

**GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM
HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE DEPARTMENT
DISPUR ::: GUWAHATI- 781006**

**ORDERS BY THE GOVERNOR
NOTIFICATION**

Dated Dispur the 09th April, 2021

No. HLA.301/2020/172: In exercise of the powers conferred under the Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897, the Health & Family Welfare Department hereby notifies the COVID appropriate Guidelines for upcoming festivals and related programmes in Assam (Annexure-A).

All concerned are to strictly comply with the said guidelines.

sd/-

Principal Secretary to the Government of Assam
Health & Family Welfare Department

Memo No.HLA.301/2020/172-A

Dated Dispur, the 09th April, 2021

Copy to:

1. Additional Chief Secretary to Hon'ble Chief Minister, Assam,
2. Principal Secretary, Home & Political, Assam.
3. Director General of Police, Assam.
4. ADGP (L&O) / ADGP (S), Assam.
5. Principal Secretary, Health & Family Welfare Department, Assam, Dispur.
6. Commissioner & Secretary, Transport Department, Assam.
7. Chief Executive Officer, Assam State Disaster Management Authority.
8. Mission Director, National Health Mission, Assam, Guwahati.
9. Additional Secretary, Health & Family Welfare Department, Assam, Dispur.
10. All Deputy Commissioners / Sub-Divisional Officers (Civil), Assam.
11. All Superintendents of Police, Assam.
12. Director of AYUSH/ Director of Medical Education/ Director of Health Services/ Director of Health Services (F.W), Assam.
13. All Joint Directors of Health Services, Assam.
14. All Principal cum Chief Superintendents/ Superintendents, Medical College Hospitals, Assam.
15. P.S. to Hon'ble Chief Minister, Assam, Dispur
16. P.S. to Hon'ble Minister, Health & Family Welfare, Assam.
17. P.S. to Hon'ble Minister of State, Health & Family Welfare, Assam.
18. P.S. to Chief Secretary, Assam, Dispur.
19. Any other concerned.

By order etc.


Deputy Secretary to the Government of Assam
Health & Family Welfare Department

Subject: COVID appropriate Guidelines for upcoming Festivals and related programmes in Assam

During the first wave of COVID 19, Assam could effectively manage the pandemic with very high recovery rate and low mortality rate. However, with the fresh spike of COVID-19 cases in many States of the country, Assam has geared up its COVID management strategies and is taking up various need-based steps to contain the spread of COVID-19, while keeping the core principles of COVID-19 management, namely TESTING, TRACING and TREATING (3Ts) along with ramping up of vaccination for the eligible categories.

In line with various guidelines of Government of India, it is decided to formulate norms of public gathering during the forthcoming Bohag Bihu and other festivals in the State, such as Ram Navami, Ramadan etc, so as to ensure that people are able to celebrate their much-loved festivals with joy and gusto, simultaneously adhering to extant COVID-19 protocols.

Government of Assam hereby notifies the following guidelines, which are to be strictly adhered to and followed by all the event organizers /visitors/participants of functions and other festivals in the State, for the general safety and security of all participants against COVID 19.

1. Permission for Organizing functions and other festivals:

- 1.1. The event organizers are to seek permission from the District Administration of the concerned district for organizing any event resulting in public gathering, mentioning the number of people likely to gather at the proposed event and the maximum capacity of the place/site where the event is proposed to be held.
- 1.2. This will enable District Administration to extend all possible support to the event organizers for successful and safe celebration of the event.
- 1.3. The programme/ festival/ event have to be concluded by 11.00 PM mandatorily.

2. Testing of Organizers and volunteers:

- 2.1. All the organizers and volunteers involved in the organization of functions and festivals must test themselves for COVID-19 three (3) days prior to and after the event mandatorily.
- 2.2. Necessary assistance from the nearest Government/ Private testing facility may be taken in this regard.

3. Arrangements at the Programme/ Festival/ event site:

- 3.1. The event spot/site should be spacious and must be kept open from all sides.
- 3.2. The event area must have adequate space for arrangement of physical distancing (as per COVID-19 protocol).
- 3.3. There should be multiple entry and exit gates and must be separate.
- 3.4. Organizers must take measures to avoid crowding at all cost.

- 3.5. Each and every participant should be screened for fever using thermal scanners by the volunteers and anyone having higher temperature may be advised to report to the nearest health facility for testing and should not be allowed to enter the event area.
- 3.6. Proper signage must be there from entry to exit so that visitors are guided to adhere to COVID appropriate behaviour once s/he enters the event area.
- 3.7. The sitting arrangements should be made in such a way that required social distancing is maintained between the chairs. In case of fixed chairs, alternate seats may be considered.
- 3.8. The organizers must engage volunteers at different points inside the event area to help out visitors.
4. **Keeping adequate volunteers available:**
 - 4.1. The event organizers must keep adequate number of volunteers inside and outside the event area to ensure that visitors maintain physical distancing, wear mask properly and sanitize hands while visiting event area.
 - 4.2. Volunteers themselves must follow COVID Appropriate Behaviour while interacting with visitors.
5. **Compulsory use of mask and hand sanitizer:**
 - 5.1. Proper usage of mask is mandatory for visitors/organizers.
 - 5.2. Provision of hand sanitizer must be kept at the entry gate and even in nearby area including parking area.
 - 5.3. The event area must be sanitized twice daily (once before the crowd gathers and once after the crowd leaves the venue) as a strict public health measure.
6. **Emphasis on Print, Electronic and Social Media to maintain COVID protocol:**
 - 6.1. The use of print, electronic and social media must be optimally done to generate mass awareness about the COVID-19 protocols for organizing the event.
 - 6.2. Organizing Committee members must put up Posters and signage in the event area for encouraging people to get vaccinated and for following COVID Appropriate Behaviour.

BE SAFE AND KEEP OTHERS SAFE