



THE ADMINISTRATION OF UNION TERRITORY OF LADAKH
Disaster Management Relief, Rehabilitation & Reconstruction Department.
(State Executive Committee, Ladakh Disaster Management Authority)

Tele/Fax: [01982-255567](tel:01982-255567), [01982-255568](tel:01982-255568); e-mail: ladakhdivcom@gmail.com

Subject: - COVID-19 Management - Guidelines/instructions -reg.

Order No: - 32-DM (UTL) of 2021,
Dated: - 01.12.2021.

In exercise of the powers conferred under section 24 of the Disaster Management Act, 2005, and in compliance to the order of National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) vide Order No.40-3/2020-DM-I (A) dated:- 30.11.2021, the State Executive Committee, Ladakh Disaster Management Authority hereby directs continuation of this office Order no. 27 DM (UTL) of 2021 dated:- 01.10.2021, (copy enclosed) till **31.12.2021** in the Union territory of Ladakh for the effective control of COVID-19 with following modified paragraph & Guiding Principles respectively:

Para 1(i) of General instructions:

All passengers arriving in Ladakh both by air and road are advised to get themselves tested for COVID-19, not earlier than 96 hours before their arrival in Ladakh from ICMR approved test laboratories. **The Tourists arriving in Ladakh both by air and road must have a negative RT-PCR report not older than 96 hours.** Such person(s)/Tourists who is/are without a valid COVID-19 test report of not older than **96 hours** before their arrival will undergo mandatory COVID-19 RTPCR/RAT test as mandated by the administration; and shall be quarantined at quarantine center or place of stay, at his/her own expenses till the time they are declared Covid negative. However mandatory production of a negative RTPCR report not older than 96 hours before arrival into Ladakh shall be exempted for such visitors who have been inoculated with both the doses of COVID-19 vaccine and 15 days have elapsed since the date of second dose, provided such visitor has no clinical symptoms of COVID-19. The District Administrations - Leh & Kargil, will put in place a reliable and verifiable system in consultation with the Health Department for the purpose. **Further the District Administration may get incoming passengers into Ladakh tested for Covid on arrival whenever deemed necessary.**

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Addition in subject-2 **Guiding Principles:**

9. **Rigorous Surveillance of International Passengers:** Considering the emergence of highly mutant Covid-19 variant i.e. B.1.1.529, named Omicron cases in few countries of Africa. It is essential that rigorous surveillance of international arrivals from countries designated as '**At Risk**' is done. Past travel details of passengers coming through international flights should be reviewed and the protocol provided by the MoHFW shall be strictly ensured by the District Administrations including testing on disembarkation of international travelers coming from '**At Risk**' countries and to send all positive samples for genome sequencing for INSACOG Labs in a prompt manner.
10. **Enhanced Testing:** Strengthening of testing infrastructure and strictly implement the testing guidelines.
11. **Monitoring of Hotspots:** Continued monitoring of Hotspots with intensive testing and sending of positive samples quickly to genome sequencing to designated INSACOG labs.
12. **Ensuring prompt dispatch of samples for Genome Sequencing:** Contact of international travelers must be closely tracked and tested as per MoHFW guidelines and the sample resulting positive are to be sent to designated INSACOG Genome Sequencing Laboratories (IGSLs), as per the Indian SARS-CoV-2 Genomics Consortium (INSACOG) Guidance Document.
13. **Regular Press Briefing for promoting Covid Appropriate Behavior & Vaccination:** The District Administration will regularly address the concerns of community through press briefings, so that the community is well informed regarding the measures undertaken and advised to follow measures like covid Appropriate Behavior & getting vaccination.

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Sd/-
(Saugat Biswas), IAS
Member Secretary,
State Executive Committee,
Ladakh Disaster Management Authority.

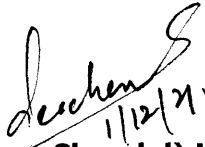
No:-DMRRRR/UTL/SOP/COVID-19/2020/8218-37

Dated: -01.12.2021.

