is compulsory in public places; in workplaces; and during transport.
- 2. Social distancing: Individuals must maintain a minimum distance of 6 feet (2 gaz ki doori) in public places.

Shops will ensure physical distancing among customers.

3. Spitting in public places will be punishable with fine, as may be prescribed by the State/ UT local authority in accordance with its laws, rules or regulations.

Additional directives for Work Places

- 4. Work from home (WfH): As far as possible the practice of WfH should be followed.
- 5. Staggering of work/ business hours will be followed in offices, work places, shops, markets and industrial & commercial establishments.
- 6. Screening & hygiene: Provision for thermal scanning, hand wash or sanitizer will be made at all entry points and of hand wash or sanitizer at exit points and common areas.
- 7. **Frequent sanitization** of entire workplace, common facilities and all points which come into human contact e.g. door handles etc., will be ensured, including between shifts.
- 8. Social distancing: All persons in charge of work places will ensure adequate distance between workers and other staff.

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### Government of Jharkhand

### Home, Prison & Disaster Management Department

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### (Disaster Management Division)

### ORDER

Whereas, the Ministry of Home Affairs has issued lockdown/Unlock orders vide Order dated 24.03.2020, Order dated 15.04.2020, Order dated 01.05.2020, Order dated 17.05.2020, Order dated 30.05.2020, Order dated 29.06.2020, Order dated 29.07.2020, Order dated 29.08.2020,Order dated 30.09.2020, Order dated 27.10.2020,Order dated 25.11.2020, Order dated 28.12.2020,Order dated 27.01.2021 and Order dated 26.02.2021 due to the prevailing COVID 19 situation;

Whereas, in exercise of the powers, conferred under Section 10(2)(I) of the Disaster Management Act 2005, the Union Home Secretary and Chairman, National Executive Committee has issued an order dated 23.03.2021 directing that the guidelines for effective control of COVID-19 would remain in force upto 30.04.2021;

Whereas, in exercise of the power conferred under section 22(2)(h) of the Disaster Management Act, 2005, the undersigned in his capacity as Chairperson, State Executive Committee has issued directions to all the Departments of Government of Jharkhand and all the District Administrations for the strict implementation of Guidelines and State Directives vide Order no 107 dated 23.02.2021;

Whereas the Ministry of Home Affairs vide order dated 23.03.2021 has mandated state government to take all necessary measures to promote COVID-19 appropriate behaviour and has also authorized the state, based on its assessment of the situation, to impose local restrictions at district/sub-district and city/ward level, with a view to contain the spread of COVID-19;

Whereas the situation of COVID-19 has been reviewed and it has been observed that there has been a persistent rise in COVID-19 cases in the state during the last fortnight and it is anticipated that gatherings and congregations may pose a considerable threat of spread of COVID-19;

Whereas, in exercise of the powers under section 18(2)(d) of the Disaster Management Act, 2005, the State Disaster Management Authority has directed the undersigned to issue an order with guidelines for the containment of COVID 19;

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Now therefore, in exercise of the power conferred under section 22(2)(h) of the Disaster Management Act, 2005 the undersigned, in his capacity as Chairperson, State Executive Committee, hereby directs all the Departments of Government of Jharkhand and all the District Administrations to strictly implement the Ministry of Home Affairs Order dated 23.03.2021 (annexed) along with the following and also ensure compliance of annexed **guidelines and directives with effect from 08.04.2021 till 30.04.2021;** 

- 1. All indoor or outdoor congregations are prohibited in the state with the exception of marriage functions with the upper limit of 200 persons and last rites related functions with the upper limit of 50 persons.
- 2. All processions including religious processions shall be prohibited.
- 3. Not more than 5 persons shall congregate at any public place.
- 4. All schools shall be closed and education shall be provided online or by digital content. However offline classes for class 10<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> students who shall be taking the board examinations in year 2021 are permitted. These offline classes shall not be mandatory and students shall attend only with prior consent of their parents.
- 5. All fairs and exhibitions are prohibited.
- 6. All gymnasiums/swimming pools shall be closed.
- 7. All sports events shall be prohibited. However sportspersons are permitted to train in stadiums.
- 8. All parks shall be closed.
- 9. All restaurants shall operate upto 50% sitting capacity.
- 10. The number of persons gathered in a religious place/place of worship shall not exceed 50% of the capacity while maintaining mandatory social distancing of 2 *gaz ki doori* at all times.

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- 11. Banquet halls shall not used for any purpose other than marriage or last rites related functions.
- 12. All shops/restaurants/clubs shall not remain open after 8 PM. However take home/ home delivery of food from restaurants shall be permitted.
- 13. No person without mask/face cover shall be permitted entry in any government office/ religious place/place of worship / railway station/ airport/ bus/ taxi/ auto rickshaw / any other public place like shop etc.
- 14. All activities, not specifically prohibited, are permitted outside the containment zone(s).
- 15. With respect to political gatherings in the context of bye-election in 13-Madhupur Assembly Constituency of the Legislative Assembly of Jharkhand broad guidelines issued by Election Commission of India on 21.08.2020 shall prevail.

