# GOVERNMENT OF NCT OF DELHI DELHI DISASTER MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

No.2/07/2020/S.1/Pt file IV/345

#### **ORDER**

Dated: 31 12 2020

Whereas, 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 Organization, and has considered it necessary to take effective measures to prevent its spread in NCT of Delhi;

- 2. And whereas, Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India has issued Order No. 40-3/2020-DM-I(A) dated 28.12.2020 (copy enclosed) vide which extended the guidelines for Surveillance, Containment and Caution issued by MHA vide its earlier Order dated 25.11.2020, upto 31.01.2021. Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India has also issued DO No. 40-3/2020-DM-I(A) dated 28.12.2020 (copy enclosed) annexed with copy of directions of Hon'ble Supreme Court in a suo-moto WP(C) No.7 of 2020, for strict enforcement of Guidelines/SOPs issued by Union/State Governments and strict compliance of COVID-Appropriate behaviour;
- 3. And whereas, DDMA has issued Order No. 2078 & Order No. 2079 dated 28.11.2020 with regard to maintain status quo in respect of prohibited/permitted activities as well as reduction of staff (below the level of Grade-I/equivalent) upto 50% of strength in all Government offices of NCT of Delhi / Autonomous Bodies / PSUs / Local Bodies, till 31.12.2020 or further orders whichever is earlier;
- 4. And whereas, the situation of COVID-19 has been reviewed and it has been decided that "status quo" in respect of prohibited / permitted activities, as per DDMA Order Nos. 2078 & 2079 dated 28.11.2020 shall be maintained in NCT of Delhi till 31.01.2021 or further orders, whichever is earlier.
- 5. Now, therefore, in exercise of powers conferred under Section 22 of the Disaster Management Act, 2005, the undersigned, in his capacity as Chairperson, State Executive Committee, DDMA, GNCTD hereby directs all the Departments / Autonomous Bodies / PSUs / Corporations / Local Bodies of GNCT of Delhi to maintain "Status Quo" with respect to prohibited / permitted activities in NCT of Delhi as well as reduction of staff (below the level of Grade-I/equivalent) upto 50% of strength in all Government offices of NCT of Delhi / Autonomous Bodies / PSUs / Local Bodies till 31.01.2021 or further orders, whichever is earlier.
- 6. All District Magistrates of Delhi & their counterpart District Deputy Commissioners of Police and all authorities concerned shall ensure strict compliance of this order as well as aforesaid directions of Hon'ble Supreme Court and shall adequately inform and sensitize the field functionaries about these instructions for strict compliance, in letter and spirit.

(Vijay Dev)

Chief Secretary, Delhi

Dated:

No.2/07/2020/S.1/Pt file IV/

### Copy for compliance to:

- 1. All Additional Chief Secretaries/Principal Secretaries/Secretaries/HODs of Government of NCT of Delhi.
- 2. Commissioner of Police, Delhi
- 3. Chairman, New Delhi Municipal Council.

- 4. Pr. Secretary (I&P) for wide publicity in NCT of Delhi
- 5. Secretary-cum-Commissioner (Transport), GNCTD
- 6. Commissioner (South DMC/East DMC/North DMC).
- CEO, Delhi Cantonment Board.
- 8. All District Magistrates of Delhi
- 9. All District DCPs of Delhi

#### Copy for kind information to:-

- 1. Secretary to Hon'ble Lt. Governor, Delhi.
- 2. Addl. Secretary to Hon'ble Chief Minister, GNCTD
- Secretary to Hon'ble Dy. Chief Minister, GNCTD.
- 4. Secretary to Hon'ble Minister of Health, GNCTD.
- 5. Secretary to Hon'ble Minister of Revenue, GNCTD.
- 6. Secretary to Hon'ble Minister of Labour, GNCTD.
- Secretary to Hon'ble Minister of Social Welfare, GNCTD.
- 8. Secretary to Hon'ble Minister of Food & Supply, GNCTD.
- 9. Addl. Chief Secretary (Services)/ State Nodal Officer, GNCTD.
- 10. Addl. Chief Secretary (UD), GNCTD.
- 11. Pr. Secretary (Home), GNCTD
- 12. Pr. Secretary (Health), GNCTD.
- 13. Pr. Secretary (Revenue)-cum-Divisional Commissioner, GNCTD.
- 14. All members of State Executive Committee, DDMA, GNCTD.
- System Analyst, O/o Divisional Commissioner, Delhi for uploading of the order on website ddma.delhigovt.nic.in.
- 16. Guard file.

