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NOTIFICATIONS BY GOVERNMENT

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HEALTH MEDICAL & FAMILY WELFARE DEPARTEMENT
(B2)

NOTIFICATION FOR CONTAINMENT OF COVID -19 IN THE STATE OF ANDHRA PRADESH UNDER EPIDEMIC DISEASE ACT, 1897.

[G.O.Rt.No. 189, Health Medical & Family Welfare (B2), 13th March, 2020.]

Read:

The Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897 (Act No.3 of 1897).

NOTIFICATION

In exercise of the powers conferred under Section 2, 3 and 4 of Epidemic Disease Act, 1897 the Governor of Andhra Pradesh, hereby issue the following Regulations regarding COVID-19(Corona Virus Disease-19):

Short Title, extent and commencement	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. These regulations may be called "The Andhra Pradesh Epidemic Disease COVID- 19 Regulations 2020."2. They shall be extend to whole of the State of Andhra Pradesh.3. They shall be come into force from the date of publication of the Notification in the official Gazette.4. These Regulations shall come into force immediately and shall remain valid for a period of one year from the date of publication of this Notification.
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<p>Definitions</p>	<p>5. "Epidemic Disease" in this Regulation means COVID- 19 (CORONA Virus Disease 2019)</p> <p>6. Authorized person under this Act are</p> <p>a. State level:</p> <p>i. Director of Health and Family Welfare ii. Director Public Health and Family Welfare; iii. Director of Medical Education; and iv. Commissioner, APVVP.</p> <p>b. District level:</p> <p>i. District Collectors, ii. District Medical & Health Officers and iii. Superintendents of the Teaching Hospitals & District Hospitals (DH)</p>
<p>Duties & responsibilities of Health Institutions</p>	<p>7. All Hospitals (Government and Private) should have dedicated COVID-19 corners and isolation beds for screening and management of suspected cases of COVID-19.</p> <p>8. All the Hospitals (Government and Private) during screening of such cases shall record the travel history of the person, if he/she travelled to any Country or Area where COVID-19 has been reported. In addition, the history of persons who have come in contact with suspected or confirmed cases of COVID-19 shall be recorded.</p> <p>a. In case the person has such history in last 14 days and the person is asymptomatic then the person must be kept in home quarantine for 14 days from the day of exposure.</p> <p>b. In case the person has any such history in last 14 days and the person is symptomatic as per definition of COVID-19, then the person must be isolated in a Hospital as per protocol and will be tested for COVID-19 as per protocol.</p> <p>c. Information of all the cases should be given to office of District Medical & Health Officer of the District immediately.</p>
<p>Duties and responsibilities of Individuals</p>	<p>9. No person / Institution/ Organization will use any print or electronic media for information regarding COVID-19 without prior permission of HM&FW Department, Andhra Pradesh. This is to avoid spread of any rumour or unauthenticated information regarding COVID-19. In case, any person/Institution/ Organisation is found indulging in such activity, it will be treated as a punishable offence under these Regulations.</p>

<p>Duties and responsibilities of Individuals</p>	<p>10. No private laboratories have been authorized to take or test samples for COVID-19 in the State of Andhra Pradesh. All such samples will be collected as per the guidelines of Govt. of India and will be sent to designated labs by the District Nodal Officer appointed by Andhra Pradesh HM&FW Department.</p> <p>11. Any person with a history of travel in last 14 days to a Country or Area from where COVID -19 has been reported, must report to 24X7 call centre (0866-2410978) or call to toll free helpline number 104, so that necessary measures if required may be initiated by HM&FW Department.</p> <p>12. All persons with a history of travel to a Country or Area from where COVID-19 has been reported in last 14 days, but who do not have any symptoms of cough, fever, difficulty in breathing, should isolate themselves at home. Such persons must take precautions to avoid contact with any person including family members for 14 days from the date of arrival from such areas.</p>
<p>Enforcement</p>	<p>13. Authorized person as per Section 6 of these Regulations are only Authorized under this Act to admit a person and isolate the person if required in case he/she has a history of visit to an area where COVID -19 is endemic and the concerned person is symptomatic.</p> <p>14. If a suspected case of COVID-19 refuses admission or isolation, the Officer Authorised in Section (6) of these Regulations will have powers to forcefully admit and isolate such cases for (14) days from the onset of symptoms or till the reports of Lab tests are received as negative, or such period as may be necessary.</p> <p>15. If cases of COVID-19 are reported from a defined geographic area such as village, town, ward, colony, the District Administration of the concerned District shall have right to implement following containment measures, but not limited to these, in order to prevent spread of disease:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Sealing of geographical area. Barring entry and exit of population from the containment area. Closure of school, cinema halls, commercial establishments, offices and banning of public gatherings. Banning vehicular movement in the area. Initiating active and passive surveillance of COVID-19 cases. Hospital isolation of all suspect cases. Designating any Government building for containment unit for isolation of cases. Staff of all Government Departments will be at disposal of District administration of the concerned area for discharging the duty of containment measures. Any other measure as directed by Health Department Andhra Pradesh.

Enforcement	16. District Disaster Management Committee headed by District Collector is Authorized for planning strategy regarding containment measures for COVID-19 in their respective Districts. The District Collector may co-opt more officers from different Departments for District Disaster Management Committee for this activity under these Regulations.
Penalty	17. 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). Special Chief Secretary Health or District Collector of a District may penalize any person/Institution/Organization if found violating provisions of these Regulations or any further orders issued by Government under these Regulations.
Protection to person acting under Act	18. No suit or legal proceedings shall lie against any person for anything done or intended to be in good faith under this Act unless proved otherwise.

Dr. K.S. JAWAHAR REDDY,
Special Chief Secretary to Government.

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