



**Government of Odisha  
Office of Special Relief Commissioner**

No. 1384/R&DM(DM)  
PT2-RDM-RLF-MISC-0034-2020

Date: 28/02/2022

**ORDER**

Whereas, a sharp decline of COVID positive cases & active cases are observed in the State since last fortnight. Therefore, looking at the current trends of COVID virus, there is a need to unlock all activities.

And whereas, the Government of Odisha vide Order No. 707 dated 31.1.2022 have prescribed COVID guidelines/ instructions/ permissions of activities / stipulations for containment of COVID-19 till 5.00 AM of 28<sup>th</sup> February, 2022 and "Night Curfew has been withdrawn/ lifted from all urban areas of the State with effect from 18<sup>th</sup> February, 2022" vide Order No. 1156/R &DM(DM) dated 18.02.2022;

And whereas, COVID appropriate behavior and protocols are required to be observed scrupulously in order to prevent the transmission of the infection;

Now, therefore, with a view to normalizing & strengthening the economic activities along with protecting the health of the public and preventing spread of Covid-19, 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 State Government do hereby order for graded unlocking up to 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2022.**

- **Unlocking:** There shall be graded unlocking throughout the State in with effect **from 5.00 AM of 1<sup>st</sup> March, 2022 till 5.00 AM of 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2022.**
- **Night curfew:** There shall be no Night Curfew across the State.
- **During unlock period, all activities are allowed to fully functional with strict adherence to COVID -19 protocols.** All Social/ Religious/ Political/ Sports gatherings are allowed with strict adherence to COVID -19 protocols.
- Exhibitions/ Trade Fairs/ Expo/ Melas are allowed with full compliance to COVID protocols.

*District Magistrates/ Municipal Commissioners/ Police Commissioner, Bhubaneswar- Cuttack may restrict congregations/ gatherings to such number as may be felt appropriate in view of the prevailing pandemic situation considering local situations/ space available strictly adhering to the COVID-19 safety protocols.*

- District Magistrates/ Municipal Commissioners/ Police Commissioner, Bhubaneswar- Cuttack shall determine the number of participants in Social/ Religious/Political/ Sports and other related gatherings/ functions with strict adherence to COVID -19 protocols. Wearing of masks, maintaining social distancing and provision of thermal scanning & use of hand wash or sanitizer will be mandatory.
- Political gatherings/ meetings, rallies/ Door to Door campaign for any election to be announced by the appropriate Election Commission shall be allowed as per the instructions/ guidelines issue by appropriate Election Commission from time to time with full compliance to COVID protocols.
- **Marriages, thread Ceremony/ Bratopanayan, and related gatherings** with approval from local authorities shall be allowed with a ceiling of **500 persons(for the entire event)** including hosts, guests, priests and catering and other support staff with adherence to COVID-19 safety protocols.  
**Funerals, last rites and related gatherings** with approval from local authorities shall be allowed with a ceiling of **250** persons.

Stipulations:

- (i) Under no circumstances, the number of participants shall exceed the ceiling for the entire event.
- (ii) In closed spaces, subject to the above ceilings such number of persons shall be allowed as would be feasible to follow Covid protocols.
- (iii) In open spaces, keeping the size of the ground/ open space in view, appropriate number of persons will be allowed, subject to the above ceilings, so as to ensure maintenance of prescribed physical distancing norm.
- (iv) Marriage processions shall be allowed with due prior written approval from competent authorities subject to the ceiling **100** participants including bridegroom, priest, friends, relatives, guests, members of band party, light & sound systems etc. The number of persons in marriage procession shall count towards the above said ceiling of **500** persons.
- (v) All other conditions/ stipulations for marriage, funeral and last rites related gatherings shall be followed as per the Government guidelines released vide Revenue and Disaster Management (DM) Department letter No. 2321/ R&DM(DM) dt. 30.04.2021.
- (vi) All other conditions/ stipulations for thread ceremony/ bratopanayana and related rituals shall be followed as per the Government guidelines released vide Revenue and Disaster Management (DM) Department letter No.2666 dated 18.05.2021.