## GOVERNMENT OF NCT OF DELHI DELHI DISASTER MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

No.1.(543)/DDMA(HQ)/MISC/COVID-19/PF-1/2020-21 / 2078

Dated: 28-11-2020

#### <u>ORDER</u>

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 Organization, and has considered it necessary to take effective measures to prevent its spread in NCT of Delhi, and Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India has issued Order No. 40-3/2020-DM-1(A) dated 25.11.2020 annexed with Guidelines for Surveillance, Containment and Caution, which will be in force upto 31.12.2020 (copy enclosed);

- 2. And whereas, the situation of COVID-19 has been reviewed and it has been decided that "status quo" in respect of prohibited / permitted activities read with DDMA order No. 329 dated 11.10.2020 for celebrating festivals, order dated 18.11.2020 regarding marriage related gathering and intra-state movement of buses allowed vide DDMA order No. 339 dated 30.10.2020 and order dated 08.11.2020 and order No. 338 & 339 dated 31.10.2020, shall be maintained in NCT of Delhi till 31.12.2020 or further orders, whichever is earlier.
- 3. Now, therefore, in exercise of powers conferred under Section 22 of the Disaster Management Act, 2005, the undersigned, in his capacity as Chairperson, State Executive Committee, DDMA, GNCTD hereby directs all the Departments / Autonomous Bodies / PSUs / Corporations / Local Bodies of GNCT of Delhi to maintain "Status Quo" with respect to prohibited / permitted activities in NCT of Delhi till 31.12.2020 or further orders, whichever is earlier
- 4. It is also directed that all authorities concerned shall ensure strict adherence of guidelines in respect of COVID Appropriate Behaviour, Surveillance and Containment, use of Aarogya Setu App etc, as prescribed in annexed guidelines alongwith MHA, GOI order dated 25.11.2020. Further, all SOPs prescribed for various activities by Govt. of India as well as Govt. of NCT of Delhi from time to time shall be strictly enforced by all the authorities concerned.
- 5. All District Magistrates of Delhi & their counterpart District Deputy Commissioners of Police and all authorities concerned shall ensure strict compliance of this order and shall adequately inform and sensitize the field functionaries about these instructions for strict compliance, in letter and spirit.

(Vijay Dev) Chief Secretary, Delhi

# Copy for compliance to:

 All Additional Chief Secretaries/Principal Secretaries/Secretaries/HODs of Government of NCT of Delhi.

Dated: 28-11-2020

- 2. Commissioner of Police, Delhi
- 3. Chairman, New Delhi Municipal Council.
- Pr. Secretary (I&P) for wide publicity in NCT of Delhi
- Commissioner (South DMC/East DMC/North DMC).
- 6. CEO, Delhi Cantonment Board.
- 7. All District Magistrates of Delhi
- 8. All District DCPs of Delhi

## Copy for kind information to:-

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- 2. Addl. Secretary to Hon'ble Chief Minister, GNCTD
- 3. Secretary to Hon'ble Dy. Chief Minister, GNCTD.
- Secretary to Hon'ble Minister of Health, GNCTD.
- 5. Secretary to Hon'ble Minister of Revenue, GNCTD.
- Secretary to Hon'ble Minister of Labour, GNCTD.
- 7. Secretary to Hon'ble Minister of Social Welfare, GNCTD.
- Secretary to Hon'ble Minister of Food & Supply, GNCTD.
- 9. Addl. Chief Secretary (Services)/ State Nodal Officer, GNCTD.
- 10. Addl. Chief Secretary (UD), GNCTD.
- 11. Pr. Secretary (Home), GNCTD
- 12. Pr. Secretary (Health), GNCTD.
- 13. Pr. Secretary (Revenue)-cum-Divisional Commissioner, GNCTD.
- 14. All members of State Executive Committee, DDMA, GNCTD.
- 15. System Analyst, O/o Divisional Commissioner, Delhi for uploading of the order on website – ddma.delhigovt.nic.in.
- 16. Guard file.