Copy for information to the:-

1. Joint Secretary, Jammu, Kashmir & Ladakh, Ministry of Home Affairs, GoI.
2. Joint Secretary, Disaster Management, Ministry of Home Affairs, GoI
3. Commissioner/Secretary, Health & ME/Civil Aviation/Tourism/Information Department, Ladakh.
4. Divisional Commissioner, Ladakh.
5. Inspector General of Police, Ladakh.
6. Deputy Commissioner, Leh/Kargil.
7. Sr. Superintendent of Police, Leh/Kargil.
8. Director, Health & Medical Education, Ladakh.
9. All Heads of the Departments, UT of Ladakh.

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10. Chief Medical Officer, Leh/Kargil.
11. OSD with the Lieutenant Governor for information of the Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor.
12. Pvt. Secretary to Advisor to the Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor for information of the Advisor.
13. Pvt. Secretary to the Chairman/Chief Executive Councilor, LAHDC Leh/Kargil for information of the Hon'ble CECs.
14. Director, KBR Airport, Leh.
15. District Informatics Officer, (NIC), Leh for uploading on the UT Ladakh website.
16. Assistant Director Information, Leh/Kargil for necessary action.
17. President Hotel/Guest House owners Association, Leh/Kargil.
18. All Heads of religious organizations of Leh/Kargil.
19. Order/Stock file. (w.2.s.c).


11/12/21
(Deachen Chondol) KAS,
Under Secretary,
DMRRR, Ladakh.

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

Government of India
Ministry of Home Affairs

North Block, New Delhi-110001

Dated 30th November, 2021

ORDER

Whereas, an Order of even number dated 28th September, 2021, was issued to ensure compliance to the containment measures for COVID-19, as conveyed *vide* Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MoHFW) DO No. Z.28015/85/2021-DM Cell dated 21st September, 2021, which was further extended for a period upto 30.11.2021 *vide* Order of even number dated 28.10.2021;

And whereas, considering the emergence of highly mutant COVID-19 variant B.1.1529 cases in few countries of Africa, MoHFW *vide* DO No. 25/S(HFW)/CVariant/2021 dated 25th November, 2021, has issued an advisory to all States and Union Territories (UTs), for rigorous screening and testing of all international arrivals, as per their guidelines issued from time to time. Further the contacts of these international travelers must also be closely tracked and tested as per MoHFW guidelines and the samples of travelers turning positive are sent to the designated INSACOG Genome Sequencing Laboratories (IGSLs) promptly, as per the Indian SARS-CoV-2 Genomics Consortium (INSACOG) Guidance Document. State Surveillance Officers must also establish a close coordination with their designated/tagged IGSLs for expediting results of genomic analysis, and the States/UTs should immediately undertake necessary public health measures, in case presence of Variants of Concern/Variants of interest (VOCs/Vols) is reported by the INSACOG network;

Whereas, in exercise of the powers conferred under section 6(2)(i) of the Disaster Management Act, 2005 (DM Act), National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) has directed the undersigned to issue an Order, for containment of COVID-19 in the country;

Now, therefore, in exercise of the powers, conferred under Section 10(2)(1) of the DM Act, the undersigned, hereby directs that the Order of the Ministry of Home Affairs of even number, dated 28th September, 2021, to ensure compliance with the Prompt & Effective Containment Measures for COVID-19, as conveyed *vide* Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MoHFW) DO No. Z.28015/85/2021-DM Cell, dated 21st September, 2021, will remain in force upto the 31st December, 2021. Further it is directed to ensure strict compliance to the aforesaid MoHFW advisory (**Annexure-I**) dated 25th November, 2021.


Union Home Secretary 30/11/2021

and, Chairperson, National Executive Committee (NEC)

To:

1. The Secretaries of Ministries/ Departments of Government of India
2. 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



भारत सरकार
स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण विभाग
स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय

Government of India
Department of Health and Family Welfare
Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

राजेश भूषण, आईएएस
सचिव

RAJESH BHUSHAN, IAS
SECRETARY



D.O. No.25/S(HFW)/CVariant/2021
25th November 2021

Dear Colleague,

This is regarding the Variants of Concern/Variants of Interest (VoCs/VoIs) of the SARS-CoV-2 virus and the Whole Genome Sequencing activity being coordinated in the country through the Indian SARS-CoV-2 Genomics Consortium (INSACOG) and National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC), which is the Nodal Agency for INSACOG. The aim of this activity is tracking and monitoring emergence and transmission of COVID-19 VoCs/VoIs in the country.

