



GOVERNMENT OF KERALA

Abstract

General Administration Department- COVID 19- containment activities- Revised consolidated guidelines-orders issued.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION (SECRET SECTION) DEPARTMENT

G.O.(Ms)No.80/2020/GAD Dated,Thiruvananthapuram, 23/04/2020

- Read 1.G.O (Ms) No. 78/2020/GAD dated 17.04.2020
2.Orders No 40-3/2020-DM-1(A) dated 15.04.2020 and 16.04.2020 of MHA, Government of India
3.GO (Ms) No.78/2020/GAD dated 17.4.2020

ORDER

In exercise of the powers conferred under Section 20 (3) of the Disaster Management Act, 2005 the undersigned in his capacity as Chairperson, State Executive Committee hereby issues additional guidelines and modifications to the order read above, to all Departments, District Collectors, Superintendents/ Commissioners of Police and other Heads of Departments for containment of activities of COVID-19 for strict implementation in the State of Kerala, in supersession of the orders issued vide ref 3 above.


(By order of the Governor)
TOM JOSE
CHIEF SECRETARY

To:

Additional Chief Secretary, Home & Vigilance Department
State Police Chief, Thiruvananthapuram
Principal Secretary, Revenue & DM Department
Principal Secretary, Health & Family Welfare Department
All Addl. Chief Secretaries/Principal Secretaries/Secretaries
All District Collectors

All District Police Chiefs
All Heads of Departments
Office copy/ Stock File

Copy to:

Private Secretary to Chief Minister
Private Secretary to all Ministers

Forwarded /By order

Section Officer

Revised Guidelines on the measures to be taken by Departments of Government of Kerala, District Collectors, District Police Chiefs and HoDs and others for containment of COVID-19 in the State.

Ref: Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) order No. 40-3/2020-DM-1(A) dated 15th April 2020, 16th April 2020, 19th April 2020 and 21st April 2020.

The hotspots will be defined and notified from time to time by the State Disaster Management Authority, Government of Kerala.

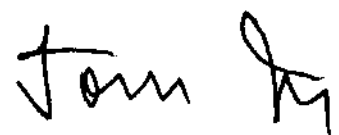
The following classification among districts is made to determine on the activities that can be permitted during lockdown period.

Category	Districts
Red	Kasargod Kannur Kozhikode Malappuram
Orange	Pathanamthitta Ernakulam Kollam Thiruvananthapuram Palakkad Wayanad Thrissur Kottayam Idukki Alappuzha
Green	Nil

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1. With the extension of the lockdown period, the following activities will continue to remain prohibited across the State till 24:00 Hrs on 3rd May 2020 duly following the SOPs outlined by Government of India.

- 1.1. All domestic and international air travel of passengers, except for movement, inter and intra state of all medical and veterinary personnel, scientists, nurses, para-medical staff, lab technicians, mid-wives and other hospital support services including ambulances and security purposes.
- 1.2. All passenger movement by trains, except for security purposes.
- 1.3. Inter-district public transport of all kinds.
- 1.4. Metro rail services.
- 1.5. Inter-district and inter-state movement of individuals except for medical reasons or for activities permitted under these guidelines.
- 1.6. All educational, training, coaching institutions and other similar establishments.
- 1.7. All industrial and commercial activities other than those specifically permitted under these guidelines.
- 1.8. Hospitality services other than those specifically permitted under these guidelines.
- 1.9. Taxis including auto rickshaws and services of cab aggregators.
- 1.10. All cinema halls, malls, shopping complexes, gymnasiums, sports complexes, swimming pools, entertainment parks, theatres, bars, auditoria, assembly halls and similar places.
- 1.11. All social/ political/ sports/ entertainment/ academic/ cultural/ religious functions/ other gatherings.
- 1.12. All religious places/ places of worship shall be closed for public. Religious congregations are strictly prohibited.
- 1.13. In case of funerals and weddings, congregation of more than twenty persons will not be permitted.



In addition, borders of the hotspots would be sealed with a maximum of two entry/ exit point for supply of essential goods and services.

