



**GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA**

No. RD 158 TNR 2020

Karnataka Government Secretariat,  
VidhanaSoudha,  
Bengaluru, dated:29-03-2021

**ORDER**

**Whereas**, the Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India, vide Order No.40-3/2020-DM-I(A) dated 27-01-2021 has issued guidelines for surveillance, containment and caution of COVID-19 in the Country which was in force upto 28.02.2021 and was further extended upto 31.03.2021 vide Order No. No.40-3/2020-DM-I(A) dated 26-02-2021. Consequently, the State Government vide Order of even number dated 28-1-2021 issued guidelines for surveillance, containment and caution of COVID-19 in the State, which was further extended upto31-03-2021 vide an Order of even number dated 01-03-2021.

**Now**,on the directions of the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), the Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India, vide Order No.40-3/2020-DM-I(A) dated 23-03-2021 has issued guidelines for effective control of COVID-19 in the Country which will be in force upto 30.04.2021.

**Therefore**, in exercise of the powers, conferred under the Section 24 of the Disaster Management Act, 2005, the undersigned, in the capacity of the Chairman, State Executive Committee, hereby issues guidelines for effective control of COVID 19 in the State, as annexed, which shall come into effect from 01-04-2021 and will be in force including and upto 30-04-2021for strict implementation by Commissioner BBMP, Police Commissioners, District Deputy Commissioners, Superintendents of Police, and other Heads of Departments and Authorities.

  
(Ravi Kumar)

Chief Secretary and Chairman,  
State Executive Committee

To:

The Compiler, Karnataka Gazette, Bengaluru

**Guidelines for effective control of COVID 19**  
**(As per GO No. RD 158 TNR 2020, dated 29<sup>th</sup> March 2021)**

The coordinated effort of State and District authorities/agencies has resulted in a sustained decline in the number of active COVID-19 cases in the State, continuously for about 5 months. There has been fresh surge in COVID-19 cases in certain parts of the State, particularly in the past 2-3 weeks, which is a cause of concern. At this juncture, the substantial gains achieved against the spread of COVID-19 need to be consolidated, and the chain of transmission of the pandemic effectively broken through aggressive time tested containment measures such as testing, tracking, isolation and treatment and also strictly enforcing COVID 19 appropriate behaviour, with a view to expeditiously restore complete normalcy in the State.

With the last guidelines issued by the State Government on 28-1-2021 in similar the of guidelines issued by Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) dated 27.1.2021, all economic and other activities have been opened up in a phased manner, with the stipulation that the prescribed Standard Operating Procedures (SOPS) be scrupulously followed. In order to ensure that the resumption of activities is successful, it is imperative to strictly enforce the **Test-Track-Treat** protocol in the entire State; ensure that COVID appropriate behaviour is scrupulously observed by everyone; and, the on-going vaccination drive is scaled up rapidly, to cover all the target groups.

The following guidelines are issued to be effective from 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2021.

**Effective enforcement of Test-Track-Treat Protocol**

Test

1. With sustained effort, the capacity of total daily tests that can be conducted across the State has gone up substantially. There is need to ensure that the tests being conducted are uniformly distributed across all districts, with adequate testing to be done in taluks/wards reporting higher number of cases. The proportion of RT-PCR tests in the total mix should be scaled up, on best effort basis, to 70% or as prescribed by the Department of Health and Family Welfare. Taluks and Urban wards, where the proportion of RT-PCR tests is less, should rapidly increase testing through this protocol, to reach the prescribed level.

Track

2. The new positive cases detected as a result of intensive testing need to be isolated/ quarantined at the earliest; and, their contacts have to be traced at the earliest, and similarly isolated/ quarantined. Containment Zones, accordingly, have to be demarcated, and prescribed containment measures has to be implemented within such Zones.
3. Effective demarcation of Containment Zones, in vulnerable and high

incidence areas, is key to breaking the chain of transmission and controlling the spread of the virus. Containment Zones shall be carefully demarcated by the district authorities, at the micro level, taking into consideration the guidelines prescribed by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW), Govt. of India and Department of Health and Family Welfare, Govt. of Karnataka in this regard. The list of Containment Zones will be notified on the websites by the respective Deputy Commissioners of the district, Local Authorities and BBMP Commissioner. This list will also be shared with MoHFW on a regular basis

4. Within the demarcated Containment Zones, containment measures, as prescribed by MoHFW and Department of Health and Family Welfare, Govt. of Karnataka, shall be scrupulously followed, as under:
  - i. Only essential activities shall be allowed in the Containment Zones.
  - ii. There shall be strict perimeter control to ensure that there is no movement of people in or out of these zones, except for medical emergencies and for maintaining supply of essential goods and services.
  - iii. There shall be intensive house-to-house surveillance by surveillance teams formed for the purpose.
  - iv. Testing shall be carried out as per prescribed protocol.
  - v. Listing of contacts shall be carried out in respect of all persons found positive, along with their tracking, identification, quarantine and follow up of contacts for 14 days (80% of contacts to be traced in 72 hours or as per SOPs of Department of Health and Family Welfare, Govt. of Karnataka).
  - vi. Surveillance for ILI/ SARI cases shall be carried out in health facilities or outreach mobile units or through fever clinics in buffer zones.
  - vii. It shall be the responsibility of BBMP, District authorities, Taluk authorities, police and Local authorities to ensure that the prescribed Containment measures are strictly followed. District Authority, Local Authority and BBMP shall ensure accountability of the officers concerned in this regard.

