GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
HEALTH MEDICAL & FAMILY WELFARE DEPARTMENT

Memo No. /COVID-19/2020,  

Date: 18.4.2020

COVID ORDER - 28

Sub: COVID-19 –Instructions for resuming of limited operations from April 20th 2020- Defining “Red, Orange and Green Mandal/ zones” –Reg

Ref: 1. MoHFW DO letter No:Z-21020/16/2020-PH dated 15th April 2020

As per the letter in reference 1 above, 11 districts out of the 13 districts in the state of Andhra Pradesh have been categorized as “hotspot districts with large outbreaks”. This essentially means there are multi foci of infection in the state as well as the doubling rate of cases is 4 days and below. With 603 COVID Positive cases registered in the state as on 18th April, the doubling rate of cases is 3.4 days. The districts of Kurnool (2.5), Guntur(3.3), Chittoor(3.7), Anantapur (3.9) are doubling in less than 4 days while Prakasam and Nellore have a doubling rate of 4 days. This shows the speed at which the infection is spreading which needs to be contained.

MHA, GOI vide order under reference 2 above has exempted certain activities which can be taken up outside the red zones. In a manner that the GOI has classified districts based on the severity of the pandemic, it is proposed by the State Government to consider “Mandal as an administrative unit for the purposes of effective containment and phased withdrawal of the lockdown”.

In AP we have a total of 676 mandals both in the urban and rural areas out of which 97 mandals are affected till date i.e. where positive cases have been diagnosed and these are being categorized as “Red mandals”. All other mandals are categorized as “Green mandals” which may become red as and when new cases are detected. There are 158 containment clusters within the affected mandals and cities as on 18th April 2020, which may increase as new cases get detected outside the existing clusters. A containment cluster includes all positive cases and their contacts within the limited area, which has a 3 kms radius from the epicenter of case/s with a buffer of 7 kms in rural areas and 5 kms in urban areas. Therefore it is decided that for the purpose of containment, the entire mandal/ adjoining mandals, through which the buffer extends so, will be treated as “Red mandal/Red zone” for the purpose of the restrictions. Further, as infection rate is higher in the urban areas of the State, all the “Red mandals” and all the cities/ towns/ municipalities will be under the extended lock down till May 3rd 2020 where the exemptions shall not apply.

These “Red zones”/“Red mandals” or urban areas will move to an “Orange zone”/“Orange mandal” if no new cases are registered in the last 14 days from the date under reference. Similarly, the “Orange zone” will become green if no new cases are registered in the last 14 days of it being declared “Orange zone” as has been prescribed by MoHFW.

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Therefore, limited activities as prescribed in the reference 3rd above, will be started only in the "Green mandals" in the rural areas from 20th April, 2020 subject to the following conditions:

a. Strict containment measures as prescribed by MoHFW will continue in the red and orange zones till they turn green.
b. No inter district or inter-mandal movement of people shall be allowed except for medical or emergencies like the death of close family members.
c. All activities shall be done with labour or manpower available in-situ and/or within the "Green mandal" itself.
d. Migrant labour available within the "Green mandal" may be utilized for the purpose of operations which are covered within the ambit of relaxation.
e. The inter mingling of people amongst "Green mandals" will be allowed only after adequate testing in the green areas which will be subsequently notified.

These guidelines are issued with the motto "Protect the Green and Restrict the Red". All departments shall take action to prepare their SOPs for action in the spirit of the above guidelines, which shall be approved by the Chief Secretary. The SOPs will be taken into consideration by the District collectors while preparing their Mandal level action plans for containment and/or relaxation. For the purpose of protecting the "Green mandals" and for restricting the "Red Mandal", the District Collectors may constitute a Mandal level team consisting of the MRO, MPDO, CI, MAO and ACL and a similar team at the municipal level and the division level too.

Copy to:
All Spl. CS/Principal Secretary/ Secretaries of all departments
All District Collectors

Special Chief Secretary
HM&FW Dept.