2. The following permitted activities will be allowed in orange and green districts except in the hotspots with effect from 24:00 Hrs on 23rd April 2020. For the red districts, the lockdown will continue till 24:00 Hrs on 3rd May 2020. However, the District Collectors are empowered to decide what all activities given in these guidelines would be permitted in red districts, except in the hotspots.

2.1. All health services (including AYUSH) to remain functional, such as:

2.1.1. Hospitals, nursing homes, clinics, telemedicine facilities.

2.1.2. Dispensaries, chemists, pharmacies, all kind of medicine shops including *Jan Aushadhi Kendras* and medical equipment shops.

2.1.3. Medical laboratories and collection centres.

2.1.4. Pharmaceutical and medical research labs, institutions carrying out COVID - 19 related research.

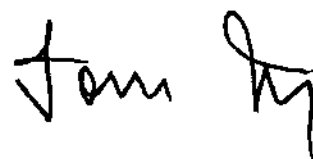
2.1.5. Veterinary hospitals, dispensaries, clinics, pathology labs, sale and supply of vaccine and medicine.

2.1.6. Authorized private establishments, which support the provisioning of essential services, or efforts for containment of COVID-19, including home care providers, diagnostics, and supply chain firms serving hospitals.

2.1.7. Manufacturing units of drugs, pharmaceuticals, medical devices, medical oxygen, their packaging material, raw material and intermediates.

2.1.8. Construction of medical/ health infrastructure including manufacture of ambulances.

2.1.9. Movement, inter and intra state, including by air of all medical and veterinary personnel, scientists, nurses, para-medical staff, lab technicians, mid-wives and other hospital support services, including ambulances.



2.1.10. Pre-monsoon sanitation and related preventive activities by all departments and local bodies.

2.2. All agricultural and horticultural activities:

2.2.1. Farming and related operations by farmers and farm workers in field. This will also include all irrigation and canal cleaning-cum-maintenance operations adhering to health protocols.

2.2.2. Agencies engaged in procurement, marketing and sale of agriculture/horticulture/floriculture products, including Minimum Support Price (MSP) operations.

2.2.3. All cooperative societies engaged in agriculture activities and all wholesale markets (urban & rural) managed by Department of Agriculture Development & Farmers' Welfare.

2.2.4. Shops of agriculture machinery, its spare parts (including its supply chain) and repairs.

2.2.5. Custom Hiring Centres (CHC) related to farm machinery.

2.2.6. Manufacturing, distribution and retail of fertilizers, pesticides, seeds, organic manure including compost.

2.2.7. Movement, inter and intra state, of harvesting and sowing related machines combined harvester and other agriculture/ horticulture implements.

2.2.8. Manufacture and movement of processed agriculture produce and all kinds of cooking oil including coconut oil.

2.2.9. Movement, inter and intra state, of fruits and vegetables.

2.2.10. Local processing/value addition units in respect of agriculture produces and food grains including rice mills.

2.2.11. Pre-monsoon preparations for farming.

2.2.12. Collection, harvesting and processing of Minor Forest Produce (MFP)/Non Timber Forest Produce (NTFP) by scheduled tribes and other forest dwellers in forest areas.

2.2.13. Facilities for export/ import such as Pack houses, inspection and treatment facilities for seeds and horticulture produce.

2.2.14. Research establishments dealing with the agriculture and horticulture activities.

2.2.15. Inter and intra State movement of planting materials and honey bee colonies, honey and other beehive products.

2.3. Fisheries:

2.3.1. Operations of the fishing (marine and inland)/ aquaculture industry, including feeding & maintenance, harvesting, processing, packaging, cold chain, marketing and sale.

2.3.2. Hatcheries, feed plants, commercial aquaria.

2.3.3. Movement of fish/ shrimp and fish products, fish seed/ feed and workers for all these activities.

2.4. Plantations:

2.4.1. Operations of tea, coffee, rubber, cashew, cardamom and other spices plantations with a maximum of 50% workers.

2.4.2. Harvesting, processing, packaging, marketing and sale of tea, coffee, rubber, cashew, cardamom and other spices with maximum of 50% workers.