2. In this regard, various letters issued by this Ministry dated 12th Nov. 2021, 3rd Nov. 2021, 26th Oct. 2021, 20th Oct. 2021, and 27th August 2021 may please be referred to. All these letters reiterated the criticality of scrupulous implementation and rigorous monitoring of the three-pronged surveillance strategy of screening and testing international travellers & their contacts, routine sentinel surveillance and surge surveillance, and timely sending of RT-PCR positive samples to designated INSACOG Genome Sequencing Laboratories (IGSLs).

3. It has now been reported by NCDC that multiple cases of a **COVID-19 variant B.1.1529** have been reported in **Botswana (3 cases), South Africa (6 cases) and Honk Kong (1 case)**. This variant is reported to have a significantly high number of mutations, and thus, has serious public health implications for the country, in view of recently relaxed visa restrictions and opening up of international travel.

4. It is therefore imperative that ALL international travellers travelling from and transiting through these countries, (they are part of the "at risk" Country Category of international travellers coming to India) and also including all other 'at risk' countries indicated in the revised Guidelines for International Arrivals issued by this Ministry dated 11.11.2021, are subjected to **rigorous screening and testing**, as per MoHFW Guidelines. The contacts of these international travellers must also be closely tracked and tested as per MoHFW guidelines.

.....contd/-

5. You are also requested to ensure that samples of travellers turning positive are sent to the designated IGSLs promptly as per the INSACOG Guidance Document issued by this Ministry available at <https://www.mohfw.gov.in/pdf/INSACOGGuidanceDocumentdated15July2021final.pdf> State Surveillance Officers must also establish close coordination with their designated/tagged IGSLs for expediting results of genomic analysis, so that necessary public health measures may be undertaken by the States/UTs in case presence of VOCs/Vols is reported by the INSACOG network.

6. It is critical for the States/UTs to adhere to the overarching 'Test-Track-Treat-Vaccinate' principle to ensure stringent implementation of containment measures as per MoHFW guidelines, and to prevent the spread of VoC/Vols and formation of clusters of cases.

Warm Regards.

Yours sincerely



(Rajesh Bhushan)

**Additional Chief Secretary /Principal Secretary /Secretary (Health)
All States/UTs**

Copy for information to: Director NCDC



राजेश भूषण, आईएएस
सचिव

RAJESH BHUSHAN, IAS
SECRETARY



भारत सरकार
स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण विभाग
स्वास्थ्य एवं परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय
Government of India

Department of Health and Family Welfare
Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
DO No. Z.28015/185/2021-DMCell
27th November, 2021

Dear Advisor,

Please refer to this Ministry's letter dated 25th November regarding the mutation of SARS-CoV-2 variant (B.1.1.529; named Omicron), reported from South Africa on 24th November 2021. WHO has designated this variant as a new Variant of Concern (VoC).

2. As a proactive step, Government has already placed countries where this VoC has been found in the category of 'At-Risk' countries for additional follow up measures of international travelers coming into India from these countries.

3. In view of the possible threat that this VoC can pose to the nation, it is imperative that the intensive containment, active surveillance, increased coverage of vaccination and Covid Appropriate Behaviour must be enforced in the field in a very proactive manner to effectively manage this VoC.

Rigorous surveillance of International Passengers

4. It is essential that the disease surveillance network in the country is geared up for rigorous follow up of all international travelers from all countries especially countries **designated as "At Risk"**. There is already a reporting mechanism for obtaining past travel details of passengers coming through international flights this should be reviewed at your level and the protocol provided by this Ministry should be strictly ensured including testing on disembarkation of international travelers coming from "At Risk" Countries and sending all positive samples for genome sequencing to INSACOG Labs in a prompt manner.

Enhanced Testing

5. Ample testing infrastructure need to be operationalized to tackle any surge due to this mutated virus. It has been observed that the overall testing as well as the proportion of RT-PCR tests have declined in some States. In the absence of sufficient testing, it is extremely difficult to determine the true level of infection spread. States must strengthen the testing infrastructure and strictly implement the testing guidelines.

