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

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

29th August, 2020

Dear *Chief Secretary,*

Kindly refer to Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA)'s Order of even number issued today whereby guidelines on Unlock 4, for opening up of more activities in areas outside the Containment Zones have been issued.

2. In Unlock 4, which will come into effect from 1st September, 2020, the process of phased re-opening of activities has been extended further. Lockdown, however, shall continue to be implemented strictly in the containment zones till 30th September, 2020. Containment Zones shall be demarcated by the District authorities at micro level with strict perimeter control and strict enforcement of containment measures as per guidelines of the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MOHFW).

3. As per the practice, the guidelines on Unlock 4 are based on feedback received from States and UTs, and consultations held with the related Central Ministries and Departments. Under the process of phased re-opening, following activities, in areas outside the Containment Zones only, have been permitted:

- Metro rail with effect from 7th September 2020 in a graded manner, to be allowed by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MOHUA)/ Ministry of Railways (MOR), in consultation with MHA. SOP will be issued by MOHUA.
- Social /academic /sports/ entertainment /cultural/ religious/ political functions and other congregations with a ceiling of 100 persons and by following health protocol, with effect from 21st September 2020.
- Open air theatres with effect from 21st September 2020.
- Schools, colleges, educational and coaching institutions will continue to remain closed for students and regular class activity up to 30th September 2020. However, following will be permitted, with effect from 21st September 2020 and SOP will be issued by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MoHFW):

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- a. States/ UTs may permit upto 50% of teaching and non-teaching staff to be called to the schools at a time for online teaching/ tele- counselling and related work.
- b. Students of classes 9 to 12 may be permitted to visit their schools voluntary and withwritten consent of their parents/ guardians, for taking guidance from their teachers.
- c. Skill or Entrepreneurship training will be permitted in National Skill Training Institutes, Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs), Short term training centres registered with National Skill Development Corporation or State Skill Development Missions or other Ministries of Government of India or State Governments.

National Institute for Entrepreneurship and Small Business Development (NIESBUD), Indian Institute of Entrepreneurship (IIE) and their training providers will also be permitted.

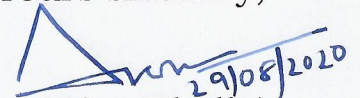
- Higher Education Institutions only for research scholars (Ph.D.) and post-graduate students of technical and professional programmes requiring laboratory/ experimental works. These will be permitted by the Department of Higher Education (DHE) in consultation with MHA, based on the assessment of the situation, and keeping in view incidence of COVID-19 in the States/ UTs.

4. As emphasized in my earlier D.O. letters, I would like to reiterate again that States/Union Territories cannot dilute restrictions imposed vide the aforesaid guidelines issued by MHA. State/ UT Governments shall not impose any local lockdown, outside the containment zones, without prior consultation with the Central Government. Further 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. No separate permission/ approval/ e-permit will be required for such movements.

5. I would urge you to ensure compliance of the guidelines on Unlock 4, and direct all concerned authorities for their 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)
29/08/2020

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