2.4.3. Bamboo, coconut, arecanut, cocoa, plantation and their harvesting, processing, packaging, marketing and sale with maximum of 50% workers.

2.5. Animal husbandry:

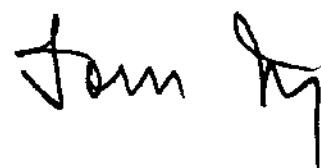
2.5.1. Collection, processing, distribution and sale of milk and milk products by milk processing plants, including transport and supply chain.

2.5.2. Operation of animal husbandry farms including poultry farms & hatcheries and livestock farming activity.

2.5.3. Animal feed manufacturing and feed plants, including supply of raw material, such as maize and soya.

2.5.4. Operation of animal shelter homes.

2.5.5. Movement of poultry/poultry products.

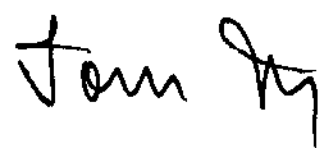
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3. Financial sector:

- 3.1. Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and RBI regulated financial markets and entities like NPCI, CCIL, payment system operators and standalone primary dealers, financial institutions of Government of Kerala and Cooperative banks.
- 3.2. Bank branches and ATMs, IT vendors for banking operations, Banking Correspondents (BCs), ATM operation and cash management agencies.
- 3.3. Bank branches are allowed to work as per normal working hours till disbursement of DBT cash transfers is complete.
- 3.4. District Administration and Police to provide adequate security personnel at bank branches and BCs to maintain social distancing, law and order and staggering of account holders.
- 3.5. Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI), and capital and debt market services as notified by the SEBI.
- 3.6. Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDAI) and Insurance Companies.
- 3.7. Non-Banking financial institutions (NBFCs) including Housing Finance Companies (HFCs) and Micro Finance Institutions (NBFC-MFIs) with bare minimum staff.
- 3.8. Cooperative credit societies.

4. Social sector:

- 4.1. Operation of homes for children/ disabled/ mentally challenged/ senior citizens/ destitute/ women/ widows/ bed side attendants and care givers of senior citizens residing in their homes.
- 4.2. Observation homes, after care homes and places of safety for juveniles.
- 4.3. Disbursement of social security pensions, such as old age/ widow/ freedom fighter pensions; pension and provident fund services provided by Employees Provident Fund Organization (EPFO).
- 4.4. Operation of Anganwadis for distribution of food and nutritional items once in 15 days at the doorsteps of beneficiaries, such as children, women and lactating mothers. Beneficiaries will not attend the Anganwadis.



5. Online teaching/ distance learning will be encouraged:

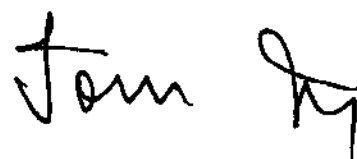
- 5.1. All educational, training, coaching institutions and similar other establishments will remain closed.
- 5.2. However, these establishments are expected to maintain the academic schedule through online teaching.
- 5.3. Maximum use of Doordarshan (DD) and other educational channels may be made for teaching purposes.

6. MGNREGA and Ayyankali Employment Guarantee Scheme works will be allowed:

- 6.1. With strict implementation of social distancing and face mask.
- 6.2. Priority to be given to irrigation and water conservation works, including pre-monsoon cleaning and digging of wells.
- 6.3. Other Central and State sector schemes in irrigation, water conservation and afforestation sectors may also be allowed to be implemented and suitably dovetailed with MGNREGA works.
- 6.4. Not more than 5 unskilled labourers in a team.

7. Public utilities:

- 7.1. Operations of oil and gas sectors including refining, transportation, distribution, storage and retail of products, such as petrol, diesel, kerosene, CNG, LPG, PNG etc.
- 7.2. Generation, transmission and distribution of power.
- 7.3. Postal services, including post offices.
- 7.4. Operations of utilities in water, sanitation and waste management sectors including garbage collection by local bodies or agencies authorized by Government for that purpose.
- 7.5. Operation of utilities providing telecommunications and internet services including prepaid mobile recharge centres.
- 7.6. Akshaya centres.



