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Government of NCT of Delhi
DELHI DISASTER MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

No. F.2/07/2020/S.I/95

Dated: 24/04/2020

CLARIFICATION

Whereas, the Delhi Disaster Management Authority (DDMA) is satisfied that the NCT of Delhi is threatened with the spread of COVID-19 epidemic, which has already been declared as a pandemic by the World Health Organisation, and has considered it necessary to take effective measures to prevent its spread in NCT of Delhi;

And whereas, Delhi Disaster Management Authority has issued various orders/instructions from time to time to all authorities concerned to take all required measures to appropriately deal with the situation;

And whereas vide the Order No. F.2/07/2020/S.I/53 dated 15.04.2020 read with subsequent order No. F.2/07/2020/S.I/64 dated 19/04/2020 consolidated revised guidelines on the measures to be taken by the Departments of Government of NCT of Delhi for containment of COVID-19 had been issued. In Annexure-I of these guidelines, National Directives for COVID-19 Management have been specified, and in Annexure-II, Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for social distancing and hygiene measures has been specified, which is to be followed by offices, workplaces, factories and other establishments.

And whereas, vide letter No. 40-10/2020-DM-I(A) dated 23.04.2020, MHA has conveyed that some apprehensions, based on wrong interpretation of the guidelines, have been raised in the media by some companies having manufacturing facilities. Some of these are as under:

- I. States may take legal action, including imprisonment of CEO, in case a COVID-19 positive employee is found in the factory.
- II. In such a situation, the premises of the factory would be sealed for 3 months.
- III. In case of non-compliance of precautionary measures, the factory may be closed down for 2 days and may be allowed to restart after full compliance.

And whereas, it is **clarified that there is no such clause in the consolidated revised guidelines and therefore there is no basis for such misplaced apprehensions.**

And whereas, COVID-19 being a highly infectious epidemic, it is important that all workplaces take measures to ensure social distancing and follow standard health protocols as notified by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW). Accordingly, appropriate safeguards at workplaces have been prescribed in the National Directives and SOP mentioned above. The workplaces and industrial and commercial establishments are required to follow these guidelines.

And whereas it is clarified that the consolidated revised guidelines dated April 15, 2020 do not curtail the exemptions already provided earlier, unless the exempted activity falls within a containment zone. Therefore, no separate/fresh permissions are required from authorities for industries already permitted to operate prior to April 15, 2020, in areas falling outside containment zones.

And whereas it must be emphasized that subject to compliance with the SOP on social distancing, no fresh license or statutory approval is required for resumption of permitted activities during the lockdown period. For example, an industrial activity, allowed to operate prior to the lockdown, needs no fresh statutory approval, once it has been included as a permitted activity under the consolidated revised guidelines, and has complied with the SOP on social distancing.

Contd....

Now therefore, in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 22 of the Disaster Management Act, 2005, the undersigned, in his capacity as Chairperson, State Executive Committee, hereby issues directions to the following authorities that the industrial field establishment and field offices may be apprised of the guidelines of lockdown measures which should be followed to prevent the spread of epidemic. These should not be misused to harass the management of any manufacturing/commercial establishments.


(Vijay Dev)

Chief Secretary, Delhi

To,

1. All Additional Chief Secretaries/Principal Secretaries/Secretaries/HODs of Government of NCT.
2. Commissioner of Police, Delhi
3. Chairman, New Delhi Municipal Council.
4. Pr. Secretary (DIP), Govt. of NCT of Delhi for wide publicity.
5. Commissioner (South DMC/East DMC/North DMC).
6. CEO, Delhi Cantonment Board.

Copy for information to:

1. Pr. Secretary to Hon'ble Lt. Governor, Delhi.
2. Addl. Secretary to Hon'ble Chief Minister, GNCTD
3. Secretary to Hon'ble Dy. Chief Minister, GNCTD.
4. Secretary to Hon'ble Health Minister, GNCTD
5. Secretary to Hon'ble Labour Minister, GNCTD
6. Secretary to Hon'ble Revenue Minister, GNCTD
7. Secretary to Hon'ble Social Welfare Minister, GNCTD
8. Secretary to Hon'ble F&S Minister, GNCTD
9. Addl. Chief Secretary (Home), GNCTD
10. Pr. Secretary (Health & Family Welfare), GNCTD
11. Pr. Secretary (Revenue)-cum-Divisional Commissioner, GNCTD
12. All members of State Executive Committee, DDMA, GNCTD.
13. Director, DIP, Govt. of NCT of Delhi for wide publicity.
14. SIO, NIC for uploading the same on the website of Delhi Government.
15. Guard file.