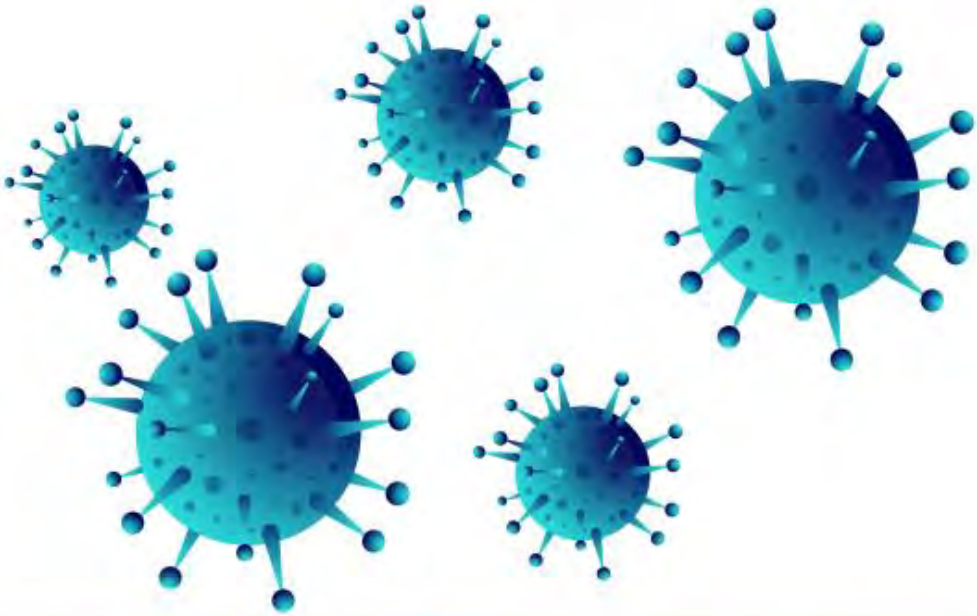
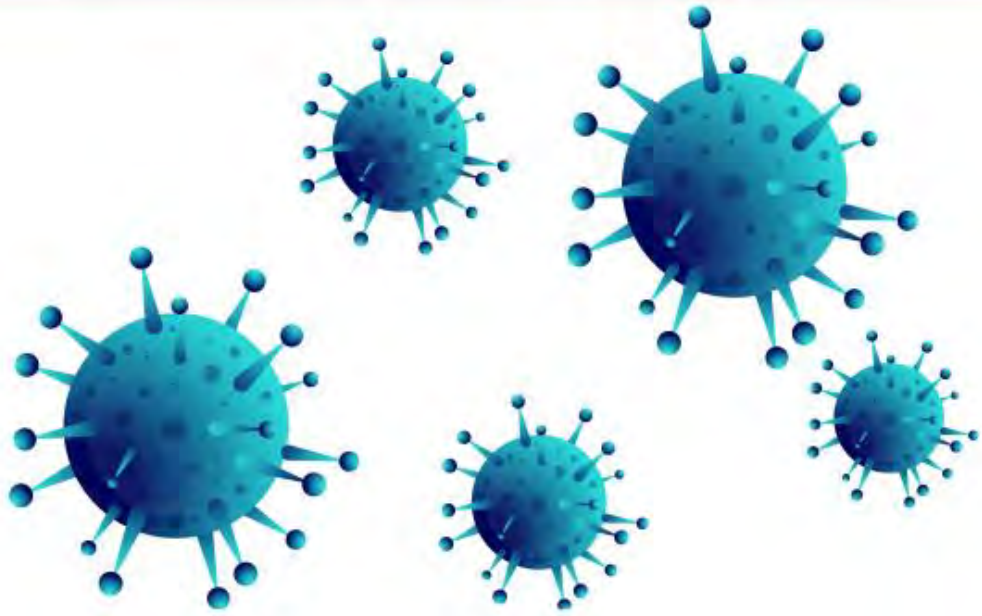
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Maharashtra "Break the Chain" Notifications and FAQ



Version 1.0 - April 15, 2021

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Break the Chain Notification – April 13, 2021

Issued by Chief Secretary of Maharashtra

Version 1.0 - April 15, 2021

GOVERNMENT OF MAHARASHTRA
Department of Revenue and Forest, Disaster Management,
Relief and Rehabilitation, Mantralaya, Mumbai- 400 032
No: DMU/2020/CR. 92/DisM-1, Dated: 13th April, 2021

ORDER
Break The Chain

Reference:

1.The Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897.