8. Movement-loading/ unloading of goods/ cargo (inter and intra state) are allowed as under:

- 8.1. All goods traffic will be allowed to ply.
- 8.2. Operations of railways, transportation of goods and parcel trains.
- 8.3. Operations of airports and related facilities for air transport for cargo movement, relief and evacuation.
- 8.4. Operations of seaports and Inland Container Depots (ICDs) for cargo, transport, including authorized custom clearing and forwarding agents.
- 8.5. Operations of land ports for cross land border transportation of essential goods, including petroleum products and LPG, food products and medical supplies.
- 8.6. Movement of all trucks and other goods/ carrier vehicles with two drivers and one helper/ cleaner subject to the driver carrying a valid driving license; empty truck/ vehicle will be allowed to ply after the delivery of goods, or for pick up of goods.
- 8.7. Shops for truck and vehicle repairs and dhabas on highways strictly following the social distancing norms.
- 8.8. Movement of staff and contractual labour for operations of railways, airports/ air carriers, seaports, ships, vessels, land ports and ICDs are allowed on passes issued only by the District Collectors/District Police Chiefs on the basis of authorizations issued by the respective designated authority of the railways, airports, seaports, land ports and ICDs. The passes issued would be honoured up to the final destination specified in the pass.

9. Supply of essential goods will be allowed, as under:

- 9.1. All facilities in the supply chain of essential goods, whether involved in manufacturing, wholesale or retail of such goods through local stores, large brick and mortar stores or e-commerce companies should be allowed to operate, ensuring strict social distancing without any restriction on their timing of opening and closure. This will also include food processing units such as bread factories, milk processing plants, flour mills, dal mills etc. located in urban areas.

Jan 19

9.2. Shops selling essential goods and carts, including ration shops under PDS, dealing with food and groceries, hygiene items, fruits and vegetables, dairy and milk booths, poultry, meat and fish, animal feed and fodder etc, will be allowed to operate from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m, ensuring strict social distancing.

9.3. District authorities may encourage and facilitate home delivery to minimize the movement of individuals outside their homes.

10. Commercial and private establishments, as listed below, will be allowed to operate:

10.1. Print and electronic media including broadcasting, DTH and cable services.

10.2. IT and IT enabled services, with up to 50% staff strength.

10.3. Data and call centres for Government activities only.

10.4. Courier services.

10.5. Cold storage and warehousing services, including at ports, airports, railway stations, container depots, individual units and other links in the logistics chain.

10.6. Private security services and facilities, management services for maintenance and upkeep of office and residential complexes.

10.7. Hotels, home stays, lodges and motels, which are accommodating tourists and persons stranded due to lockdown, medical and emergency staff, air and sea crew.

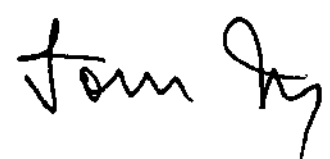
10.8. Establishments used/ earmarked for quarantine facilities.

10.9. Services provided by self-employed persons, such as electricians, IT repair people, plumbers, motor mechanics, carpenters, home nurses, domestic helpers etc. Domestic helpers and home maids shall not attend more than one house.

10.10. Repair shops for electrical/electronic gadgets and machines.

10.11. Sale and movement of construction materials (civil and electrical).

10.12. Restaurants: Only take aways till 8 p.m. and online/door delivery till 10.00 p.m.



10.13. Shops of educational books for students.

10.14. Shops of electric fans.

11. Industries/ Industrial Establishments (both Government and private), as listed below, will be allowed to operate:

11.1. Drug manufacturing including ayurveda drugs.

11.2. Manufacturing and other industrial establishments with access control in Special Economic Zone (SEZs) and Export Oriented Units (EoUs), industrial estates and industrial townships. These establishments will make arrangements for stay of workers within their premises and / or adjacent buildings as far as possible. The transportation of workers to work place will be arranged by the employers in dedicated transport by ensuring social distancing.