## GOVERNMENT OF NCT OF DELHI DELHI DISASTER MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

No.1 (543)/DDMA(HQ)/MISC/COVID-19/PF-1/2020-21 / 2079

Dated: 28-11-2020

#### ORDER

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 Organization, 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, Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India has issued Order No. 40-3/2020-DM-1(A) dated 25.11.2020 annexed with Guidelines for Surveillance, Containment and Caution, which will be in force upto 31.12.2020, wherein inter alia clause-14 provides for imposing local restrictions with a view to contain the spread of COVID-19 in offices, (copy enclosed);
- Now, therefore, in exercise of powers conferred under Section 22 of the Disaster Management Act, 2005, the undersigned, in his capacity as Chairperson, State Executive Committee, DDMA, GNCTD hereby directs that all Government offices of NCT of Delhi / Autonomous bodies / PSUs / Corporations / Local Bodies shall function with officers of the level of Grade-I /equivalent and above to the extent of 100% strength. The remaining staff will attend upto 50% as per requirement to be assessed by HOD concerned (remaining 50% of the staff will work from home), till 31.12.2020 or till further order whichever is earlier. All HODs shall issue consequential orders in respect of their concerned department within in 24 hours in this regard and copy of the order shall be sent to <a href="mailto:ddma.delhi@nic.in">ddma.delhi@nic.in</a> .However, Health and Family Welfare and all related medical establishments, Police, Prisons, Home Guards, Civil Defence, Fire and emergency Services, District Administration, Pay & Account Office, Electricity, Water and Sanitation, Disaster Management and related services, NIC, NCC and Municipal services, and all other essential services shall function without any restrictions and delivery of public services shall be ensured and necessary staff will be deployed for such purpose.
- Furthermore, private offices/ organizations are advised to stagger the office timings and also stagger the presence and quantum of staff with an objective to reduce the number of employees attending office at the same time. They are further advised to follow the practice of work from home, as far as possible.
- All Additional Chief Secretaries/Principal Secretaries/Secretaries/HODs of Government of NCT Delhi / Autonomous bodies / PSUs / Corporations / Local Bodies of Delhi, District Magistrates of Delhi & their counterpart District Deputy Commissioners of Police and all authorities concerned shall ensure strict compliance of this order in letter and spirit.

Chief Secretary, Delhi

Dated:

No.1.(543)/DDMA(HQ)/MISC/COVID-19/PF-1/2020-21

Copy for compliance to:

- All Additional Chief Secretaries/Principal Secretaries/Secretaries/HODs of Government of NCT of Delhi.
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- 3. Chairman, New Delhi Municipal Council.
- 4. Pr. Secretary (I&P) for wide publicity in NCT of Delhi
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- Secretary to Hon'ble Minister of Health, GNCTD.
- 5. Secretary to Hon'ble Minister of Revenue, GNCTD.
- 6. Secretary to Hon'ble Minister of Labour, GNCTD.
- Secretary to Hon'ble Minister of Social Welfare, GNCTD.
- 8. Secretary to Hon'ble Minister of Food & Supply, GNCTD.
- 9. Addl. Chief Secretary (Services)/ State Nodal Officer, GNCTD.
- 10. Addl. Chief Secretary (UD), GNCTD.
- 11. Pr. Secretary (Home), GNCTD
- 12. Pr. Secretary (Health), GNCTD.
- 13. Pr. Secretary (Revenue)-cum-Divisional Commissioner, GNCTD.
- 14. All members of State Executive Committee, DDMA, GNCTD.
- System Analyst, O/o Divisional Commissioner, Delhi for uploading of the order on website ddma.delhigovt.nic.in.
- 16. Guard file.

No .40-3/2020-DM-I(A)
Government of India
Ministry of Home Affairs

North Block, New Delhi-110001 Dated 28<sup>th</sup> December, 2020

#### **ORDER**

In exercise of the powers, conferred under Section 10(2)(I) of the Disaster Management Act 2005, the undersigned hereby directs that guidelines for Surveillance, Containment and Caution issued *vide* Ministry of Home Affairs' Order of even number dated 25.11.2020, will remain in force upto 31.01.2021.

Union Home Secretary

and, Chairman, National Executive Committee (NEC)

#### To

- 1. The Secretaries of Ministries / Departments of Government of India
- The Chief Secretaries/Administrators of States/Union Territories (As per list attached)

### Copy to:

- i. All Members of the National Executive Committee
- ii. Member Secretary, National Disaster Management Authority

# JAY BHALLA, IAS



गृह सचिव Home Secretary भारत सरकार Government of India North Block, New Delhi

D.O. No. 40-3/2020-DM-I(A)

28th December, 2020

Dear Chief Secretary,

Kindly refer to Ministry of Home Affairs' (MHA) Order of even number issued today by which guidelines for Surveillance, Containment and Caution, that were issued vide Order dated 25.11.2020, have been extended upto 31st January, 2021.