2. The Disaster Management Act, 2005

3. Revenue and Forest, Disaster Management, Relief and Rehabilitation Department Order No. DMU-2020/C.R.92/DMU-I, dated 2nd May 2020, 3rd May 2020, 5th May 2020, 11th May 2020, 15th May 2020, 1 7th May 2020, 19th May 2020, 21st May 2020, 31 May 2020, 4th June 2020, 25th June 2020, 29th June 2020, 6th July 2020, 7th July 2020, 29th July 2020, 4th August 2020, 19th August 2020, 31st August 2020, 30th September, 2020 and 14th October 2020, 23rd October, 2020, 29th October, 2020, 3rd November, 2020, 14th November, 2020, 23rd November, 2020, 27th November, 2020, 27th November, 2020, 21st December, 2020, 24th December, 2020, 29th December, 2020, 14th January, 2021, 19th January, 2021, 29th January, 2021, 24th February, 2021, 15th March, 2021, 27th March, 2021, 4th April, 2021 and 5th April, 2021

4. Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) Order No. 40-3/2020-PM-1 (A) Dated 1st May 2020, 11th May 2020, 17th May 2020, 20th May 2020, 30th May 2020, 29th June 2020, 29th July 2020, 29th August 2020, 30th September 2020 and 27th October 2020, 25th November, 2020, 28th December, 2020, 27th January, 2021 and 23rd February, 2021

Whereas, in exercise of the powers, conferred under the Disaster Management Act 2005, the undersigned, in his capacity as Chairperson, State Executive Committee has issued an Order dated 30th September, 2020 and 14th October, 2020 (extended by order dated 29th October, 2020, 27th November, 2020, 29th December, 2020 and 29th January, 2021 and 24th February, 2021, 15th March, 2021, 17th March, 2021, 27th March, 2021, 4th April, 2021 and 5th April, 2021) for containment of COVID 19 in the State for theperiod upto 30th April, 2021 and issued revised guidelines by including certain activities from time to time vide above mentioned orders.

Whereas the State Government is satisfied that the State of Maharashtra is threatened with the spread of COVID-19 virus, and therefore it is imperative to take certain emergency measures to prevent and contain the spread of virus, the Government in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 2 of the Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897, read with all other enabling provisions of

The Disaster Management Act, 2005, finds it is expedient to enforce the following measures throughout the State from 8 PM on 14th April, 2021 till 7 AM on 1st, May, 2021 to break the chain of transmission.

Now, therefore, in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 2 of the Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897 and the powers, conferred under The Disaster Management Act, 2005, the undersigned, in his capacity as Chairperson, State Executive Committee, hereby issues the following directions, that will remain in force throughout the state of Maharashtra from 8 PM on 14th April, 2021 till 7 AM on 1st, May, 2021 –

1. **Imposition of Section 144 and Night Curfew**

   a. Section 144 to be imposed in the State.

   b. No one to move in public place without valid reasons mentioned herein below.

   c. All the establishments, public places, activities, services shall remain closed, save as explicitly mentioned herein below.

   d. Services and activities mentioned in Essential Category herein below are exempted and their movements and operations are to be unrestricted.

   e. Services and activities mentioned in Exceptions Category herein below are exempted from 7 AM to 8 PM on working days and their movements and operations are to be unrestricted during these periods.

   f. Decision regarding inclusion of domestic help/ drivers/ attendants to work in Exceptions Category be taken by the local authorities based on local conditions.