11.3. Manufacturing units of essential goods, including drugs, pharmaceuticals, medical devices, their raw material and intermediates.

11.4. Food processing industries.

11.5. Production units, which require continuous process, and their supply chain, especially cement, steel and fertilizers.

11.6. Manufacturing of IT hardware.

11.7. Mines and mineral production, their transportation, supply of explosives and activities incidental to mining operations, quarrying.

11.8. Manufacturing units of packaging material.

11.9. Textile and handloom industries with staggered shifts and social distancing. Textile shops are not allowed to function.

11.10. Brick kilns in rural areas i.e. outside municipal corporations and municipalities.

11.11. Rubber sourcing and processing.

11.12. Cashew, coconut, coconut oil, coir, khadi industries.

11.13. All MSME units in Gram Panchayath and Municipal areas but not in Municipal Corporation areas.



11.14. Notebook making units.

12. Construction activities, listed as below, will be allowed to operate:

- 12.1. Construction and maintenance of roads, irrigation projects, educational institutions, buildings and all kinds of industrial projects, including MSMEs in rural areas, water supply and sanitation; laying/erection of power transmission lines and laying of telecom optical fibre and cable along with related activities and construction of renewable energy projects.
- 12.2. Social distancing and personal sanitation measures shall be strictly followed and will be the duty of the employer to ensure this. No person with symptoms like fever, cough etc. shall be engaged for work. Health check up of migrant workers will be the responsibility of the contractor or employer, as the case may be.
- 12.3. Only minimum labourers to carry out the essential work shall be employed in the work sites. Migrant workers will be employed wherever possible to enhance their livelihood.

13. Movement of persons is allowed in the following cases:

- 13.1. Movement of private vehicles will be restricted with odd-even scheme on alternate days. Vehicles with odd numbers will be permitted on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Vehicles with even numbers will be allowed on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. The odd-even scheme will not be applicable on Sundays. The exemption from the odd and even scheme would be only for critical services and emergency operations, vehicles driven by staff on Government duty including Government agencies and banks and those on emergency duties specified in the guidelines. Doctors and health workers on public and private sector and media personnel are also exempted from the scheme. Ladies and differently abled persons travelling solo or with dependents and electric vehicles are exempted from this restriction. In all such cases, two passengers besides the private vehicle driver can be permitted in the backseat, in case of four-wheelers; however, in case of two-wheelers, only the driver of the vehicle is to be permitted. Pillion is allowed only if it is a family member.
- 13.2. All personnel travelling to place of work and back in the exempted categories, as per the instructions of the State/ local authority.



- 13.3. Standard Operating System for transporting migrant workers for industrial, manufacturing, construction, farming and MNREGA works within the State will be as follows:
- 13.3.1. The migrant workers currently residing in relief/shelter camps should be registered with the concerned local authority and their skill mapping be carried out to find out their suitability for various kinds of work.
- 13.3.2. In the event that a group of migrants wish to return to their places of work within the State where they are presently located, they would be screened and those who are asymptomatic would be transported to their respective places of work.
- 13.3.3. It may be noted that there shall be no movement of labour outside the State.
- 13.3.4. During the journey by bus, it would be ensured that safe social distancing norms are followed and the buses used for transport are sanitized as per the guidelines of the health authorities.
- 13.3.5. Local authorities shall also provide for food and water during their journey.
- 13.3.6. The National Directives for COVID - 19 Management issued under the consolidated revised guidelines dated 15th April 2020 shall be strictly followed. (Annexure - I)
- 13.4. Bus travel within the district shall be permitted only for transporting labourers and staff who are engaged in the exempted categories subject to the social distancing norms and SOP in this regard. Public transport is not allowed.
- 13.5. Sign-on and sign-off of Indian Seafarers at Indian Ports and their movement for the aforesaid purpose as per the Standard Operating Protocol (SOP) issued by MHA dated 21st April 2020. (Annexure - II)
- 13.6. The inter-State movement of pregnant women, people seeking medical treatment in Kerala, people travelling in connection with death of a relative or an imminent death will be governed by G.O. (Rt) no. 1330/2020/GAD dated 15th April 2020. (Annexure - III)



