

Guidelines to be followed for the observance of Durga Puja/ Dussehra during October 2020:

1. Durga Puja may generally be performed at temples or privately at home by the devotees to the extent possible. Puja may also be performed in specially erected small Pandals/Mandaps, where it has been done traditionally, only with the objective of performance of rituals, without public participation.
2. Durga Puja Pandal/Mandap shall be covered on all sides in a way to prevent any public view of the idols.
3. Puja Pandal/Mandap shall not be constructed on any theme.
4. There shall not be any decoration by lighting in the area around the Puja Pandal/Mandap.
5. No welcome gates/Torad Dwar shall be erected in and around the Puja Pandal/Mandap.
6. Barring the area where idol is placed, rest of the Puja Pandal/Mandap shall be open to air.
7. The size of idol shall be less than 4 feet.
8. There shall be no use of public address system.
9. No fair/Mela shall be organized on the occasion.
10. No food stalls shall be opened in and around the Durga Puja Pandal/Mandap.
11. At any given point of time, there shall not be more than 7 persons including organizers, priests and support staff present in the Durga Puja Pandal/Mandap.
12. There shall be no immersion procession. The idols will be immersed at place(s) approved by the district administration for the purpose.
13. There shall be no musical or any other entertainment/cultural program.
14. No community feast/ Prasad or Bhog distribution function shall be organized.
15. No invitation shall be issued in any form by the organizers/Puja Committees.



Guidelines on the measures to be taken by Departments of Government of Jharkhand/District Administrations for containment of COVID 19.

1. The directions communicated vide clause 3 of Order dated 30.09.2020 of Ministry of Home Affairs with respect to the lockdown measures in containment zone(s) shall be implemented.(Annexure 1)
2. The examinees of all examinations shall be exempted from restrictions related to movement out of Containment zone(s) for the purpose of examinations and their admit card shall be treated as entry pass for this purpose. The examinees shall also be exempted from mandatory quarantine protocol in the course of interstate movement for the purpose of appearing in examination.
3. Hotels and other hospitality units such as guest house/Dharamshala/lodge etc shall comply with the SOP on preventive measures laid down by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in this regard on 04.06.2020 .(Annexure 2)
4. Restaurants shall comply with the SOP on preventive measures laid down by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in this regard on 04.06.2020 .(Annexure 3)
5. Intra state public transport by bus shall comply with the SOP on preventive measures laid down by Department of Transport and Civil Aviation in this regard. (Annexure 4)
6. The guidelines issued by Transport Secretary for public transport (other than bus transport) vide letter no. 01/21/2020-1204dated 01.06.2020 shall be strictly complied with.(Annexure 5)
7. Shopping Malls shall comply with the SOP on preventive measures laid down by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in this regard on 04.06.2020 .(Annexure 6)



16. No public ceremony/function shall be organized for the inauguration of the Pandal/Mandap.
17. No Garba/Dandiya program shall be organized in any public place.
18. Burning of effigy of Raavan shall not be carried out in public place as it will attract large crowds.
19. Wearing of face cover/mask is compulsory in public places.
20. Individuals must maintain a minimum distance of 6 feet in public places.
21. The persons present at Puja Pandal/Mandap shall follow all COVID 19 protocols of social distancing, mask use, personal hygiene and sanitation issued by Central /State Government/ Local Administration in letter and spirit.
22. The organizers and other persons involved in conducting the Puja shall abide by any other condition (s) as imposed by Local Administration/ appropriate authority.
23. All the District Magistrates/ Superintendent of Police shall strictly enforce the above guidelines.
24. Penal provisions: Any person violating these measures will be liable to be proceeded against in accordance with 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.



(Sukhdev Singh)

Chief Secretary,

Jharkhand.