Monitoring of Hotspots

6. Continued monitoring of "Hotspots" (areas where recent cluster of positive cases have emerged). In all such "hotspots", saturation testing and sending of positive samples quickly for genome sequencing to designated INSACOG Labs must be ensured in collaboration with Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Govt. of India and National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC). States should keep a close check on the emerging trend of cases and the positivity in an area and quickly delineate hotspots for effective containment

of Covid-19. States should aim at achieving positivity rate below 5% while focusing on increasing the number of tests and share of RT-PCR tests to aid in early identification.

Ensuring augmentation of Health Infrastructure

7. Having adequate availability of health facilities across the state is essential to ensure that there are no delays in providing care. Trained human resources, infrastructure, logistics and procurement should be planned & strengthened considering the geographical spread of the pandemic and there shall be no compromise in providing prompt quality treatment to the patients. States are requested to optimally utilize the financial support provided by Govt. of India under ECRP-I&II diligently.

Ensuring prompt dispatch of samples for Genome Sequencing

8. INSACOG has been established to monitor the circulating variants in the country. It is important at this juncture that States must significantly increase sampling from the general population/community for genome sequencing by sending these samples to INSACOG Lab network as per the policy.

Regular Press Briefings by State for promoting Covid Appropriate Behavior & Vaccination

9. We have seen in the last surges in the country that discourse on COVID is often influenced by misinformation leading to anxiety in the masses. To address this, all States should proactively & regularly address the concerns of community through press briefings & State bulletins providing evidence based information. States may also ensure that community is well informed regarding the measures undertaken and advised to follow measures like Covid Appropriate Behaviour & getting vaccinated.

10. It is critical for the State/UTs to adhere to the overarching 'Test-Track-Treat-Vaccinate and Covid Appropriate Behaviour' principle to ensure stringent implementation of containment measures as per MoHFW guidelines.

11. I am sure that under your continued leadership we will be able to maintain the momentum and build on the progress made so far to address the latest threat of the pandemic. Ministry of Health and Family Welfare assures of all requisite support to the States/UTs.

Warm Regards.

Yours sincerely,



(Rajesh Bhushan)

Mr. Umang Narula
Advisor to Lt. Governor
UT Administration of Ladakh
Email : advisor-lg-ladakh@gov.in



THE ADMINISTRATION OF UNION TERRITORY OF LADAKH
Disaster Management Relief, Rehabilitation &
Reconstruction Department.
(State Executive Committee, Ladakh Disaster Management Authority)
Tele/Fax: 01982-255567, 01982-255568; e-mail: ladakhdivcom@gmail.com

Subject: - COVID-19 Management - Guidelines/instructions -reg.

Order No: - 30-DM (UTL) of 2021,
Dated: - 30.10.2021.

In exercise of the powers conferred under section 24 of the Disaster Management Act, 2005, and in compliance to the order of National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) vide Order No.40-3/2020-DM-I (A) dated:- 28.10.2021, the State Executive Committee, Ladakh Disaster Management Authority hereby directs continuation of this office Order no. 27 DM (UTL) of 2021 dated:- 01.10.2021, (copy enclosed) till **30.11.2021** in the Union territory of Ladakh for the effective control of COVID-19.

Sd/-
(Saugat Biswas), IAS
Member Secretary,
State Executive Committee,
Ladakh Disaster Management Authority.

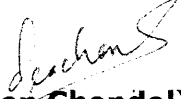
No:-DMRRRR/UTL/SOP/COVID-19/2020/7496-109. Dated: 30.10.2021.

Copy for information to the:-

1. Joint Secretary, Jammu, Kashmir & Ladakh, Ministry of Home Affairs, GoI.
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3. Commissioner/Secretary, Health & ME/Civil Aviation/Tourism/Information Department, Ladakh.
4. Divisional Commissioner, Ladakh.
5. Inspector General of Police, Ladakh.
6. Deputy Commissioner, Leh/Kargil.
7. Sr. Superintendent of Police, Leh/Kargil.
8. Director, Health & Medical Education, Ladakh.
9. All Heads of the Departments, UT of Ladakh.
10. Chief Medical Officer, Leh/Kargil.
11. OSD with the Lieutenant Governor for information of the Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor.
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Saugat Biswas

15. District Informatics Officer, (NIC), Leh for uploading on the UT Ladakh website.
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18. All Heads of religious organizations of Leh/Kargil.
19. Order/Stock file. (w.2.s.c).