#### Treat

5. Quick isolation of COVID-19 patients shall be ensured in treatment facilities/ home (subject to fulfilling the home isolation guidelines).
6. Clinical interventions, as prescribed, shall be administered. Capacity building of health workers and professionals shall be an on-going exercise, to be conducted at all levels, with a view to ensure that the prescribed clinical management protocol is understood clearly and administered accordingly.
7. The Health and Family Welfare Department and other related Departments, District Authorities, Local Authorities and BBMP shall ensure adequate availability of COVID dedicated, health and logistics (including ambulatory)

infrastructure, based on their assessment of the case trajectory.

8. Effective infection prevention and control practices shall be followed in treatment facilities by health care workers and professionals.

### **COVID Appropriate Behavior**

9. BBMP and District & Local Authorities shall take all necessary measures to promote COVID-19 appropriate behaviour. Strict enforcement of wearing of face masks, hand hygiene and social distancing must be ensured.
10. Wearing of face masks is an essential preventive measure. In order to enforce this core requirement, BBMP, District Authorities and Local Authorities shall impose fine of Rs.250 in Municipal Corporation Areas and Rs.100 in other areas for not wearing face cover as required.
11. Observance of social distancing in crowded places, especially in markets, weekly bazaars and public transport, is also critical for containing the spread of the infection. SOP issued by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) and Department of Health and Family Welfare to regulate crowds in market places, shall be strictly enforced by BBMP, District and Local Authorities.
12. SOPS for regulating travel in aircrafts, trains and metro rails are already in place, which shall be strictly enforced. Department of Health and Family Welfare shall issue necessary guidelines for regulating travel in other modes of public transport, e.g., buses, boats etc., and ensure that these are strictly complied with.
13. The National Directives for COVID-19 Management, as specified in **Annexure I**, shall be strictly followed throughout the State.

### **Strict adherence to the prescribed SOPs**

14. All activities have been permitted outside Containment Zones and SOPS have been prescribed for various activities. These include: movement by passenger trains; air travel; metro trains; schools; higher educational institutions; hotels and restaurants; shopping malls, multiplexes and entertainment parks; yoga centres and gymnasiums; exhibitions, assemblies and congregations, etc.
15. The SOPS, as updated from time to time, shall be strictly enforced by the BBMP, District and Local Authorities concerned, who shall be responsible for their strict observance.

### **Vaccination**

16. Government of India has launched the world's largest vaccination drive against COVID-19. The National Expert Group on Vaccine Administration for COVID-19 (NEGVAC) provides guidance on prioritization of population groups, procurement & inventory management, and vaccine selection delivery and tracking. The recommendations of NEGVAC are considered and finalized by the Central Government.

17. While the vaccination drive is proceeding smoothly, the pace is uneven across the State; and, the slow pace of vaccination in certain districts and ULBs is a matter of concern. Vaccination against COVID-19, in the present scenario, is critical to break the chain of transmission. Therefore, BBMP, District and Local Authorities should rapidly step up the pace of vaccination to cover all priority groups, as recommended by NEGVAC and approved by the Central Government, urgently and in an expeditious manner.

### **Protection of vulnerable persons**

18. Persons above 65 years of age, persons with co-morbidities, pregnant women, and children below the age of 10 years are advised to take necessary precautions.

### **Use of AarogyaSetu**

19. Use of AarogyaSetu may continue on best effort basis on compatible mobile phones. This will facilitate timely provision of medical attention to those individuals who are at risk.

### **Strict enforcement of the guidelines**

20. Commissioner BBMP/Deputy Commissioners shall strictly enforce the above measures. For the enforcement of social distancing, Commissioner, BBMP/Deputy Commissioners may, as far as possible, use the provisions of Section 144 of the Criminal Procedure Code (CrPC) of 1973.
21. Any person violating these measures will be liable to be proceeded against as per the provisions of Section 51 to 60 of the Disaster Management Act, 2005, besides legal action under Section 188 of the IPC and other legal provisions as applicable. Extracts of these penal provisions are at Annexure II.

  
(P Ravi Kumar)  
Chief Secretary and Chairman,  
State Executive Committee

## **Annexure I**

### **National Directives for COVID-19 Management**

- 1. Face Covering:** Wearing of face cover is compulsory in public places; in work places; and during transport.
- 2. Social distancing:** Individuals must maintain a minimum distance of 6 feet (2 gazkidoori) in public places.  
Shops will ensure physical distancing among customers.

3. Spitting in public places will be punishable with fine, as may be prescribed in accordance with its laws, rules or regulations by the local authorities.

**Additional directives for Work Places**

4. **Work from home (WfH):** As far as possible the practice of WfH should be followed.
5. **Staggering of work/business hours** will be followed in offices, work places, shops, markets and industrial & commercial establishments.
6. **Screening & hygiene:** Provision for thermal scanning, hand wash or sanitizer will be made at all entry points and hand wash or sanitizer at exit points and common areas.
7. **Frequent sanitization** of entire work place, common facilities and all points which come into human contact, e.g., door handles, etc., will be ensured, including between shifts.
8. **Social distancing:** All persons in charge of work places will ensure adequate distance between workers and other staff.



**(P Ravi Kumar)**

Chief Secretary and Chairman,  
State Executive Committee