



**GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM
HOME DEPARTMENT
TASHILING SECRETARIAT
GANGTOK**

No. 17/Home/2021

Dated:03/05/2021

ORDER

SUB: MEASURES FOR CONTAINMENT OF COVID-19

Whereas, in view of the recent surge of Covid-19 cases in the country, the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) in its Order dated 29/04/2021 has advised all the States/UTs to implement intensive containment measures in areas where the test positivity rate is above 10%;

Whereas, the average test positivity for Covid-19 cases in the State of Sikkim has been more than 20% in the last ten days, owing to which, it is felt that there is an urgent need to impose restrictions on the movement of persons within the State;

Therefore, this Order is issued along with the Guidelines mentioned at Annexure- I for strict implementation and compliance within the State of Sikkim with effect from 06/05/2021 and till 16/05/2021 with the approval of Chairperson, State Executive Committee in his exercise of powers conferred under section 22(2)(h) of the Disaster Management Act, 2005.

The National Directives for Covid-19 Management issued by the Government of India is also enclosed as Annexure-II for strict implementation and compliance.

(R. Telang, IAS)
Principal Secretary

Home Department
Government of Sikkim
File No. Home/Confdl/119/2020

Encl: As above.

Guidelines for containment of COVID-19
(Issued with Order No. 17 dated 03/05/2021)

These Guidelines shall be effective from 06/05/2021 and till 16/05/2021.

1. Inter-State movement of Persons and Vehicles:

- i. **Entry of all persons and passenger vehicles** including private vehicles and Government vehicles, through the all check-posts located at the **border of the State** Rangpo, Melli, Reshi, Ramam, Hathichirey, NTPC (West Sikkim) shall be **stopped**.
- ii. This restriction shall **not apply** to the movement of Army and security personnel vehicles, commercial goods vehicles carrying all kinds of merchandise including hardware and construction materials and vehicles on medical emergency etc. In case of commercial goods vehicles, **only the driver** shall be allowed to enter through the check-posts. Further, the goods vehicles registered outside the State are required to exit on the same day.
- iii. In case of exceptional **emergencies** (e.g. death in the family, medical urgency), the Sub Divisional Magistrate (SDM) of the area where the check-post is located shall issue entry permission on case to case basis. In case of Melli Checkpost, BDO Sumbuk shall issue such permissions. However, it must be ensured that the persons entering the State on account of such emergencies should have a negative RT PCR report conducted within 48 hours of their entry into the State.

2. Inter-District movement of Persons and Vehicles:

- i. The inter-district movement of persons, passenger vehicles, private vehicles and Government Vehicles shall be **prohibited**.
- ii. The above restriction shall not apply to movement of Army and security personnel vehicles, commercial goods vehicles, including hardware and construction materials, Health Department, Police and Fire Services vehicles as well as for medical emergencies. The evidence of such urgency shall have to be presented for inspection to the police personnel on duty.

3. Night Curfew:

- i. There shall be complete restriction on movement of vehicles and persons between 5.00 PM till 9.00 AM, except for emergency purposes.
- ii. Loading and unloading of milk supplies, vegetables and other goods and construction materials shall be permitted between 5 AM and 8.30 AM.

4. Prohibition on gathering of five or more persons under Section 144 of CrPC:

District Magistrates shall issue Orders under Section 144 of CrPC prohibiting assembly of more than 5 persons with reasonable exemptions like funerals.

5. Markets and Commercial Establishments:

- i. All Commercial Establishments shall continue to remain closed on all Saturdays and Sundays.
- ii. On all other days the shops and commercial establishments shall open from 10 AM till 4 PM.
- iii. The above restrictions shall not apply to shops for Medicines, rations, milk, meat and vegetable shops.

6. Government Offices/PSUs:

- i. All Government Offices/PSUs which had been declared closed till 7th May vide Order No. 15/Home/2021 dated 29/04/2021 shall now remain closed till 16th May, 2021.
- ii. The restriction on movement of Government Vehicles mentioned in Order No. 15/Home/2021 dated 29/04/2021 shall continue to apply during the period of closure except for Vehicles on emergency duties as specified vide Order no 16/Home/2021. Similarly HoDs, DDOs of the departments who are required to open the offices during this period shall be exempt from this restriction.

7. Surveillance and Containment Zones:

- i. 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 (MoHFW) in this on the websites. The list of Containment Zones will be notified by the respective District Collectors. This list will also be shared with MoHFW on a regular basis.
- ii. Within the demarcated Containment Zones, containment measures as prescribed by the MoHFW shall be scrupulously followed, as under:
 - a. Only essential activities shall be allowed in the Containment Zones.
 - b. 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.
 - c. There shall be intensive house to house surveillance by surveillance teams formed for this purpose.
 - d. Testing shall be carried out as per prescribed protocol. 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).
 - e. It shall be the responsibility of local district, police and municipal authorities to ensure that the prescribed containment measures are strictly followed.

8. Vaccination:

- i. As per the intimation received from the Government of India, the Health and Family Welfare Department shall undertake vaccination drive for all persons 18 years and above in a phased manner.
- ii. All Government employees including teachers above 45 years of age shall ensure they are vaccinated with at least first dose of Covid-19 vaccine on or before 1st May, 2021.
- iii. **Preliminary vaccination certificate** for Covid-19 vaccine shall be mandatory for persons above 45 years of age to **enter public offices** or to use **or operate any public transport**.

9. Protection of vulnerable persons:

Persons above 65 years of age, persons with co-morbidities, pregnant women, and children below the age of 10 years, shall stay at home, except for meeting essential requirements and for health purposes, as per the National Directives.

10. COVID-19 Appropriate Behaviour:

- i. District Authorities shall take all necessary measures to promote Covid-19 appropriate behaviour and ensure wearing of face masks, hand hygiene and social distancing.
- ii. The National Directives for Covid-19 Management, as specified in Annexure-I, shall be strictly followed throughout the State.
- iii. All schools, employees and establishments shall carry out special drive to ensure that students, employees and customers continue to follow the social distancing norms and wearing of masks.

11. Penal Provisions:-

Any person violating these lockdown measures and the National Directives for COVID-19 Management 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 Sec.188 of the IPC, and Sikkim Public Health and Safety (COVID-19) Regulations, 2020.

(R. Telang, IAS)
Principal Secretary
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Annexure-II

National Directives for COVID-19 Management

1. **Face Coverings:** Wearing of face cover is compulsory in all public places, work places and during transport.
2. **Social distancing:** Individuals must maintain a minimum distance of 6 feet in public places.
Shops will ensure physical distancing among customers.
3. **Spitting in public spaces** will be punishable with fine as per Sikkim Public Health and Safety (COVID-19) Regulations, 2020.

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 and commercial establishments. .
6. **Screening and 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, adequate gaps between shifts, staggering the lunch breaks of staff etc.