(Deachen Chondol) KAS,
Under Secretary,
Disaster Management,
Relief, Rehabilitation &
Reconstruction Department.



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Disaster Management, Relief, Rehabilitation &
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(State Executive Committee, Ladakh Disaster Management Authority)
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Subject: - COVID-19 Management - Guidelines/instructions -reg.

Order No: - 27- DM (UTL) of 2021,
Dated: - 01.10.2021.

Whereas, the National Disaster Management Authority, (NDMA) vide Order No.40-3/2020-DM-I(A) dated: -28.08.2021 had issued guidelines for states /UTs to consider the containment measures for COVID-19, as conveyed vide MoHFW advisory dated, 28.06.2021, which were in force up to 30-9-2021.

Whereas, the National Disaster Management Authority, (NDMA) vide Order No.40-3/2020-DM-I(A) dated: -28.09.2021 has directed all the States/UTs authorities for containment of Covid 19 in the country, as conveyed vide Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MoHFW) DO No. Z.28015/85/2021-DM Cell dated 21 September, 2021, for continued focus on 'Prompt & Effective Containment Measures' as well as "Acceleration in the Pace and Coverage of Vaccination' until 31-10-2021.

Now, therefore, under the directions of the aforesaid orders of NDMA, GoI and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 24 of the Disaster Management Act, 2005, the State Executive Committee, Ladakh Disaster Management Authority hereby directs that compliance to the aforesaid MoHFW advisory dated 21.09.2021 (**Annexure – I**) be enforced in the Union Territory of Ladakh for containment of COVID-19 in the country, **until 31.10.2021** with the following COVID-19 containment guidelines.

1. General instructions:

- See here*
- (i) All passengers arriving in Ladakh both by air and road are advised to get themselves tested for COVID-19, not earlier than 96 hours before their arrival in Ladakh from ICMR approved test laboratories. **The Tourists arriving in Ladakh both by air and road must have a negative RT-PCR report not older than 96 hours.** Such person(s)/Tourists who is/are without a valid COVID-19 test report of not older than **96 hours** before their arrival will undergo mandatory COVID-19 RTPCR/RAT test as mandated by the administration; and shall be quarantined at quarantine center or place of stay, at his/her own expenses till the time they are declared Covid negative. However mandatory production of a negative RTPCR report not older than 96 hours before arrival into Ladakh shall be exempted for such visitors who have been inoculated with both the doses of COVID-19 vaccine

and 15 days have elapsed since the date of second dose, provided such visitor has no clinical symptoms of COVID-19. The District Administrations - Leh & Kargil, will put in place a reliable and verifiable system in consultation with the Health Department for the purpose

- (ii) All Labours arriving in Ladakh both by air and road are advised to come through contractor(s) or labour agencies with COVID-19 test report of **96 hours** before their arrival in Ladakh form ICMR approved test laboratories. Such labourers who arrive in Ladakh, without any COVID-19 test report shall be turned back at the cost of contractors/mates at the point of entry.
- (iii) Incoming passenger(s) who is/are declared suspects in the Aarogya Setu app will mandatorily be home quarantined for 14 days. In case, they develop any symptoms, they shall inform the District Surveillance Officer of the respective district immediately. Such persons will be administered a COVID-19 test by the District Surveillance Officer and till such time their test report is declared negative, they will have to stay under home quarantine along-with other family members.
- (iv) Any person(s) reported with severe COVID-19 symptom will be isolated by the District Administration along with their contacts irrespective of the mode of travel.
- (v) Persons arriving in Ladakh on official duty or duty which entails visiting offices or coming in contact with large number of people, or tourists, must strictly follow COVID-19 precautionary measures such as hand sanitization, social distancing, wearing of face mask at all times during the course of their stay in Ladakh. In case, they develop any symptoms, they shall inform the District Surveillance Officer of the respective districts immediately. Such persons will be administered a COVID-19 test by the District Surveillance Officer and till such time their test report is declared negative, they will have to stay under mandatory quarantine.
- (vi) The personnel of Defense and Central Armed Police Forces returning to duty by road or special flights are exempted from the above provisions and shall be allowed to proceed to their respective Units/Formations for necessary quarantine as per their internal procedures.
- (vii) All offices and workplaces in the Union Territory shall be sanitized on daily basis and in accordance with the SOP of the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare issued from time to time. Every Officer/Official/Employee will maintain sanitization facility outside their rooms and waiting areas, for each and every visitor and ensure compulsory wearing of face masks by each visitor. The office in-charge/head of the office will nominate an officer/official/employee by formal orders for ensuring that such hand sanitization and mask

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compliance by every visitor visiting their offices is ensured. Every office will ensure thermal temperature screening at the gate.