2. **Essential Category includes the following**:

   1) Hospitals, diagnostic centers, Clinics, vaccinations, Medical insurance offices, Pharmacies, Pharmaceutical companies, other medical and health services including supporting manufacturing and distribution units along with their dealers, transport and supply chain. Manufacturing and distribution of vaccines, sanitizers, masks, medical equipment, their ancillaries, raw material units and support services.

   2) Veterinary Services/ Animal Care shelters and pet food shops

3) Groceries, Vegetables Shops, fruit vendors, dairies, bakeries, confectionaries, all type of food shops.

4) Cold Storage and Warehousing services

5) Public Transport: Airplanes, Trains, Taxis, Autos and public buses.

6) Services related to functioning of offices of Diplomats of various countries

7) Pre Monsoon Activities by local authorities

8) All Public Services by local authorities.

9) Reserve Bank of India and services designated by RBI as essential

10) All offices of SEBI recognized market infrastructure institutions such as Stock Exchanges, depositories, clearing corporations etc and other intermediaries registered with SEBI

11) Services required for restoration/ maintenance of telecom services

12) Transport of Goods

13) Water Supply Services

14) Agriculture related activities and all allied activities required to ensure seamless continuity of the agricultural sector including availability of farming input, seeds, fertilizers, equipment's and repairs thereof.

15) Export – Import of all commodities

16) E-Commerce (only for the supply of essential goods and services)

17) Accredited Media

18) Petrol Pumps and Petroleum related products; including offshore / onshore production

19) All cargo services

20) Data Centers/ Cloud Services/ IT services supporting critical infrastructure and services

21) Government and Private Security Services

22) Electric and gas supply services

23) ATM's

24) Postal Services

25) Ports and related activities

26) Custom House Agents/ Licensed Multi Modal Transport Operators associated with movement of vaccines/ lifesaving drugs/ pharmaceutical products.

27) Units producing raw material/ packaging material for any essential services

28) Units that are engaged in production of materials for impending rainy season for individuals as well as for organisations

29) Any Services designated as essential services by local disaster management authority.

Implementing agencies must follow these general principles about above mentioned services:

1. All enforcing authorities to note that fundamentally strict restrictions relate to movement of people but not to goods and commodities as a matter of principle.

2. All the requirements of movement for performance of services mentioned in this section are valid reasons for travel under 1(b).

3. Incidental activities that are required for performance of these services by concerned personnel or organization are to be considered as essential themselves. Principle is 'essential for essential is essential'.

3. Shops falling under essential services as mentioned in this order shall follow following guidelines:

a. Essential services shops to operate while ensuring Covid Appropriate Behavior (CAB) by owners, staff working there at as well as customers in the shop premises.

b. Essential shops owners and person working at all shops to get vaccinated at the earliest, as per criteria of GOI. All shops are advised to follow safety measures like interaction with customers through a transparent glass or other material shields, electronic payment etc.

c. Any essential shop owner, person working there at or any customer found defaulting on above requirements shall be punishable by a fine of Rs. 500/- and if the shop is found serving a customer who is defaulting on Covid Appropriate Behavior, the shop will be fined Rs.1000/-. In case of repeated defaults, a shop may be ordered to be closed till end of notification of Covid 19 as a disaster.

d. Movement of personnel to perform duties related to essential shops shall constitute a valid reason for the purposes of 1(b).

e. For Groceries, Vegetables Shops, fruit vendors, dairies, bakeries, confectionaries, all type of food shops etc. mentioned in 2(3) above, local authority should study the locations where these are densely located or where people may come together in large numbers and plan out their staggering in terms of locations and if need be in terms of periods of operations. Open public spaces may also be identified for shifting their operations, in case of non-permanent structures. Local authorities are expected to take all the measures to ensure these essential operations do not become a place that facilitates spread of COVID 19. If so deemed necessary, local authorities may also declare some locations as closed for these operations.

f. All shop owners that are closed for now are advised to get all persons working with them to get vaccinated as per criteria of GOI as well as prepare themselves with measures like interaction with customers through a transparent glass or other material shields, electronic payment etc. so that government can expedite reopening of the same without fear of COVID 19 transmission.