- 2. As you are aware, while the number of active cases are declining steadily for last 2-3 months, the overall situation appears optimistic. However, keeping in view the fresh surge in cases globally and emergence of new variant of virus in United Kingdom, there is a need for maintaining caution and strict surveillance.
- 3. Strict vigil is also needed to be maintained to prevent any fresh surge in cases in wake of upcoming New year celebrations and ongoing winter season which are favourable for the spread of the virus. In this regard, appropriate measures may be taken by the State / UT Governments.
- 4. Further, Government of India has started preparations for administration and roll-out of vaccine for COVID-19. The National Expert Group on Vaccine Administration for COVID-19 (NEGVAC) has recommended prioritization of this vaccine during the initial phases to Health Care Workers, Front Line Workers, Persons aged 50 years and above and those below 50 years of age with comorbidities. States/UTs may instruct the concerned authorities for their active support to the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) in identification, preparation of database, vaccine delivery, storage, security, shipment and vaccination of beneficiaries.
- 5. Attention is also drawn here that on 18th December, 2020, in a suomotu WP (C) No. 7, the Hon'ble Supreme Court has issued directions to State Governments, inter-alia, for strict enforcement of guidelines/ SOPs issued by Union/ State Governments; strict compliance on COVID-Appropriate behaviour such as, wearing of masks, keeping social distancing etc.; stern action against those who are violating guidelines/ SOPs; regulation of gatherings etc. consider imposition of curfew on weekends/ night and to enforce complete lockdown in containment zones. A copy of the aforesaid Order is enclosed for taking necessary action.

- 6. I would like to re-emphasize that essence behind the graded reopening and progressive resumption of activities is to move ahead.
  However, there is a concomitant need to exercise due care. States/UTs,
  based on their assessment of the situation, may impose local
  restrictions with a view to contain the spread of COVID-19, such as
  night curfew. However, there shall be no restriction on inter-State and
  intra-State movement of persons and goods including those for cross
  land-border trade under Treaties with neighbouring countries.
- 7. I would urge you to ensure compliance of the aforesaid guidelines and direct all authorities concerned for its strict implementation. Further, guidelines issued by MHA and consequent Orders issued by the respective State Governments/ UT Administration should be widely disseminated to the public and to the field functionaries for implementation.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Ajay Bhalla)

Chief Secretaries of All States (As per Standard List attached)

# IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA CIVIL ORIGINAL JURISDICTION

# SUO MOTU WRIT PETITION (CIVIL) NO.7 OF 2020

IN RE: THE PROPER TREATMENT OF COVID 19 PATIENTS AND DIGNIFIED HANDLING OF DEAD BODIES IN THE HOSPITALS ETC.

#### ORDER

- 1. We have heard Shri Tushar Mehta, learned Solicitor General for India and learned counsel appearing for various States. By our order dated 27.11.2020 passed in this proceeding we have taken suo motu cognizance of the incident which happened in Rajkot, Gujarat on 26.11.2020 resulting in death of Covid patients in the Covid Hospital. The Court has also taken notice of earlier incidents of fire in Covid Hospitals. Learned Solicitor General had submitted that immediate steps shall be taken and the report will be submitted. State of Gujarat was also directed to submit the report.
- 2. Affidavits have been filed by Union of India on 30.11.2020 and 11.12.2020. The Union of India in its affidavit dated 30.11.2020 has brought on record the letter dated 28.11.2020 issued by Ministry of Home letter dated 28.11.2020 issued by Ministry of Home Government of India. The Government of India issued advisory to all the States to prevent the

recurrence of fire incident in Covid Hospitals and Nursing Homes. The Union of India has called for the status implementation of guidelines issued of in reference to preventing recurrence of fire accidents in Hospitals, status of 'No Objection Certificate', report regarding inspection and re-inspection of Hospitals and Nursing Homes. In pursuance of the orders issued by Union of India to all the States, status reports were sent to the Union of India which has been compiled in Affidavit dated 11.12.2020. Although different States and Union Territories have taken measures and conducted inspections, found out shortcomings regarding prevention of occurrence of fire in the Hospitals and Nursing Homes, further, audits and inspections are required to be taken. Few States have also filed their separate affidavits enumerating their steps taken by them in compliance of the advisory and requirement for. The Union of India has directed the States and Union Territories to update their building respective local bye laws/fire services synchronising them in line of "Model Bill on maintenance of fire and emergency service, 2019", circulated Ministry of Home Affairs on 16.09.2019.

3. The State of Gujarat has filed separate affidavit

bringing on record the directions issued by the State and the details of inspection undertaken and audit of few dedicated Covid hospitals. It has further stated that a nodal officer for fire safety has been appointed in dedicated covid hospitals (Government and Private hospitals). We with regard to above, issue following directions:-

- nodal officer for each covid hospital, if not already appointed, who shall be made responsible for ensuring the compliance of all fire safety measures.
- In each district, State Government should constitute a committee to carry fire audit of each Covid hospital atleast once in a month and inform the deficiency to the management of the hospital and report to the Government for taking follow up action.
- The Covid hospital who have not obtained NOC from fire department of the State should be asked to immediately apply for NOC and after carrying necessary inspection, decision shall be taken. Those Covid hospitals who have not renewed their

NOC should immediately take steps for renewal on which appropriate inspection be taken and decision be taken. In event, Covid Hospital is found not having NOC or not having obtained renewal, appropriate action be taken by the State.