*Considering local conditions, District Magistrates/ Municipal Commissioners/ Police Commissioner, Bhubaneswar-Cuttack may impose*

*appropriate restrictions on these gatherings. In case of violation of COVID-19 safety protocols during these activities, Local Authorities can take strict action including criminal action under relevant acts including Disaster Management Act, 2005. Such violation shall entail closure of functions along with heavy penalty as decided by the local authorities.*

***Explanation:***

**Subject to other provisions of this order, activities that are not specifically prohibited/ regulated/ restricted/ permitted with restrictions above are allowed subject to adherence to COVID- 19 safety protocols and SOPs/ guidelines issued by appropriate authorities.**

**Celebration of Festivities:**

Several Religious functions, Puja and festivities like **"Mahashivratri", "Dola Purnima" & "Holi"** will be observed / celebrated during March, 2022.

- Festival **'Mahashivratri'** will be observed/ celebrated as per Revenue and Disaster Management (DM) Department Order No. 1339/R &DM(DM) Dt.25.02.2022.
- During celebration of **"Dola Purnima"**, **people shall ensure Covid Appropriate Behaviour** such as physical distancing, use of face mask/ covering and hand washing/ hand sanitizer. Religious rituals are allowed with strict adherence of COVID-19 protocols.

Collectors and Municipal Commissioners may impose appropriate restriction if required in "DolaMelan's. Also they shall determine the number of participants in these gatherings with strict adherence of Covid appropriate behaviour and norms. Further mela/ congregations outside/ within the temple premises may also be reasonably restricted so as to avoid mass gatherings/ crowding. The devotees in these places must ensure Covid-19 safety protocols such as wearing of face masks, physical distancing and hand washing /hand sanitizer.

*Considering local conditions, District Magistrates/ Municipal Commissioners/ Police Commissioner, Bhubaneswar-Cuttack may impose appropriate restrictions on entry of devotees into temples/ churches/mosques/ religious places/ places of worship and in the celebrations in temples/ churches/mosques/ religious places/ places of worship. Collectors/ Municipal Commissioners may decide the number of persons to attend any religious ritual/ festival/Puja in their respective jurisdictions with strict adherence to Covid appropriate behaviour and norms.*

- **'Holi'** 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.

**General Directives for COVID-19 Management**

The following General Directives for COVID-19 Management shall be strictly followed throughout the State:

- a. Face coverings/ Masks: Wearing of face cover/ mask properly is compulsory in public places; in workplaces; and in public transport.
- b. Physical distancing: Individuals must maintain a minimum distance of 6 feet in public places.

- c. Spitting in public place will be punishable with fine, as prescribed in accordance with laws, rules or regulations.
- d. Same as permitted by the Excise Department, consumption of liquor in public place is prohibited.
- e. Consumption of paan, gutka, tobacco, and similar products in public place is prohibited.

### **Safety and Protection of vulnerable persons**

The following categories of people are advised against outdoor movement, except for essential and health purposes.

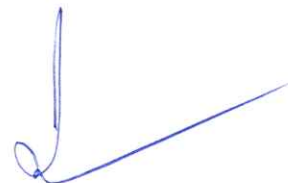
- a. persons above 65 years of age
- b. persons with co-morbidities
- c. pregnant women
- d. children below the age of 10 years

**Special Powers:** District Magistrates & Collectors/ Police Commissioner of Cuttack-Bhubaneswar/ Municipal Commissioners shall scrupulously implement these guidelines and shall take all possible measures to enforce the guidelines. They may impose any additional restrictions as may be felt necessary in the interest of containment of the spread of COVID-19 and to ensure COVID appropriate behaviour are followed by all concerned.

**Penal provisions:** Any person violating these graded unlocking measures will be liable to be proceeded against as per the provisions of Section 51 to 60 of the Disaster Management Act, 2005, and COVID-19 Regulations 2020, besides legal action under Sec. 188 of the IPC, and other legal provisions as applicable.

In case of any other doubt, the State Government in Revenue & Disaster Management (Disaster Management) Department will issue necessary directions or clarifications.

By orders of the Governor



CHIEF SECRETARY, ODISHA

**Memo No 1385 / R&DM(DM) Date: 28/02/2022**

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.

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

**Memo No 1386 / R&DM(DM) Date: 28/02/2022**

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/Police Commissioner, Bhubaneswar-Cuttack/ All RDCs/ All Collectors/ Superintendents of Police/ All Municipal Commissioners for kind information and immediate necessary action.

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

**Memo No 1387 / R&DM(DM) Date: 28/02/2022**

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

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