4. **Public Transport - Public transport will be fully operational with following restrictions:**

Auto Rickshaw	Driver + 2 passengers only
Taxi (4 wheelers)	Driver + 50% vehicle capacity as per RTO
Bus	Full seating occupancy as per RTO passing. However, no standing passengers will be allowed.

a) All persons using public transport to compulsorily wear mask in a proper manner barring which fine of Rs 500 will be imposed on the offenders.

b) In 4 wheeler taxi, if any one person is not wearing mask, the offender and the driver of the taxi will be fined an amount of Rs 500 each.

c) All vehicles to be sanitised after every trip.

d) All public transport - drivers and other staff coming into contact with the public to get vaccinated at the earliest, as per criteria of GOI and must display exemplary Covid Appropriate Behaviour. For taxis and autos, driver should be encouraged to isolate himself or herself through use of a plastic sheet or otherwise.

e) Movement of personnel to perform duties related to public transport shall constitute a valid reason for the purposes of 1(b).

f) In the case of out-station trains, railway authorities to ensure that there are no standing passengers in the general compartment and all passengers use masks.

g) Fine of Rs 500 to be levied in all trains for non-compliance with Covid Appropriate Behaviour.

h) Public transport that has been allowed with some conditions also includes all incidental services that are essential for the smooth functioning of all modes of public transport. This also includes all incidental activities that are required at the airport including handling of cargo, ticketing etc.

i) Persons arriving/ departing by any bus/ train/ flight from or towards place of residence may travel on basis of a valid ticket through public transport.

5. **Exemption Category:**

a) Offices:

- Following Offices shall belong to exemption category.

  i. Offices of Central, State and Local governments, including of their statutory authorities and organisations

  ii. Cooperative, PSU and Private Banks

  iii. Offices of companies providing essential services

  iv. Insurance/ Mediclaim Companies

  v. Pharmaceutical company offices needed for management of production/ distribution

  vi. RBI regulated entities and intermediaries including standalone primary dealers, CCIL, NPCI, payment system operators and financial market participants operating in RBI regulated markets.

  vii. All Non Banking Financial Corporations

  viii. All micro finance institutions

  ix. Offices of advocates if operations of Courts, Tribunals or Commissions of Enquiries are on.

- These should work with minimum staff required and in no case with more than 50% of normal capacity, except for government offices that are concerned with response to Covid 19 pandemic.
- Movement for attending these offices shall constitute valid reasons under 1(b)
- Local disaster management authorities may add exceptions to offices if needed.
- There should be no visitors to the offices and all meetings with anyone apart from office staff which is present in the same campus must only be conducted online.
- For both private and government offices, personnel to get vaccinated at the earliest, as per criteria of GOI, so that government may reopen expeditiously offices without fear of spread or acceleration of Covid 19.

b) **Private Transport**:

- Private Vehicles including private buses can ply for the purposes of emergency, essential services or for valid reasons as specified in this order.
- Any default will be punishable with the fine of Rs. 1000/-.
- Private buses, in addition will be subjected to following:
    i. To ply with only seating capacity. Standing passengers are strictly not allowed.
    ii. Staff must get vaccinated at per GOI criteria and must display exemplary Covid Appropriate Behaviour.

c) Restaurants, Bars, Hotels

a. All Restaurants and bars to remain closed for in-dining, except for those inside the campus and which form an integral parts of hotels.

b. Only home delivery services shall be allowed and there shall be no visiting any restaurant or bar for ordering purposes or pickup.

c. Restaurants and bars inside hotels are to be open only for in-house guests. In no circumstance should outside guests be allowed. For outsiders, they will follow the same restrictions as any other restaurant and bar as mentioned above. Guests of the hotel may move out only for the valid reasons or for performance of duty required for essential services or for exceptions made for offices mentioned in this order.

d. All personnel belonging to home delivery services to be vaccinated at the earliest as per GOI guidelines.