- (viii) All Hotels and other hospitality services will follow the SOP of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India issued from time to time. Hotel/Guest house that accept bookings for guests (irrespective of their mode of arrival) will maintain details of guests with entire travel history, ensure daily screening of all their guests and report any guest who is symptomatic to the District Surveillance Officer. Daily reports of screening will be submitted to the District Surveillance Officer by every Hotel/Guest house of both the Districts in a devised format to be circulated by the respective District Magistrates.
- (ix) The owners of Hotels/Guest houses/Home stays must also ensure social distancing, availability of hand sanitizer at their lobbies, restaurants, lawns and business centers and ensure frequent sanitization of common areas and spaces. The District Administration of the respective Districts shall get these facilities inspected periodically.
- (x) All shops, restaurants (including in hotels) including barber-shops, saloons and beauty parlors, will follow the SOPs of Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Govt. of India issued from time to time. The District Magistrates will ensure regular inspections of shops/barbershops/restaurants/kitchens of restaurants etc.
- (xi) There shall be regulated parking on roads of bazaars, market areas by the respective District Administration to prevent congestion and ensure social distancing.
- (xii) Schools/educational institutes shall mandatory follow the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP), regarding health and safety precautions issued by School Education Department/Higher Education Department from time to time.
- (xiii) Swimming pools being used for training of sportspersons shall mandatory follow Standard Operating Procedure (SOP), regarding health and safety precautions issued by the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, GoI.
- (xiv) Cinemas/theatres/multiplexes shall mandatory follow the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP), regarding health and safety precautions as per SOP issued by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, GoI.
- (xv) Entertainment parks and similar places shall mandatory follow the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP), regarding health and safety precautions issued by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MoHFW), GoI.

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- (xvi) Business to Business (B2B) Exhibitions shall mandatory follow the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP), regarding health and safety as per SOP issued by the Department of Commerce, GoI.
- (xvii) Religious places/places of worship will follow the Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) as per the precaution issued by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MoHFW).
- (xviii) Social/ religious/ academic/ entertainment/ educational/ cultural/sports/ religious gathering/political functions and other congregations will be permitted outside the containment zones up to a ceiling of 25 persons only or 50% of the hall capacity, whichever is less in case of indoor spaces and such gathering will be permitted up to a ceiling of 50 persons or 50% of the capacity of the space with social distancing, whichever is less in case of open space, only with the prior permission of the respective District Magistrates. Wearing of face masks, maintaining social distancing, provision of thermal scanning and use of hand wash or sanitizer will be mandatory. These gatherings shall also be monitored and in case of violation of physical distancing and mask usage norms, necessary enforcement and penal actions should be taken. As a matter of abundant caution, no mass gatherings should be allowed in areas identified as containment zones and in districts reporting more than 5% of case positivity.
- (xix) Marriages (attended by up to 50 persons) and funerals/last rites (attended by up to 20 persons) may be allowed outside the containment zone with the prior permission of the respective District Magistrates. Public transport (buses, taxis or any other authorized vehicle of public transport) will ply with a maximum of only 50% of its capacity as and when they are allowed to ply by respective DDMA, Leh and Kargil.
- (xx) The District Magistrates based on their assessment of the situation in their respective districts may impose night curfew, weekend curfew and other restrictions with a view to contain the spread of COVID-19.
- (xxi) The District Magistrates shall take all necessary measures to promote COVID-19 appropriate behavior within their respective Districts and shall also ensure strict enforcement of wearing of face masks, hand hygiene and social distancing norms. They shall also take necessary steps to regulate crowds in markets, public transport and various gatherings as per SOPs issued by MoHFW, GoI.