- 4. The State of Gujarat has also brought on record the notification appointing Justice D.A. Mehta to undertake enquiry with regard to fire in Shrey Hospital, Navrangpura, Ahmedabad, in addition to enquiry in to the incident of fire in Uday Shivanand Hospital, Rajkot. The State to extend all cooperation to the Enquiry Commission so that Enquiry report be submitted at early date and the appropriate remedial action be taken by the State.
- 5. Due to unprecedented Pandemic, everybody in the world is suffering, one way or the other. It is a world war against COVID-19. Therefore, there shall be Government Public Partnership to avoid world war against COVID-19.
- 6. Right to health is a fundamental right guaranteed under Article 21 of the Constitution of India. Right to health includes affordable treatment. Therefore, it is the duty upon the State to make provisions for affordable treatment and more and more provisions in the hospitals

made. It cannot be disputed that for whatever reasons the treatment has become costlier and costlier and it is not affordable to the common people at all. Even if one survives from COVID-19, many times financially and economically he is finished. Therefore, either more and more provisions are to be made by the State Government and the local administration or there shall be cap on the fees charged by the private hospitals, which can be in exercise of the powers under the Disaster Management Act.

- 7. Despite the Guidelines and SOPs issued, for lack of implementation the Pandemic has spread like wild fire. A strict and stern action should be taken against those who are violating the Guidelines and SOPs, whoever he may be and whatever position the violator is occupying.
- 8. Every State must act vigilantly and to work with the Centre harmoniously. It is the time to rise to the occasion. Safety and health of the citizens must be the first priority, rather than any other considerations.
- 9. People should understand their duty and follow rules very strictly. It is the duty of every citizen to perform their fundamental duties as guaranteed under the

Constitution of India. By not following the Guidelines/SOPs issued by the State from time to time, such as, not wearing the masks, not keeping social distances, to participate in the gatherings and the celebrations without maintaining social distances, they are ultimately not damaging themselves but they cause damage to the others also. They cannot be permitted to play with the lives of the others and they cannot be permitted to infringe the rights of other citizens, like right to health guaranteed under Article 21 of the Constitution of India.

There is a need to help and guide our people to 10. implement the guidelines and the SOPs issued the Government, either the Union or the State, such as, wearing of masks, keeping the social distance etc. In many States, despite the huge fine recovered, such as, Rs. 80 to 90 crores in the State of Gujarat alone, people are not following the guidelines and the SOPs. There must be a strict implementation by the authorities so as to ensure that the SOPs and the guidelines issued from time to time are strictly adhered to and followed by the Additional Chief Secretary (Home)/Secretary people. (Home) of respective States shall ensure the strict implementation of the SOPs and the guidelines with the help of the concerned Superintendent of Police/District Superintendent of Police and the Police In-charge of the concerned police station.

- 11. We have already issued various directions with regard to measures to be taken to contain the Covid-19. We once again reiterate the State to issue necessary directions with regard to following measures so as to effectively monitor and supervise the implementation of various SOPs and guidelines.
- More and more police personnel shall be deployed at the places where there is likelihood of gathering by the people, such as, Food Courts, Eateries, Vegetable Markets (Wholesale or Retail), sabzi Mandies, bus stations, railway stations, street vendors, etc.
- As far as possible, unless must, no permission shall ii) granted by the be local administration or the Collector/DSP for celebration/gathering even during the day hours and wherever the permissions granted, the local administration/DSP/Collector/Police In-charge of the local police station shall ensure the strict

compliance of the Guidelines/SOPs. There should be a mechanism to check the number of people attending such function/gathering, such as, the particulars with respect to how many persons are going to attend the celebration/gathering, timings during which the celebration/gathering is to take place etc.

- the correct facts and figures. One must be transparent in number of testing and declaring the facts and figures of the persons who are Corona Positive. Otherwise, the people will be misled and they will be under impression that everything is all right and they will become negligent.
- Whenever directions are issued under the Disaster Management Act directing the corporate hospitals/private hospitals to keep 50% or any other percentage free municipal beds, it must be strictly complied with and there shall be constant vigilance and supervision.
- There shall be free helpline numbers to redress the grievances of common man, when there is non-compliance of the directions by the private hospitals/corporate hospitals.

