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MANAGEMENT OF CURFEW**

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**SETS OF UP COMMITTEE TO OVERSEE PROCUREMENT PROCESS FOR COVID-19 RELATED
ITEMS**

**ORDERS ALL-OUT EFFORTS TO TRACE ALL FOREIGN RETURNED PERSONS, MONITOR
THOSE ALREADY IN QUARANTINE**

**POLICE & CIVIL ADMINISTRATION WORKING CLOSELY TO PUT IN PLACE DOOR-TO-DOOR
DELIVERY MECHANISM**

Chandigarh, March 25:

To further streamline the curfew management and facilitate supply of essentials in the curfew-bound state in the light of the 21-day national lockdown which started today, Punjab Chief Minister Captain Amarinder has issued a fresh set of directives to the police and civil administration, including detailed instructions for issuance of passes to maintain the critical systems and services in order to ensure that the people are not inconvenienced in these difficult times.

The Chief Minister has constituted a Committee under the chairmanship of ACS (Industry & Commerce) to oversee the procurement processes for all CoViD-19 related items. Taking cognizance of the need to ensure timely supply of critical materials and equipment to government hospitals, PHCs and CHCs, the DCs have been asked by the Chief Minister to contact PSHFW and MD, PHSC, with the facility of sending advance indents to facilitate early procurements. These materials include PPE kits, masks, medicines etc.

At the same time, Captain Amarinder has ordered that the requisite protocol issued by the Health Department for testing of suspected cases should be followed meticulously. Further, compliance of protocol issued by the Health Department vide Letter No. ISDP/PB/2020/660-1725 dated 22/3/2020 should be strictly ensured.

Giving the highest importance to tracing all international passengers who arrived after 10th March 2020, the Chief Minister has directed that the work should continue unabated. He has also directed the health department and police to ensure further monitoring of those already traced and placed under home quarantine.

While continuing with its earlier curfew orders, the state government will take all possible steps to avoid any undue inconvenience to the providers of essential services and the general public, the

Chief Minister assured the people. He has directed the police and administrative officials to ensure that door-to-door delivery of essential services is maintained for the desired/prescribed period and it may, as far as possible, be further streamlined with the assistance of e-commerce companies/service providers.

Volunteers may also be engaged, if necessary, for ensuring prompt door-to-door delivery of essential services and commodities, said the Chief Minister. The providers of essential services whether individuals (hawkers/delivery boys) or institutions should be allowed to operate for fixed duration but on specific permissions and after observing required health safeguards, he added.

For special goods trains, which have been arranged to move food grains out of the State to ensure adequate storage space for the coming wheat crop, the Department of Food has issued complete protocol. DCs should ensure the movement of these trains in keeping with these guidelines and the protocol issued by the Food Department.

The Chief Minister has also ordered sanitization of affected or vulnerable areas, etc for which guidelines have been issued by the Department of Health & Family Welfare may be undertaken in both concerned towns and villages.

On directives of the Chief Minister, Secretary Arun Sekhri on Wednesday issued revised curfew management guidelines to all the Divisional Commissioners, Deputy Commissioners, Commissioners of Police/SSPs, as well as other senior officials concerned with managing the situation. The DCs have been asked to ensure strict compliance of the guidelines.

With the civil administration and police working in close coordinate, DGP Dinkar Gupta also issued clear instructions to his officers to ensure efficient delivery mechanisms and processes in the light of the curfew with no relaxations already in place in the state, and the subsequent national lockdown announcement by the Prime Minister. He emphasized arrangements for door-to-door delivery of essential goods and services as the only option in the given situation and asked the CPs and SSPs to ensure that functioning of delivery boys, rehri, small motorized vehicles etc is facilitated to ensure smooth supplies.

As per the revised curfew management guidelines, government offices that have been designated in Government of India's order will be allowed to remain open with skeletal staff.

In order to ensure supply of other essential services, specific State Government offices may also be required to remain open with minimal functional staff. Such employees of the State Government and those employees of Government of India that have been allowed to report on duty as per Government of India's order will be allowed to travel from home to office on their institutional Identity Card, and specific curfew passes will not be necessary, the revised guidelines states.

It is specifically provided in the guidelines that for employees of Governments including PSUs and SPUs, of Haryana, Punjab and UT of Chandigarh who are residing in Mohali district (especially Mohali and Zirakpur) and are facing acute problems in reaching their offices, located in Chandigarh and Panchkula, it has been decided that they may be allowed to commute to their offices for official duty (not with their families or in groups) by showing their Official or Institutional Photo ID Cards and they would not be required to obtain special curfew passes.

All other Government employees will be directed to work from home and remain available on call should any such need arise.

While there would continue to be no general relaxation in curfew, if it is decided by the district administration in due course to relax it in a selected area, due care must be taken to avoid overcrowding and to observe prescribed social distancing, according to the guidelines.

The permissions may be given in the following manner:

- * a) Permits may be issued for fixed period that may be the period of curfew, to all those exempted by GOI/GOP. Such permits can even be in the form of authorization letters;
- * b) Institutional Permits to the exempted institutions such as media houses, IOC/HPCL, Post Offices, Banks, Railways, Petrol Pumps, LPG Suppliers etc. should be given through specific letters attaching therewith list of employees of each of such institutions. These employees should then be allowed to go to office in duty hours on their institutional identity cards but they may not be allowed elsewhere such as markets, etc for their personal work;
- * c) Those institutional permissions, which are issued for maintaining essential supplies (in the form of authorization letters - see specimen as per attachment) should clearly mention so and would be valid across the State;
- * d) Individual passes may be given only in an emergency and if so required, such an individual may be permitted to use vehicle but for a given purpose only; and
- * e) Healthcare establishments (Hospitals, Nursing Homes, PHCs, CHCs), both private and government and their employees, should be given a general permission to operate and their employees may be allowed to commute for duty/work on their institutional Identity Card.

To simplify the process, the issuance of passes has been tasked to various officers as follows:

- * • DFSC: Food, ration and grocery shops, transportation of food grains, mandi labour and procurement related works;
- * • Dy. Director Horticulture: Fruits and Vegetables;
- * • Dy. Director Animal Husbandry: Milk Vendors and Suppliers and related movements;
- * • GM DIC: Industries/industrialists/industrial labour;
- * • DMO: Hawkers of any kind; Mandis and Purchase Centers, Arhtiyas;
- * • CAO: Farmers and harvesting related movements; and
- * • General passes for individuals and others: Asst. Commissioner (Gen.), SDM, Tehsildar or any other person specifically authorised by DC.

For each of the above, DCs should declare them authorised signatories and inform the district police accordingly. Due record of the passes to be issued by the authorized signatories must be maintained, as per the revised guidelines.

For point-to-point movement of individuals or providers of essential goods and services, the passes can be issued by the authorised signatories at origin, clearly giving address of destination and purpose of traveling. Such passes should be honoured both during transit and at destination but such

pass holders should not be allowed to stop or go anywhere other than the specified destination. Government of India in its order has also emphasized maintaining supply chains of essential goods and commodities. Vehicle number and mode of transportation should also be specified. However, movement of people in groups should be avoided even from point to point.

For individual emergencies, DCs should continue to follow up and facilitate the common man through helplines already established in the districts. The number of helplines and persons attending on such lines may be increased and properly publicized, the guidelines state.

For procurement of wheat, ACS (Dev.) and PSFS would issue a comprehensive mandi-wise plan in due course. Likewise, for harvesting of potatoes, ACS (Dev.) would issue necessary guidelines by Friday, the 27th March 2020.