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(Sukhdev Singh)

Chief Secretary,

Jharkhand.

Ranchi, Dated: 06-04-2021

Copy to – Principal Secretary to Chief Minister/PS to all Ministers/All Additional Chief Secretary/Principal Secretary/Secretary/Director General of Police/All Divisional commissioner/DIG/DC/SSP/SP, Jharkhand for information and necessary action.

Copy to –Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India/ Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India.

June June

(Sukhdev Singh)

Chief Secretary,

Jharkhand

Guidelines on the measures to be taken by Departments of Government of Jharkhand/District Administrations for containment of COVID-19.

- 1. The directions and national directives communicated vide Order dated 23.03.2021 (annexed) of Ministry of Home Affairs; Government of India shall be implemented.
- The examinees of all examinations shall be exempted from restrictions related to movement out of Containment zone(s) for the purpose of examinations and their admit card shall be treated as entry pass for this purpose. SOP dated 10.09.2020 (annexed) issued by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare shall be complied with.
- 3. Public transport is permitted subject to compliance of guidelines issued by Department of Transport and Civil Aviation in this regard vide letter 2367 dated 06.11.2020.
- 4. Hotels, Restaurants, Bars, and other hospitality units such as guest house/Dharamshala/lodge etc shall comply with the SOP on preventive measures laid down by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India in this regard on 04.06.2020(annexed).
- 5. All domestic travellers shall comply with the guidelines for domestic travel (air/train/inter-state bus travel) issued by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare Government of India, on 24.05.2020 in this regard (annexed).
- 6. All international travellers on Vande Bharat and Air Transport Bubble flights shall comply with the SOP issued by Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India on 22.08.2020 in this regard (annexed).
- 7. All domestic air travel shall be in accordance with guidelines issued by Ministry of Civil Aviation, Government of India on 25.05.2020(annexed).
- Shopping Malls shall comply with the SOP on preventive measures laid down by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India in this regard on 04.06.2020(annexed).

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- 9. Offices shall comply with the SOP on preventive measures laid down by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India in this regard on 04.06.2020 (annexed).
- 10. Religious places/Places of worship shall comply with SOP issued by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India in this regard on 04.06.2020 (annexed).
- 11. All state government training institutes such SKIPA shall comply with SOP issued by Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Training, Government of India in this regard on 03.07.2020(annexed).
- 12. The state directives as annexed shall be adhered to while carrying out the permitted activities.
- 13. Any person violating these guidelines or the attached state directives will be liable to be proceeded against as per the provisions of Section 51 to 60 of the Disaster Management Act 2005, besides legal action under Section 188 of the IPC and other legal provisions as applicable.

(Sukhdev Singh) Chief Secretary, Jharkhand.

## State Directives for COVID-19 Management

- 1. Wearing of face cover/mask is compulsory in public places, in work places, and during transport.
- 2. Individuals shall maintain adequate distance in public places.
- 3. Spitting in public places is prohibited.
- 4. Persons above 65 years, persons with co-morbidities, pregnant women and children below the age of 10 years are advised to stay at home, except for essential and health purposes.
- 5. District authorities may advise individuals to install the AarogyaSetu application on compatible mobile phones and regularly update their health status on the app.

### Congregations

- 6. The organizer shall ensure the provision for thermal scanning, hand wash and sanitizer at all entry and exit points of the venue of congregation.
- 7. The organizer of the congregation shall arrange chairs with adequate distance between them.
- 8. Individuals shall maintain adequate distance between themselves.
- 9. Wearing of face cover/mask is compulsory by all persons attending the congregation.
- 10. The venue of congregation shall be sanitized by the organizer before and after the congregation.
- 11. Organizer shall ensure that only of asymptomatic persons attend these congregations.

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12. The organizer at regular intervals shall appeal to the public that they should Wear Face Cover, Maintain Social Distance and Ensure Hand Hygiene.

### Shops

- 13. Provision for sanitizer will be made at all entry point.
- 14. All persons in charge of shops will ensure that the number of persons entering the shop shall not exceed the number required to maintain social distance.
- 15. Wearing of face cover/mask is compulsory by workers and customers.
- 16. Hand gloves may be worn by all the workers.
- 17. Shops would ensure frequent sanitisation throughout the day of all points which frequently come into human contact eg. door handles, surface of table/counter etc.
- 18. Shops would ensure sanitisation of entire workplace and common facilities at the beginning of the day and end of the day.
- 19. Shops to ensure that any worker suffering from fever/cough/breathing problem does not attend the shop and is referred to nearest health facility.
- 20. Any customer apparently having cough/breathing problems to be denied entry and may be asked to immediately contact health facility.

(Sukhdev Singh) Chief Secretary, Jharkhand.