



Government of Odisha
Office of Special Relief Commissioner

No. 1502 / R&DM(DM), Dt. 19.03.2021

ORDER

Whereas, the State is passing through a critical situation due to detection of new variant of SARS-CoV 2 and it is necessary to strictly adhere to COVID-19 safety protocols for containment of spread of the infection;

And whereas, the State Government vide Order No.1020/R&DM(DM) dt.27.02.2021, have specifically directed that large gatherings congregations shall continue to be prohibited. Social, political, sports, entertainment, academic, cultural and religious functions and other gatherings shall be allowed with a ceiling of 500 persons subject to strict adherence of the COVID-19 safety protocols;

And whereas, the Government of India in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has issued SOP dated 22nd December, 2020 for stringent Epidemiological Surveillance and Response and the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India vide Order No.40-3/2020-DM-I(A) dated 26.02.2021 has issued revised guidelines for surveillance, containment and caution with regard to COVID-19;

And whereas resurgence of SARS-CoV-2 (Covid-19) have been noticed in many parts of the world including Brazil, Germany, Italy and France etc and in many parts of India such as Maharashtra, Punjab, Karnataka, Gujarat, Madhyapradesh and Kerala etc.;

And whereas, the sacred festival of 'Dolayatra' and 'Holi' are approaching and people usually congregate and get in touch with each other to celebrate the festivals and play colours during which use of face masks and physical distancing norms are not able to be adhered to and such congregations have a potentiality to cause spread of the virus;

Now, therefore, in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 24(l) of the Disaster Management Act, 2005 read with Rule 8(1) of the Odisha Disaster Management Rules, 2010 the following guidelines are issued;

- (a) In the interest of the general public and for containment of spread of COVID-19, it is hereby directed that, congregation for celebration of 'Dolayatra' and associated religious and cultural congregations shall not be allowed in public throughout the State. Religious rituals in temples will continue as usual with strict adherence of Covid protocols. Considering local conditions, Collectors and Municipal Commissioners may impose appropriate restriction on entry of devotees into temples

and celebrations in temples and religious places.'Dola Melan's if any, may be allowed with appropriate number of participants as decided by the Collectors/ Municipal Commissioners in their respective jurisdictions with strict adherence of Covid appropriate behaviour and norms.

- (b) Further it is directed that 'Holi' on 28th and 29th and their related rituals shall not be observed in public places throughout the state. People may celebrate 'Holi' with family members in their houses only and not in any public places including public roads. Collectors and Municipal Commissioners may impose any further restrictions as desirable in consideration of local situations.

Any person found violating this order shall be punished under the provisions of the Disaster Management Act, 2005 and other relevant laws.


19/3/2021
Chief Secretary, Odisha

Memo No. 1503 /R&DM(DM) Date: 19.03.2021

Copy forwarded to the Private Secretary to Hon'ble Chief Minister/ Private Secretary to all Ministers/ Chief Secretary/ Development Commissioner/ Agriculture Production Commissioner for kind information.


19.03.2021
Special Relief Commissioner &
Additional Chief Secretary to Govt.
(Disaster Management)


Memo No. 1504 /R&DM(DM) Date: 19.03.2021

Copy forwarded to the Addl. Chief Secretary/ Principal Secretary/ Commissioner-cum-Secretary of all Departments/ Director General of Police/ Director General of Police, Fire Services, C.G. Home guards and Director, Civil Defence/Police Commissioner, Bhubaneswar-Cuttack/ All RDCs/ All Collectors/ All Superintendents of Police/ All Municipal Commissioners/ Member Secretary, State Pollution Control Board for kind information and immediate necessary action.


19.03.2021
Special Relief Commissioner &
Additional Chief Secretary to Govt.
(Disaster Management)

Memo No. 1505 /R&DM(DM) Date: 19.03.2021

Copy forwarded to the Joint Secretary (Disaster Management), Ministry of Home Affairs (Disaster Management Division), Government of India for kind information.


19.03.2021
Special Relief Commissioner &
Additional Chief Secretary to Govt.
(Disaster Management)