e. All the home deliveries to buildings housing more than one family should be restricted to the entrance of the building and internal movement of the delivery should be by dedicated staff of the building. It is also expected that all the interactions of home delivery staff and the building personnel are disciplined and COVID appropriate.

f. Any default on Covid Appropriate Behaviour will attract a fine of Rs 1000/- on the offender and fine of Rs 10,000 will be levied on the establishment. Repeated offence may be lead to withdrawal of licenses or permissions for operations till notification for COVID 19 epidemic remains in force.

g. All staff working in these restaurants and bars are advised to get vaccinated at the earliest, as per GOI guidelines, so that reopening of these may be expedited.

d) Manufacturing Sector:

a. Following units shall continue to operate and may operate in various shifts as required:

i. All the units that manufacture items needed for essential services as per this order to remain operational with full capacity.

ii. Export oriented units that need to fulfill export obligation.

iii. Units that require processes that are of such a nature that these cannot be stopped immediately and cannot restart without considerable time requirement, may continue with maximum of 50% of workforce at any given point of time. Industry department, Government of Maharashtra should ensure that no unit misuses this provision and follows all reasonable precautions that are needed. These processes however must not be net consumers of oxygen, unless producing items that are needed for essential services. It is expected that these industries will try to house their labourers in the campus or if they are housed outside, then to ensure that their movement is within an isolation bubble, to the extent possible.

b. All the units that provide accommodation to the their labour, working either in the same campus or in an isolated facility from where movement may happen in an isolated bubble, with only 10% of managerial staff coming from outside may continue to work. Movement of the staff outside the premises is not allowed till the end of this notification. Such units may operate in various shifts as required.

c. All staff - managerial as well as shop floor and others - without exception - every one engaged in the activity to get vaccinated at the earliest, as per criteria of GOI. These units, if falling in eligibility criteria of GOI for workplace vaccination, must organize these vaccinations at the earliest possible opportunity.

d. Factories and manufacturing units that are operating under these conditions must subscribe to following discipline:

i. To scan body temperature of labourers pre- entry and confirm to Covid Appropriate Behavior of all concerned.

ii. If a labourers/ worker found positive, other laborers who have come into active contact with him to be quarantined with pay.

iii. Factories/ Units with more than 500 workers to set up their own quarantine facilities. Such Quarantine Centers to have all basic facilities and in case of such a facility being set up outside the campus of the industry, the affected persons should be moved to the said facility while ensuring that there is no contact with any other person during the transit.

iv. In case of any worker found to be positive, unit to be closed until completely sanitised.

v. Lunch and tea breaks to be staggered for avoiding crowding. No common eating places

vi. Common toilet facilities to be sanitised frequently.

e. If a worker is found positive he or she would be allowed medical leave and cannot be discontinued during this absence for this reason. He or she will be entitled for full wages that he or she might have earned had he or she not contacted corona.

f. All the factories/ industries not specifically allowed herein must stop their operations till the end of period specified in these orders. In case of any doubt, authority to take decision rests with department of industry.

e) Roadside Eatable Vendors:

- There will be no serving of food for eating at the location. Parcels or home deliveries are allowed from 7 AM to 8 PM on every day. Reasonable movement for this constitutes a valid reason under 1(b).
- Waiting customers to wait away from counter with adequate social distancing.
- Every one engaged in the activity to get vaccinated at the earliest, as per criteria of GOI.
- Local authority to have a close watch over such places through deployment of adequate personnel/ CCTV. Any customers engaging in irresponsible behaviour

violating COVID 19 protocols to be fined Rs. 500/-. Any vendor serving any customer engaging in such behaviour shall be fined Rs. 500/-.

- Violation would lead to shutting down of the vendor till end of pandemic.
- However if the local authority feels that such behaviour is repetitive and is not possible to contain with the imposition of fines, then they may order closure of the location either temporarily or till the end of the pandemic.

f) Newspapers/ magazines/ periodicals:

- Newspapers/ magazines/ periodicals can be printed and circulated.
- Only Home Delivery is allowed.
- All persons engaged in the activity to get vaccinated at the earliest, as per criteria of GOI.

