



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

No. 1561 /R&DM(DM)

Date: 23/03/2021

RDM-RLF-MISC-0133-2020

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 India such as Maharashtra, Punjab, Karnatak, Gujurat, Madhya Pradesh and Kerala etc.;

And whereas, COVID appropriate behaviour and protocols during functions relating to marriage and funeral are not being observed scrupulously by the participants and there is apprehension of transmission of the infection in such gatherings;

Now, therefore, in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 24(I) of the Disaster Management Act,2005 read with Rule 8(1) of the Odisha Disaster Management Rules,2010, the following guidelines are issued in partial modification of Order No.1020/R&DM(DM) dt.27.02.2021 in the interest of the general public;

"The marriage and related gatherings shall be allowed with a ceiling of 200 persons instead of 500 persons and funeral/ last rites related gatherings shall be allowed with 50 persons instead of 500 persons subject to the following conditions".

*The Guidelines issued by the State Government vide Order No.4014/R&DM(DM) dt.06.07.2020 (**Annexure-I**) for marriage and funeral related functions during COVID-19 pandemic shall be strictly followed with the above modification.*


- In closed spaces, the attendance shall be maximum 50% of the hall capacity subject to the above ceilings.
- In open spaces, keeping the size of the ground/ open space, appropriate number of persons subject to the above ceilings so as to ensure maintenance of the prescribed physical distancing norms.
- Mandatory provision of wearing of masks, maintaining social distancing and provision of thermal scanning and use of hand wash or sanitizer.

- d. The host of the marriage /funeral function shall make necessary arrangement for checking at the entry point and ensure wearing of masks by the guests/ others during the entire duration of their participation. Host shall make arrangement to provide masks to those who have not come with appropriate mask.

All Collectors/ All Superintendents of Police/ All Municipal Commissioners/ Commissioner of Police, Bhubaneswar- Cuttack are hereby directed to ensure the implementation of this guideline.

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

The order shall take effect from 26th March,2021.


Chief Secretary, Odisha

Memo No. 1562 /R&DM(DM) Date: 23/03/2021

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.


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

Memo No. 1563 /R&DM(DM) Date: 23/03/2021

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.


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

Memo No. 1564 /R&DM(DM) Date: 23/03/2021

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)



ANNEXURE-I (1)

**Government of Odisha
Special Relief Commissioner**

No. 4014 / R & DM(DM) Date: 06/07/2020

From

Pradeep Jena, IAS
Special Relief Commissioner &
Additional Chief Secretary to Govt.
Disaster Management

To

All Collectors
All Superintendents of Police
All Commissioners of Municipal Corporations
Commissioner of Police, Bhubaneswar-Cuttack

Sub: Strict implementation of guidelines for marriage and funeral related functions during COVID-19 pandemic.

Madam/ Sir,

It is observed that in many districts, people are applying for conducting social activities like marriage and funeral related functions during COVID-19 pandemic. The detailed guidelines for marriage and funeral related functions during COVID-19 pandemic is enclosed herewith which may be strictly followed by the public while conducting such functions/ related activities.

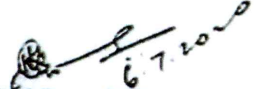
Hence, you are requested to ensure the implementation of this guidelines/ instructions by the field level functionaries while allowing such functions/ related activities to public during COVID-19.

Yours faithfully,


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


Memo No. 4015/R&DM(DM) Date: 06/07/2020

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


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

Memo No. 4016/R&DM Date: 06/07/2020

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 for kind information and immediate necessary action.


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

**GUIDELINES FOR MARRIAGE AND FUNERAL RELATED FUNCTIONS
DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

A. Marriage and related functions

1. Marriage and its related functions shall be held only with prior permission (in writing or through electronic communication) of the local Police Station.
2. Local Police Station will be authorised to give permission for holding marriage and its related functions subject to participation of maximum 50 (Fifty) persons.
3. There will be no marriage procession until further orders.
4. Total participants in the marriage function at the marriage venue including groom, bride, family members of groom & bride, friends, relatives, guests, priests, personnel of support services like food preparation and distribution, etc. put together will not exceed 50 (fifty) cumulatively.
5. Local police authorities will ensure that under no circumstances more than 50 persons participate in the marriage ceremony.
6. Other permissions, if any required, shall be obtained from the competent authority (ies) and conditions therein shall be complied with.
7. Persons with symptoms of Influenza Like Infection (ILI) and Severe Acute Respiratory Infection (SARI) shall not be allowed to the marriage venue/ function.
8. Vulnerable groups of people, such as, persons above 65 years of age, children below 10 years, persons with co-morbidities and pregnant women are advised not to attend the function.
- ~~9. At least 2 meter physical distance shall be maintained between individuals during marriage function.~~
10. All persons in the marriage venue shall mandatorily use face mask during the entire period of the function except during eating.
11. Chewing of gufka and paan and spitting in public is strictly prohibited. The father / guardian of the groom shall ensure adherence to this.
12. The host of the marriage will ensure elaborate arrangement for hand washing with soap and water and also ensure availability of hand sanitizers.


13. The seating and dining arrangement shall be done in such a way that at least 2 metre physical distance is maintained between individuals.

Liability for violation, if any:

1. The host and the owner/ manager of the marriage venue/ premises shall be held responsible for ensuring the guidelines and will be liable for legal action in case of any violation.
2. The participants in the marriage function will also be held responsible for violation of conditions, if any, on their part and shall be liable for legal action.

B. Funeral and related functions

1. Funeral and its related functions shall be held with prior permission (in writing or through electronic communication) of the local Police Station.
2. However, cremation can be carried out under intimation to the local police station in writing or through electronic communication. Where the cremation is to be done at a place within the area of a police station other than the police station area in which the death has occurred, intimation has to be given to both the police stations.
3. The number of persons participating in the funeral function including the family members, relatives, friends, priests, drivers & staff of vehicles and others taken together shall not exceed 20 (Twenty).
4. At least 2 meter physical distance shall be maintained between individuals in the funeral function.
5. The seating and dining arrangement shall be done in such a way that at least 2 metre physical distance is maintained between individuals.
6. All persons participating in the funeral function shall mandatorily use face mask during the entire period of activities except during eating/ bathing.
7. Chewing of gutka and paan and spitting in public is strictly prohibited. The host of the funeral function shall ensure adherence to this.
8. No vehicle used in the procession shall carry persons beyond its seating capacity.
9. The hosts of the funeral ceremony will ensure elaborate arrangement for hand washing with soap and water and also ensure availability of hand sanitizers.

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10. It will be the responsibility of the host of the funeral function to ensure that the provisions of these guidelines are strictly followed including the ceiling on the number of persons to attend the funeral ceremony.
 11. The owner/ manager of the premises of the funeral function shall also be held responsible for ensuring the guidelines in the premises and liable for legal action in case of any violation.

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