- vi) Curfew on weekends/night be considered by States where it is not in place.
- vii) In a micro containment zone or in an area where number of cases are on higher side, to cut the chain, they should be sealed and there should be complete lockdown so far as such areas are concerned. Such containment areas need to be sealed for few days except essential services. The same is required to break the chain of virus spread.
- viii) Any decision to impose curfew and/or lockdown must be announced long in advance so that the people may know and make provisions for their livelihood, like ration etc.
- Another issue is a fatigue of front row health care officers, such as, Doctors, Nurses as well as workers. They are already exhausted physically and mentally due to tireless work for eight months. Some mechanism may be required to give them intermittent rest.
- 12. One more issue has been raised before us regarding gathering organised by Political parties. The Political parties organise different proceedings in connection of

election as well as in reference to election of different level including the General Election which are to take place in few States next year.

13. The Election Commission of India has issued broad guidelines for conduct of General Elections/Bye-Elections during Covid-19 in August, 2020. With regard to campaign of political parties following are the guidelines issued by Election Commission of India: -

# "13. CAMPAIGN BY THE POLITICAL PARTIES/CONTESTING CANDIDATES

- other restriction(s) including extant COVID-19 guidelines, a group of 5(five) persons including candidates, excluding security personnel, if any, is allowed to do door to door campaigning.
- Provided Shows: -The Convoy of vehicles should be broken after every 5(five) vehicles instead of 10 vehicles (excluding the security vehicles, if any). The interval between two sets of convoy of vehicles should be half an hour instead of gap of 100 meters. (In supersession of Para 5.8.1 of Returning Officer's Handbook 2019)"
- gatherings/rallies may be conducted subject to adherence to extant COVID-19 guidelines. District Election Officer should take following steps for this purpose.
  - (a) District Election Officer should, in advance, identify dedicated

- grounds for public gathering with clearly marked Entry/Exit points.
- (b) In all such identified grounds, the District Election Officer should, in advance, put markers to ensure social distancing norms by the attendees.
- (c) Nodal District Health Officer should be involved in the process to ensure that all COVID-19 related guidelines are adhered to by all concerned in the district.
- (d) District Election Officer and District Superintendent of Police should ensure that the number of attendees does not exceed the limit prescribed by State Disaster Management Authority for public gatherings.
- (e) DEO should depute Sector Health Regulators to oversee that COVID-19 instructions/guidelines are being followed during these meetings.
- (f) The political parties and candidates concerned should ensure that all COVID-19 related requirement like face masks, sanitizers, thermal scanning etc. are fulfilled during each of these activities.
- (g) Non-Compliance of Instructions: Anybody violating instructions on
  COVID-19 measures will be liable
  to proceeded against as per the
  provisions of Section 51 to 60 of
  the Disaster Management Act, 2005,
  besides legal action under Section

1988 of the IPC, and other legal provisions as applicable, as specified in Order No.40-3/2020-DM-I(A) dated 29<sup>th</sup> July, 2020 of Ministry of Home Affairs. District Election Officer should bring this to the notice of all concerned.

4) Allocation of public spaces must be done using Suvidha app in the manner already prescribed by Commission."

14. All the States / Union Territories to issue necessary directions to ensure compliance of aforesaid guidelines and guidelines although were issued by General Election/Bye Election, that can be implemented by different States with suitable modifications with reference to Elections of other organisations to ensure safety of people in general from Covid-19.

15. We allow further four weeks' time to all the States and Union of India to file affidavit bringing on record various measures as indicated in this order for consideration and further directions.

List after four weeks.

( ASHOK BHUSH	 IAN )	J.
( R. SUBHASH	REDDY	J.
( M.R. SHAH	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	J.

New Delhi, December 18, 2020.

#### SUPREME COURT OF INDIA RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Suo Motu Writ Petition (Civil) No(s).7/2020

IN RE THE PROPER TREATMENT OF COVID 19 PATIENTS AND DIGNIFIED HANDLING OF DEAD BODIES IN THE HOSPITALS ETC.