6. **Recreation, Entertainment, shops, malls, shopping centres etc.:**

Without prejudice to generality of section (1) it is declared that -

a) Cinema halls, to remain closed.

b) Drama theatres and auditoriums to remain closed.

c) Amusement Parks/ Arcades/ Video Game Parlours to remain closed.

d) Water Parks to remain closed

e) Clubs, Swimming Pools, Gyms and Sports Complexes to remain closed.

f) All persons connected with these establishments should get vaccinated at the earliest, as per GOI guidelines so that reopening of these may be achieved at the earliest without fear of spread or acceleration of Covid 19.

g) Shooting for Films/ Serials/ Advertisement to be closed.

h) All shops, malls, shopping centers not performing essential services shall be closed.

i) Public places like beaches, gardens, open spaces etc. shall remain closed. In case of any public arena that may belong to any of the uses mentioned herein, local authority may decides about continuation or discontinuation of its use during the operation of this order.

7. **Religious Places of Worship**

a) Religious Places of Worship to remain closed.

b) All the personnel engaged in the service of the place of workshop shall continue to perform their duties though no outside visitor shall be allowed.

c) All staff that may work in these places are advised to get vaccinated at the earliest, as per GOI guidelines, so that reopening of these may be expedited.

8. **Barber Shops/ Spa/ Salon/ Beauty Parlors**

a) Barber shops/ Spa's / Salons and Beauty Parlors to remain closed.

b) All staff that may work in these establishments are advised to get vaccinated at the earliest, as per GOI guidelines, so that reopening of these may be expedited.

9. **Schools and colleges:**

a) Schools and Colleges to remain closed.

b) Rule is hereby relaxed for std 10th and 12th students to the extent of exams. All the staff that may be used for conduct of exams must be either vaccinated or should carry a negative RT-PCR/ RAT/ TruNAT/ CBNAAT certificate, valid for 48 hours.

c) For exams that are being conducted by any board, university or authority outside the state, denial of which may lead to hardships for students residing in Maharashtra may be allowed by concerned department under intimation to concern disaster management authority.

d) Students who have to attend any exam physically, may be allowed to travel along with one adult, on basis of a valid hall ticket for the same.

e) All private coaching classes of any kind to remain closed.

f) All staff that may work in these establishments are advised to get vaccinated at the earliest, as per GOI guidelines, so that reopening of these may be expedited.

10. **Religious, Social, Political, Cultural Functions**

a) No religious, social, cultural or political functions of any kind to be allowed.

b) In case of districts where elections are scheduled to be held, the permission may be granted by the District Collector for any political gatherings subject to the following conditions-

   a. The District Collector can authorize the Returning Officer to give permission for any political gathering for the purpose of campaigning within the guidelines of the Election Commission of India subject to no more than 200 people or 50% occupancy whichever is less being allowed in any enclosed space and 50% of the capacity be allowed in open spaces subject to complete adherence to all laid down COVID 19 protocols as per the Central Government guidelines.

   b. There should be personnel deputed by the Collector for overseeing any such event to ensure scrupulous adherence to all protocols.

   c. In case of violation of the said protocols, the owner of the premises should be held accountable and may be penalised under the Disaster Management Act, 2005. In case of serious breaches, the space may be sealed until the end of the pandemic.

   d. Incase of more than 2 such violations in gatherings of any candidate, no further permissions for holding any political gatherings be granted by the Collector to the said candidate.

   e. For any other event like rallies, corner meetings etc, all COVID 19 protocols must be adhered to.

   f. All guidelines must be applied equally without fear or favour to all participants in the election process and there should be no room for any grievance arising from selective or partisan application of the said guidelines.

   g. After 8 PM on the day of polling, all the provisions of this order will come into effect in totality for the said area.

c) Marriages will be allowed only with maximum of 25 people present.

   a. All the staff at any marriage hall or at any location serving visitors have to be vaccinated and till completely vaccinated they have to carry a valid negative RT-PCR/ RAT/ TruNAT/ CBNAAT certificate.

