



കേരള ഗസറ്റ് KERALA GAZETTE

അസാധാരണം EXTRAORDINARY

ആധികാരികമായി പ്രസിദ്ധപ്പെടുത്തുന്നത്
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21st March 2020

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8th Meenam 1195

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1st Chaithra 1942

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GOVERNMENT OF KERALA

Health and Family Welfare (F) Department

NOTIFICATION

G.O. (Ms.) No. 54/2020/H&FWD.

*Dated, Thiruvananthapuram, 21st March, 2020
8th Meenam, 1195.*

S. R. O. No. 243/2020

In exercise of the powers conferred by sections 2, 3 & 4 of the Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897 (Central Act 3 of 1897), the Government of Kerala issue the following regulations regarding COVID-19 for the strict compliance, for the containment management and control of COVID-19 as part of endeavor to eliminate COVID-19 from the State, namely:—



REGULATIONS

1. These regulations may be called the Kerala Epidemic Diseases, COVID-19 Regulations, 2020.

2. It shall come into force at once and shall prevail for a period of one year until otherwise notified.

3. In this regulations,—

(a) 'Epidemic Disease' means the COVID-19 (Corona Virus Disease, 2019).

(b) Authorised persons means,—

(i) Director of Health services, Director Medical Education, Additional Director (PH) at State Level;

(ii) The District Collector, District Medical Officer, District Surveillance Officer at the District Level;

(iii) Medical Officer in charge of the Block PHC at the sub district level and such other persons may be authorised by the Government of Kerala, from time to time.

4. All hospitals (Government/Private) shall have separate screening corners for identifying COVID-19 suspected cases.

5. All hospitals (Government/Private) including Nursing Homes, Private Clinics, Registered Medical Practitioners including AYUSH shall notify such persons who within their knowledge are having travel history to COVID-19 affected countries and/or having symptoms as per the extant guidelines to the concerned district surveillance unit. In addition, the history of coming in contact with a suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19 shall be recorded.

6. During the screening if any COVID-19 suspected cases has been found, the latest guidelines published in the Directorate of Health Services website need to be followed.

7. All persons coming from COVID-19 affected countries (as per the updated list in the NCDC/WHO website) or having contact with any COVID-19 positive case shall inform the State/District COVID-19 Control Cell or the DISHA helpline number-1056 or 0471-2552056 and abide by the instructions given.



8. To avoid the spread of any rumours regarding COVID-19, only the authenticated information issued/permitted by the Health Department of Kerala to be used as IEC (Information, Education, Communication). In any case any person/institutions/organization is found violating the above said will be treated as a punishable offence under this regulations.9. Only the laboratories/hospitals designated by Government of India are authorized to take or test samples for COVID-19 in the State of Kerala. All samples will be taken and transported as per the guidelines given by Government of Kerala.

10. Competent persons of this regulation are authorized under this act to admit a person and isolate at Home or Hospital or Quarantine at home if required in case he/she has visited to a COVID-19 affected area or contact with positive COVID-19 case.

11. If the suspected case of COVID-19 or persons with recent history of travel to COVID affected Countries or with history of contact with COVID-19 case refuses Admission/Isolation/Quarantine the authorized officers as per paragraph 3 of this regulation will have powers to forcefully admit and isolate or quarantine as per the extant guidelines of Government of Kerala.

12. The district administration has the right to implement the following containment measures but not limited to this in order to prevent the spread of the epidemic disease in the concerned district:

- (i) Lockdown the affected area.
- (ii) Prohibiting entry and exit of population from the affected areas.
- (iii) Closures of schools, offices, shops, malls and any other areas of mass gatherings.
- (iv) Restrictions of movement of persons within the affected area.
- (v) Banning of all public gatherings (Meetings, Marriage functions etc.)
- (vi) Initiating Active and Passive case surveillance of COVID-19 cases.
- (vii) Designating any Government or private buildings as containment unit for isolation of the cases.
- (viii) The district administration of the concerned area has the authority to deploy the government staff for the containment activities.



(ix) Any other measures as directed by Health Department of Kerala.

13. No suit or legal proceedings shall lie against any persons for anything done or intended to be done in good faith under this act unless proved otherwise. Any person/institution/organization found violating any provision of these regulations shall be deemed to have committed an offence punishable under section 188 of Indian Penal Code (45 of 1860).

By order of the Governor,

RAJAN NAMDEV KHOBRADE,
Principal Secretary to Government.

Explanatory Note

(This does not form part of the Notification but is intended to indicate its general purport.)

Section 2, 3 & 4 of the Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897 (Central Act 3 of 1897) empowers State Government to announce special temporary measures to be observed by the public or by any person or class of persons to prevent the outbreak of any disease or spread thereof. In the light of recent spread of COVID-19 (Corona Virus Disease, 2019) the Government have decided to issue certain regulations, for the same.

The notification is intended to achieve the above object.

