

Guidelines for Surveillance, Containment and Caution
[As per Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) Order No. 40-3/2020-DM-I (A)
dated 27th January, 2021]

The number of active cases of COVID-19 have been declining steadily over the last four months. However, with a view to consolidate the substantial gains that have been achieved against the spread of COVID-19, and to fully overcome the pandemic, there is a need to maintain caution and strictly follow the prescribed containment strategy, focussed on surveillance, containment and strict observance of the guidelines.

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

COVID appropriate behavior

1. State/ UT Governments shall take all necessary measures to promote COVID-19 appropriate behaviour and ensure wearing of face masks, hand hygiene and social distancing.
2. The National Directives for COVID-19 Management, as specified in **Annexure I**, shall be strictly followed throughout the country.

Surveillance and Containment

3. Containment Zones, if required, 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 regard. Within the demarcated Containment Zones, containment measures, as prescribed by MoHFW, shall be scrupulously followed.
4. 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.

Strict adherence to the prescribed SOPs

5. All activities will be permitted outside Containment Zones. However, the following activities will be subject to strict adherence of SOPs, as indicated below:
 - i. Social/ religious/ sports/ entertainment/ educational/ cultural/ religious gatherings, subject to SOP of the State/ UT concerned.
 - ii. Cinema halls and theatres, subject to a revised SOP to be issued by Ministry of Information & Broadcasting in consultation with MHA.
 - iii. Swimming pools, subject to a revised SOP to be issued by Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports (MoYA&S) in consultation with MHA.
 - iv. Exhibition halls, subject to a revised SOP to be issued by the Department of Commerce in consultation with MHA.

 27/01/2021

6. For further opening up of international air travel of passengers, Ministry of Civil Aviation (MOCA) may take a decision in consultation with Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA).
7. SOPs, as updated from time to time, 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, etc. These SOPs shall be strictly enforced by the authorities concerned, who shall be responsible for their strict observance.

Local restrictions

8. 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

9. 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

10. 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

11. 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.
12. 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 Section 188 of the IPC, and other legal provisions as applicable. Extracts of these penal provisions are at **Annexure II.**


23/01/2021

Union Home Secretary
and, Chairman, National Executive Committee

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 adequate distance 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. **Staggering of work/ business hours** will be followed in offices, work places, shops, markets and industrial & commercial establishments.
5. **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.
6. **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.
7. **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.



Handwritten signature and date: 17/01/2021