Dear Chief Secretary,

Hon’ble Prime Minister, in his address to the nation on 14th April, 2020 announced that the lockdown in India, which has been imposed to contain the spread of COVID-19 pandemic, will have to be extended till 3rd May, 2020. In pursuance of this announcement, Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) issued an order dated April 14, 2020, copies of which have been communicated to you vide my earlier D.O. letter of even number dated 14th April, 2020.

2. Hon’ble Prime Minister, in his address, also announced the opening up of select necessary activities from 20th April, 2020. An order enclosing, the consolidated revised guidelines in this regard has been issued today, copy of which is enclosed.

3. With regard to the aforesaid order, the following is emphasized:

i. The activities mentioned in the consolidated revised guidelines (Paras 5 to 20) will not be permitted in containment zones within hotspots, demarcated by the States/Union Territories/District Administrations as per guidelines of the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MoHFW), Government of India.

ii. If any new area is included in the category of containment zone, the activities allowed in that area till the time of its categorization as a containment zone, will be suspended, except for those activities which are specifically permitted under the consolidated revised guidelines.

iii. The activities allowed under the consolidated revised guidelines will be withdrawn immediately, if any of the lockdown measures are violated, risking the spread of COVID-19. All entities, in the Government and private sectors, and members of public should follow the guidelines strictly.

4. I have already emphasized vide my earlier D.O. letters of even number dated 31.03.2020 and 14th April, 2020, that States/Union Territories cannot dilute restrictions imposed vide the aforesaid guidelines issued by MHA. States / UTs may, however, impose stricter measures, than these guidelines as per requirement of the local areas.

5. I would again urge you to ensure compliance of the above instructions, and direct all concerned authorities for their strict implementation. You may also ensure that these guidelines are communicated to all the field agencies and wide publicity is given for the benefit of public.

With regards,

Encl: as above.

Yours sincerely,

(Ajay Bhalla)

Chief Secretaries of All States
(As per standard list)
ORDER

Whereas, in exercise of the powers, conferred under Section 10(2)(I) of the Disaster Management Act 2005, the undersigned, in his capacity as Chairperson, National Executive Committee, has issued an Order dated 14th April, 2020 that the lockdown measures stipulated in the Consolidated Guidelines of Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) for containment of COVID-19 epidemic in the country, will continue to remain in force upto 3rd May, 2020 to contain the spread of COVID-19 in the country;

Whereas, to mitigate hardship to the public, select additional activities will be allowed, which will come into effect from 20th April, 2020. However, these additional activities will be operationalized by States/ Union Territories (UTs)/ District Administrations based on strict compliance to the existing guidelines on lockdown measures. Before operating these relaxations, States/ UTs/ District Administrations shall ensure that all preparatory arrangements with regard to social distancing in offices, workplaces, factories and establishments, as also other sectoral requirements are in place. The consolidated revised guidelines incorporating these relaxations are enclosed;

Whereas, the consolidated revised guidelines will not apply in containment zones, as demarcated by States/ UTs/ District administrations. If any new area is included in the category of a containment zone, the activities allowed in that area till the time of its categorization as a containment zone, will be suspended except for those activities as are specifically permitted under the guidelines of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW), Government of India;

Whereas, in exercise of the powers, conferred under Section 10(2)(I) of the Disaster Management Act, 2005, the undersigned, in his capacity as Chairperson, National Executive Committee, hereby issues directions to all the all Ministries/ Departments of Government of India, State/Union Territory Governments and State/Union Territory Authorities for the strict implementation of enclosed consolidated revised guidelines.

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.