2. **Guiding Principles**

- i. Monitoring of cases by District Magistrates in their respective districts be done on a regular basis. Necessary action for containment and health infrastructure up-gradation be done, by further micro analysis

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based on cluster of cases at the district level.

- ii. Case positivity to be calculated based on total positive cases vis-à-vis samples tested during the week as one of the prime indicators of spread of infection in district. Test positivity of 10% or higher case in the last one week would imply the need for stringent containment and restrictions so as to control the spread of infection.
- iii. The districts need to analyze bed occupancy oxygen and ICU beds vis-a-vis availability of health infrastructure to ensure that it doesn't get overwhelmed. It is important to emphasize on up-gradation of health infrastructure and district shall plan such upgrades after having duly analyzed the case trajectory on a regular basis or if bed occupancy is more than 60% on either oxygen supported or ICU beds.
- iv. Restriction and relaxation shall be imposed and monitored based on weekly case positivity or a high bed occupancy (Oxygen and ICU beds) and restrictions if any shall be imposed without delay and for a minimum to 14 days besides continued focus on the **fivefold strategy of Test- Track- Treat- Vaccinate and adherence to Covid Appropriate Behavior.**
- v. In coming months various festivities will follow one after the other. This is a critical period as there may be tendency to ignore covid-safe behavior during festivals, resulting in large gatherings, events, fairs etc. It is critical to enforce adherence to guidelines to allow festivities in a cautious, safe and covid appropriate manner. Any laxity in implementation of Covid Appropriate Behavior could lead to serious consequences and can result in a surge in cases. To safely navigate through the festive season without any adverse consequences in the form of infection outbreak, it is important that the district administrations diligently follow the five pillars of Covid -19 Management i.e. "**Test- Track- Treat- Vaccinate and adherence to Covid Appropriate Behavior.**"

➤ **Test**

- a) To ensure availability of sufficient testing facilities with particular focus on rural areas. For timely detection, Rapid Antigen Test (RAT) shall be made available in rural and remote areas. Testing should be ramped up in areas reporting high number of cases, and/or increasing trend/high positivity to aid early identification.
- b) To ensure sufficient RT-PCR machines and RAT kits to enable required level of testing across the two districts particularly during the whole festival season and adequate logistics planning accordingly.
- c) Undertake testing in areas with specific and vulnerable population to aid early detection.

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➤ **Track**

- d) Containment Zones shall be clearly delineated as per the guidelines issued by MoHFW based on cluster to contain spread of infection.
- e) Active case search through formation of special team in containment zones.
- f) Effective contact tracing, their testing and monitoring of high risk contacts.

➤ **Treat**

- g) Upgradation of health infrastructure based on case trajectory in the district is crucial to avoid case fatality.
- h) Availability of oxygen through oxygen cylinders and concentrators particularly in rural areas.
- i) Adequate availability of drugs in all Covid dedicated facilities including maintaining buffer stock of drugs.
- j) Availability of required health infrastructure in rural as per the SOP on Covid-19 Containment & Management in Rural, Peri-Urban & Tribal Areas dated 12 June, 2021.
- k) Similarly, upgrading health infrastructure to manage pediatric Covid-19 cases vide Guidelines for Management of Covid 19 in Children.
- l) Undertaking upskilling/reskilling of medical staff and fields functionaries on latest Clinical Management Protocol and availability of sufficient trained manpower in all Covid dedicated facilities.
- m) To monitor mutations, the Health Department shall send required number of samples as per the SOPs already issued for Whole Genome Sequencing to INSACoG Labs.

➤ **Vaccination:**

- i. Vaccination of eligible age groups may be accelerated
- ii. Coverage of eligible second dose beneficiaries shall be prioritized.
- iii. Optimal usage of allocated doses through minimal wastage.

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➤ **COVID Appropriate Behavior:**

- i. Community engagement is a critical element of sustained Covid 19 management.
- ii. Effective IEC in local language duly utilizing medical professionals and local influencers to promote Covid safe festivities.
- iii. Need to undertake effective communication with community on elements of Covid appropriate behavior which includes use of masks/face covers, following physical distancing (*2 gaj ki doori*) and practicing respiratory & hand hygiene.
- iv. Need for monitoring the adherence to Covid Appropriate Behavior and guidelines.
- v. The **National Directives for Covid 19 Management** as specified in **Annexure II**, shall be strictly followed in letter and spirit.

