

Karnataka unlocking - what changes from tomorrow

The Karnataka government today announced further relaxations under the 'Unlock 5.0' in the state after restrictions were imposed to stop the rising number of coronavirus cases in the state. In a statement issued by the principal secretary of the state, "Temples, Mosque, Churches, Gurudwaras and other religious places are allowed to open and its related activities pertaining to these places from July 25, 2021, with strictly adhering to the COVID-19 behaviour and SOP issued by the concerned department, However, jathres, temple festivals, processions, congregations not allowed," read a state government order.

The statement also said, "Amusement parks and similar places permitted to re-open strictly adhering to COVID appropriate behaviour and following guidelines. However, water sports/water-related adventure activities are not allowed.

Earlier, the Karnataka government on 18 July further relaxed the COVID-19 related lockdown norms, allowing cinema theatres to open and reduced the duration of night curfew by one hour from July 19.

Higher educational institutions like colleges and universities were also given the nod to start from July 26. A decision to this effect was taken at a meeting chaired by Chief Minister B S Yediyurappa with senior ministers and officials at his residence here.

An official statement said cinema theatres would be allowed to operate with 50 per cent occupancy after adhering to COVID-19 protocols. On reopening colleges and universities, the government said only those who have taken at least one dose of vaccine will be allowed to attend their duties and classes. The government had imposed restrictions since April 27 and it was made stringent from May 10 as the COVID-19 daily tally exceeded 50,000 cases on May 5, while active cases were over six lakh on May 15.

1,857 new COVID-19 cases, 29 deaths in Karnataka

Karnataka on Saturday reported 1,857 new COVID-19 cases, taking the tally to 28,93,556 while 29 deaths pushed the toll to 36,352.

The day also saw 2,050 discharges, continuing to outnumber the fresh cases, taking the total number of recoveries in the state so far to 28,33,276. Out of 1,857 new cases reported on Saturday, 551 were from Bengaluru Urban, as the city saw 560 discharges and only nine deaths.

The total number of active cases stood at 23,905.