14. Offices of the State Government, autonomous bodies and local governments will remain open, as mentioned below:

- 14.1. Defence, Central Armed Police Forces, Health and Family Welfare, Disaster management and Early Warning Agencies (IMD, INCOIS, SASE and National Centre of Seismology, CWC), National Informatics Centre (NIC), Food Corporation of India (FCI), NCC, Nehru Yuva Kendra (NYKs) and Customs to function without any restriction.
- 14.2. Revenue, Police, home guards, civil defence, fire and emergency services, prisons, I&PRD, legal metrology department, including licensees and municipal and panchayat services will function without any restrictions.
- 14.3. All other departments of State Government to work with restricted staff. 50% of Group A & B officers shall attend the office. Group C & D will attend up to 33% of strength, as per requirement and ensuring social distancing. Remaining officers shall work from home and shall be available for duty on-call. However, delivery of public services shall be ensured, and necessary staff will be deployed for such purpose. Government servants can make inter district travel using their identity cards for official purposes. However, travel to adjacent district is only permitted.
- 14.4. District administration and treasury including field offices of the Accountant General will function. The delivery of public services shall be ensured, and necessary staff will be deployed for such purpose.
- 14.5. Resident Commissioner of State, in New Delhi, only to the extent of coordinating COVID-19 related activities and internal kitchen operations.
- 14.6. Forest Department offices with required staff/workers to operate and maintain zoo, nurseries, wildlife, fire-fighting in forests, watering plantations, forestry plantation and related activities, including Silviculture operations, patrolling and their necessary transport movement.
- 14.7. All cooperative societies with less than 33% employees.
- 14.8. All Government offices shall continue to work for 5 days a week (Monday-Friday) till further orders.



- 14.9. Covid-19 related Self Help Groups employed by Local Self Government institutions.
15. Morning/ evening walks and jogging wearing face masks and ensuring social distancing are permitted across the State, except in hotspots.
16. It is mandatory for all persons to wear face masks in public places.
17. All Heads of Departments and District collectors shall ensure that the preparatory arrangements with regard to social distancing in offices, work places, factories and establishments as well as other sectoral requirements are in place before operationalizing the permitted activities.
18. The District Disaster Management Authority is empowered to put in place additional restrictions, if necessary, in any hotspots or cluster of hotspots.

Any person violating these lockdown 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 - IV.

All enforcement agencies shall abide by the above instructions. In the districts, the decision of the Chairman, District Disaster Management Authority shall be final.


Chief Secretary

Thiruvananthapuram

23rd April 2020

National Directives for COVID-19 Management

The National Directives shall be enforced by the District Magistrate through fines and penal action as prescribed in the Disaster Management Act 2005.

PUBLIC SPACES

1. Wearing of face cover is compulsory in all public places, work places.
2. All persons in charge of public places, work places and transport shall ensure social distancing as per the guidelines issued by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
3. No organization /manager of public place shall allow gathering of 5 or more persons
4. Gatherings such as marriages and funerals shall remain regulated by the District Magistrate.
5. Spitting in public spaces shall be punishable with fine.
6. There should be strict ban on sale of liquor, gutka, tobacco etc. and spitting should be strictly prohibited.

WORK SPACES

7. All work places shall have adequate arrangements for temperature screening and provide sanitizers at convenient places.
8. Work places shall have a gap of one hour between shifts and will stagger the lunch breaks of staff, to ensure social distancing.
9. Persons above 65 years of age and persons with co-morbidities and parents of children below the age of 5 may be encouraged to work from home.
10. Use of Arogya setu will be encouraged for all employees both private and public.
11. All organizations shall sanitize their work places between shifts.
12. Large meetings to be prohibited.