(IA No. 63664/2020 - APPLICATION FOR EXEMPTION FROM FILING ORIGINAL VAKALATNAMA/OTHER DOCUMENT

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IA No. 54973/2020 - APPROPRIATE ORDERS/DIRECTIONS
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- IA No. 55794/2020 APPROPRIATE ORDERS/DIRECTIONS
- IA No. 56067/2020 APPROPRIATE ORDERS/DIRECTIONS
- IA No. 90409/2020 APPROPRIATE ORDERS/DIRECTIONS
- IA No. 54881/2020 APPROPRIATE ORDERS/DIRECTIONS
- IA No. 55938/2020 APPROPRIATE ORDERS/DIRECTIONS
- IA No. 68811/2020 CLARIFICATION/DIRECTION
- IA No. 54900/2020 EARLY HEARING APPLICATION
- IA No. 55936/2020 EXEMPTION FROM FILING AFFIDAVIT
- IA No. 56420/2020 EXEMPTION FROM FILING AFFIDAVIT
- IA No. 68639/2020 EXEMPTION FROM FILING AFFIDAVIT
- IA No. 56142/2020 EXEMPTION FROM FILING AFFIDAVIT
- IA No. 118651/2020 EXEMPTION FROM FILING AFFIDAVIT
- IA No. 55792/2020 EXEMPTION FROM FILING AFFIDAVIT
- IA No. 56124/2020 EXEMPTION FROM FILING AFFIDAVIT
- IA No. 68519/2020 EXEMPTION FROM FILING AFFIDAVIT
- IA No. 74588/2020 EXEMPTION FROM FILING AFFIDAVIT IA No. 90410/2020 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING AFFIDAVIT
- IA No. 54885/2020 EXEMPTION FROM FILING AFFIDAVIT
- IA No. 55398/2020 EXEMPTION FROM FILING AFFIDAVIT
- IA No. 55939/2020 EXEMPTION FROM FILING AFFIDAVIT
- IA No. 72559/2020 EXEMPTION FROM FILING AFFIDAVIT
- IA No. 54982/2020 EXEMPTION FROM FILING AFFIDAVIT
- IA No. 72111/2020 EXEMPTION FROM FILING AFFIDAVIT IA No. 90398/2020 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING AFFIDAVIT
- IA No. 68817/2020 EXEMPTION FROM FILING AFFIDAVIT
- IA No. 92849/2020 EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T.
- IA No. 74671/2020 EXEMPTION FROM PAYING COURT FEE
- IA No. 74670/2020 INTERVENTION APPLICATION
- IA No. 55790/2020 INTERVENTION APPLICATION
- IA No. 63659/2020 INTERVENTION APPLICATION
- IA No. 54880/2020 INTERVENTION APPLICATION IA No. 55937/2020 - INTERVENTION APPLICATION
- IA No. 90394/2020 INTERVENTION/IMPLEADMENT
- IA No. 77370/2020 INTERVENTION/IMPLEADMENT
- IA No. 54971/2020 INTERVENTION/IMPLEADMENT
- IA No. 55935/2020 INTERVENTION/IMPLEADMENT
- IA No. 68561/2020 INTERVENTION/IMPLEADMENT
- IA No. 54897/2020 INTERVENTION/IMPLEADMENT
- IA No. 57318/2020 INTERVENTION/IMPLEADMENT
- IA NO. 54902/2020 PERMISSION TO APPEAR AND ARGUE IN PERSON

IA No. 63660/2020 - PERMISSION TO APPEAR AND ARGUE IN PERSON IA No. 54978/2020 - PERMISSION TO APPEAR AND ARGUE IN PERSON

ADDITIONAL FILE IA No. 56419/2020 PERMISSION TO DOCUMENTS/FACTS/ANNEXURES)

This matter was called on for orders today. Date: 18-12-2020

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ASHOK BHUSHAN CORAM :

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE R. SUBHASH REDDY

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE M.R. SHAH

For Petitioner(s) By Courts Motion

Mr. Tushar Mehta, SG For Respondent(s)

Mr. K.M. Nataraj, ASG

Mr. Shantanu Sharma, Adv.

Mr. Gurmeet Singh Makker AOR

Mr. Rajat Nair, Adv.

Mr. Kanu Agrawal, Adv. Mr. Prashant Singh B, Adv.

Mr. Raj Bahadur Yadav, Adv.

Mr. Saurabh Mishra, Adv.

Mr. Mohd. Akhil, Adv.

Mr. B. V. Balaram Das, AOR

Arunachal Pradesh Mr. Abhimanyu Tewari, AOR

Ms. Eliza Bar, Adv.

Assam Mr. Nalin Kohli, AAG

Mr. Shuvodeep Roy, Adv.

Mr. Ankit Roy, Adv.

Mr. Rahul Raj Mishra, Adv.

Ms. Nimisha, Adv.

GNCTD Mr. K.V. Vishwanathan, Sr. Adv.

Mr. Chirag M. Shroff, AOR

Ms. Abhilasha Bharti, Adv.

Goa Mr. Arun R. Pedneker, Adv.

Mr. Sachin Patil AOR

Gujarat Mr. Tushar Mehta, SG

Ms. Manisha Lavkumar, Sr. Adv.

Mr. Aniruddha P. Mayee AOR

Ms. Deepanwita Priyanka, Adv.

Ms. Aastha Mehta, Adv.

Haryana Mr. Anish Kumar Gupta, Adv.

Ms. Archana Preeti Gupta, Adv.

Mr. Chandra Shekhar Suman, Adv.

Mr. Puneet Sheoran, Adv.

Ms. Rita Gupta, Adv.