3. Strict Adherence to the prescribed SOPs:

- i. All activities have been permitted outside Containment Zones and SOPs have been prescribed for various activities. These include: movement by passenger trains; air travel; metro trains; schools; higher educational institutions; hotels and restaurants; shopping malls, multiplexes and entertainment parks; yoga centers and gymnasiums; exhibitions, assemblies and congregations, etc.
- ii. The SOPs, as updated from time to time, shall be strictly enforced by the authorities concerned, who shall be responsible for their strict observance.

4. Local Restrictions:

- i. The District Magistrates, based on their assessment of the situation, may impose local restrictions at district/ sub-district and city/ ward level, with a view to containing the spread of COVID- 19 by ensuring compliance on the focused containment measures as mentioned in MoHFW advisory vide DO no: Z.28015/85/2021-DM Cell dated 21.09.2021. (**Annexure I**)
- ii. There shall be no restriction on inter-State and intra-State movement of persons and goods including those for cross land-border trade under

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treaties with neighbouring countries. No separate permission/ approval/ e-permit will be required for such movements.

5. Protection of vulnerable persons:

- i. Persons above 65 years of age, persons with co-morbidities, pregnant women, and children below the age of 10 years are advised to take necessary precautions.

6. Use of Aarogya Setu:

- i. Use of Aarogya Setu may continue on best effort basis on compatible mobile phones. This will facilitate timely provision of medical attention to those individuals who are at risk.

7. Strict enforcement of the guidelines:

- i. The District Magistrates shall strictly enforce the above guidelines/ measures.
- ii. For the enforcement of social distancing, the District Magistrates may, as far as possible, use the provision of section 144 of the Criminal Procedure Code. (Cr.PC) of 1973.

8. Penal provisions:

- i. Any person violating the above guidelines/measures will be liable to be proceeded against as per the provision of section 51-60 of the Disaster Management Act, 2005, besides, legal action under Section 188 of IPC and other legal provisions as applicable.



Sd/-
(Saugat Biswas), IAS
Member Secretary,
State Executive Committee,
Ladakh Disaster Management Authority.

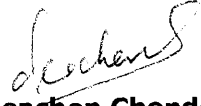
No:-DMRRR/UTL/SOP/COVID-19/2021/6527-49

Dated: - 01 .10.2021

Copy for information to the:-

1. Principal Secretary, Health & ME/Revenue Department, Ladakh.
2. Joint Secretary, Jammu, Kashmir & Ladakh, Ministry of Home Affairs, GoI.
3. Joint Secretary, Disaster Management, Ministry of Home Affairs, GoI.
4. Additional Director General of Police, Ladakh.
5. Commissioner/Secretary, GAD/R&B/H&UD/School Education Department Ladakh.
6. Divisional Commissioner, Ladakh.
7. Administrative Secretary, PDD/YS&S Department, Ladakh.
8. Secretary, Information/Higher Education/Social Welfare Department, Ladakh.
9. Secretary, Tourism/Labour & Employment Department, Ladakh.
10. Deputy Commissioner, Leh/Kargil.

11. Sr. Superintendent of Police, Leh/Kargil.
12. Director, Health & Medical Education, Ladakh.
13. All Heads of the Departments, UT of Ladakh.
14. Chief Medical Officer, Leh/Kargil.
15. OSD with the Lieutenant Governor for information of the Hon'ble Lieutenant Governor.
16. Pvt. Secretary to Advisor to the Hon'ble Lt Governor for information of the Advisor.
17. Pvt. Secretary to the Chairman/Chief Executive Councilor, LAHDC Leh/Kargil for information of the Hon'ble CECs.
18. Director, KBR Airport, Leh.
19. District Informatics Officer, Leh for uploading on the UT Ladakh website.
20. Assistant Director Information, Leh/Kargil for necessary action.
21. President Hotel/Guest House owners Association, Leh/Kargil.
22. All Religious Heads of religious organizations of Leh/Kargil.
23. Order/Stock file. (w.2.s.c).


(Deachen Chondol)
Under Secretary
DMRRR, Ladakh.