MANUFACTURING ESTABLISHMENTS

13. Frequent cleaning of common surfaces and mandatory hand washing shall be mandated.
14. No overlap of shifts and staggered lunch with social distancing in canteens shall be ensured.
15. Intensive communication and training on good hygiene practices shall be taken up.

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Standard Operating Procedure (SoP) for sign-on and sign-off of Indian Seafarers at Indian Ports and their movement for the aforesaid purpose

[As per Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) Order No. 40-3/2020-DM-I (A) dated 21st April, 2020]

Change of crew of ship (seafarers) is an important measure for operation of merchant ships. This SoP has been formulated to streamline the sign-on/sign-off of Indian Seafarer at Indian Ports for merchant shipping vessels. The following guidelines may be followed:

I. For Sign-on

- i. Ship owner/ Recruitment and Placement Service (RPS) agency will identify the Indian seafarers for joining a vessel.
- ii. The seafarers will intimate their travel and contact history for last 28 days to the ship owner /RPS agency by email, as per procedure laid down by Director General of Shipping (DGS).
- iii. The seafarer would be examined by a DGS approved medical examiner, as per the guidelines prescribed for this purpose. At the same time, the seafarer shall also be screened, and his travel and contact history examined for the last 28 days; seafarers found to be asymptomatic for COVID-19 and otherwise suitable may be processed for sign-on.
- iv. The local authority in the area where the seafarer resides will be intimated about his clearance for sign-on and for issue of a transit pass from the place of residence to the place of embarkation on the shipping vessel.
- v. The transit pass for such movement by road, for the seafarer and one driver, may be issued by the Government of the State/Union Territory where the seafarer resides.
- vi. The transit pass (to and fro) will be issued for a fixed route and with specified validity and will have to be adhered to strictly. Such transit pass would be honoured/ allowed by the authorities of the State/ Union Territory along the transit route.
- vii. The social distancing and other hygiene norms, as per standard health protocol, would be followed by the vehicle transporting the seafarer to his destination.
- viii. At the port of embarkation, the seafarer shall be tested for COVID-19; the seafarer would be ready for sign-on only if the COVID-19 test is negative, failing which, action as per guidelines of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) would be taken.

II. For Sign-off

- i. The master of a vessel, coming from any foreign port, or a coastal vessel from any Indian port, while arriving at its port of call in India, shall ascertain the state of health of each person on board the vessel and submit the Maritime Declaration of Health to the health authorities of the port and to the port authorities. In addition, the information required by the local health authorities of the port, like temperature chart, individual health declaration, etc. shall also be provided by the master as per the directives of the health



authorities of the port. Port health authorities shall grant pratique to the vessel prior to berthing as per necessary health protocols.

- ii. The Indian seafarer arriving on the vessel would undergo the COVID-19 test for confirmation that he/ she is negative for COVID-19. After disembarking and till the time the seafarer reaches the testing facility, within the port premises, it will be ensured by the ship owner that all safety precautions as per standard health protocol are observed.
- iii. Till the time test reports of the seafarer are received, the seafarer shall be kept in the quarantine facility by the Port/ State Health Authorities.
- iv. If the seafarer is tested as positive for COVID-19, he/ she will be dealt with as per the procedures laid down by MoHFW.
- v. For the seafarer tested negative and signed off, the Local Authority in the area where the seafarer disembarks will be intimated about his/ her clearance for sign-off, and for issue of a transit pass from the place of disembarkation to the place of his/ her residence.
- vi. The transit pass for such movement by road, for the seafarer and one driver, may be issued by the Government of the State/Union Territory where the seafarer disembarks.
- vii. The transit pass (to and fro) will be issued for a fixed route and with specified validity and will have to be adhered to strictly. Such transit pass would be honoured/ allowed by the authorities of the State/ Union Territory along the transit route.
- viii. The social distancing and other hygiene norms, as per standard health protocol, would be followed by the vehicle transporting the seafarer to his destination.

Note: DG (Shipping) will prescribe the detailed protocol with regard to sign-on and sign-off to be followed in the above cases.