Ms. Deepshikha Bharati, Adv.,

Haryana

Dr. Monika Gusain, AOR

H.P.

Mr. Himanshu Tyagi, AOR

Jharkhand

Mr. Kumar Anurag Singh, Addl. Standing Counsel

Mr. Saurabh Jain, Adv.

Mr. Anando Mukherjee, Adv.

J&K

Mr. G.M. Kawoosa, Adv.

Ms. Manjula Gupta, Adv.

Kerala

Ms. Priyanka Prakash, Adv.

Ms. Beena Prakash, Adv.

Mr. G. Prakash, Adv.

Manipur

Mr. Pukhrambam Ramesh Kumar, Adv.

Ms. Anupama Ngangom, Adv.

Mr. Karun Sharma, Adv.

Maharashtra

Mr. Rahul Chitnis ADV.

Mr. Sachin Patil, AOR

Mr. Geo Joseph, Adv.

Meghalaya

Mr. Amit Kumar, Adv.

Mr. Avijit Mani Tripathi, Adv.

Mr. T.K. Nayak, Adv.

Mr. Abhikalp, Adv.

Mizoram

Mr. Siddhesh Kotwal, Adv.

Mr. Divyansh Tiwari, Adv.

Ms. Ana Upadhyay, Adv.

Nagaland

Mrs. K. Enatoli Sema, Adv

Mr. Amit Kumar Singh, Adv.

Punjab

Mr. Atul Nanda, AG

Ms. Uttara Babbar, Adv.

Ms. Bhavana Duhoon, Adv.

Mr. Manan Bansal, Adv.

Rajasthan

Dr. Manish Singhvi, Sr. Advocate

Mr. Sandeep Kumar Jha Advocate

T.N.

Mr. Jayanth Muthuraj, Sr. Adv.

Mr. M. Yogeshkanna AOR

Mr. Rajarajeshwaran, Adv.

Mr. Aditya Chadha, Adv.

Telangana

Mr. S. Udaya Kumar Sagar, Adv.

Ms. Swati Bhardwaj, Adv.

Tripura

Mr. Shuvodeep Roy, Adv. Mr. Rahul Raj Mishra, Adv.

WB

Mr. Suhaan Mukerji, Adv.

Ms. Liz Mathew, Adv.
Mr. Vishal Prasad, Adv.
Mr. Nikhil Parikshith, Adv.
Mr. Sayandeep Pahari, Adv.
For M/S. PLR Chambers And Co.

U.P.

Ms. Garima Prashad, Adv. Mr. Nagender Singh, Adv.

Sikkim

Mr. Raghvendra Kumar, Adv. Mr. Anand Kumar Dubey, Adv. Mr. Narendra Kumar, AOR

Karnataka

Mr. Shubhranshu Padhi, AOR Mr. Ashish Yadav, Adv. Mr. Rakshit Jain, Adv. Mr. Vishal Bansal, Adv.

**Odisha** 

Mr. Shibashish Misra, Adv.

UTS

A & N

Mr. K.V. Jagdishvaran, Adv.

Ms. G. Indira, AOR

Puducherry

Mr. V.G. Pragasam, Adv.

Mr. S. Prabu Ramasubramanian, Adv.

Mr. Awanish Sinha, AOR Mr. S.K. Mohanty, Adv. Ms. Sweta Rani, Adv. Ms. Gitanshi Arora, Adv.

I.A. 90394/20 & 90409/20 Mr. Pawan Shree Agrawal, Adv.

Ms. Abhipsa Anamika, Adv.

Applicant in person

Municipal Corporation Of Greater Mumbai Mr. Ashish Wad, Adv. Ms. Tamali Wad, Adv.

Mr. Sidharth Mahajan, Adv. Ms. Sukriti Jaggi, Adv. Mr. Ajeyo Sharma, Adv.

M/S. J S Wad And Co.

Intervenor

Mr. Subhash Chandran, Adv.

Mr. Biju P Raman, AOR

55937&55938

Mr. M. Shoeb Alam, Adv.

Mr. Talha Abdul Rahman, AOR

55935

Dr. Ishwar Gilada, Adv.

Mr. Rohit Rathi, AOR

54897/20

Mr. Shashank Deo Sudhi, Adv.

Mr. Mukesh Kumar, Applicant in person

Ms. Aparna Bhat, AOR

Ms. Karishma Maria, Adv.

UPON hearing the counsel the Court made the following

#### ORDER

Four weeks' time is granted to all the States and Union of India to file affidavit to bring on record various measures as indicated in the signed reportable order for consideration and further directions.

(MEENAKSHI KOHLI) ASTT. REGISTRAR-cum-PS

(RENU KAPOOR) BRANCH OFFICER

[Signed reportable order is placed on the file]