b. In case if any of the above are found to be without negative RTPCR/ RAT/ TruNat/CBNAAT Certificate/ without being vaccinated as above, a fine of Rs 1000/- will be levied on the offender and fine of Rs 10,000 will be levied on the establishment.

c. Repeated offence in respect of a premise would lead to sealing of the same and withdrawal of permission to conduct any gathering therein till operation of notification of Covid 19 epidemic.

d. In case of marriage being conducted inside a place of worship, it will be allowed to do so with adherence to the above rules.

d) Funerals to be allowed a maximum of 20 people. All the staff should get vaccinated at the earliest and should carry a valid negative RT-PCR/ RAT /TruNAT/ CBNAAT certificate. Funerals may also be performed at places of worship with strict adherence to the said rules.

11. **Oxygen Producers -**

A) Any industrial process that is a net consumer of oxygen as a raw material is to be disallowed. Development Commissioner, however may allow the process either in case of process being essential for any of the essential activities or for exceptional circumstances for reasons to be recorded in writing.

B) All industrial producers of oxygen shall reserve a percentage of their production (actual as well as capacity) for medical or pharmaceutical purposes as specified by Public Health Department. They should declare their customers and end use of the oxygen supplied from 10th April 2021 onwards.

12. **E-Commerce**

a. E-Commerce will be only allowed for the delivery of essential goods and services as mentioned in Section 2 of this order

b. Every one engaged in the activity of home delivery or activity involving interaction with staff engaged in activity of home delivery to get vaccinated at the earliest, as per criteria of GOI and if an Organization running e-commerce falls in the eligibility criteria of GOI for workplace vaccination it must organise these vaccination camps at the earliest. For the staff not engaged in home delivery or in the activity of requiring interaction with staff engaged in home delivery shall follow the discipline laid down in (5) concerning offices.

c. All the home deliveries to buildings housing more than one family is expected to be restricted to the entrance of the building and internal movement of the delivery should be by dedicated staff of the building. It is also expected that all the interactions of home delivery staff and the building personnel are disciplined and COVID appropriate.

d. Any default on Covid Appropriate Behaviour while performing home delivery shall lead to a fine of Rs. 1000/- . Repeated offence may lead to withdrawal of license to operate till the end of notification of COVID 19 epidemic.

13. **Cooperative Housing Societies:**

a) Any Cooperative Housing Society having more than 5 active Corona positive cases will be treated as an micro containment zone. These will follow strictly the SOP laid down for micro containment zones.

b) Such societies shall put up a board at the gate informing visitors and deny them entry.

c) All restrictions of micro-containment zones like control over ingress and egress shall be monitored by the society.

d) In case of default the society may be fined Rs.10000/- in the first instance. Later instances may attract higher fines as decided by local authorities. This fine may be used to employ supervising personnel to ensure compliance of SOP and these orders by the society.

e) All CHS's are advised to ensure that all persons coming into the building on a regular basis get their RTPCR/ RAT/ TruNat/ CBNAAT test done till they are vaccinated as per Government norms.

14. **Construction Activity**

a) To be allowed only for sites where labourer's are living on site. Movement to and fro from outside must be avoided, except for the purpose of material movements.

b) Every one engaged in the activity to get vaccinated at the earliest, as per criteria of GOI and organisations engaged in these activities should go for workplace vaccinations as per GOI guidelines at the earliest.

c) Defaults will lead to a fine of Rs.10000/- for the developer of the construction site and repeated defaults may lead to closure of the site till existence of notification of COVID 19 epidemic.

d) If a worker is found positive he or she would be allowed medical leave and cannot be discontinued during this absence for this reason. He or she will be entitled for full wages that he or she might have earned had he or she not contacted corona.

e) Local authorities may decide to allow any construction activity in view of impending rainy season for reasons of public safety or safety of the structures.

15. **Penalties:**

All the fines so collected shall be used by the concerned disaster management authority towards better containment and treatment of the Covid 19 disaster.

The said rules will remain in force till 1st May, 2021 – 7 AM for containment of COVID-19 epidemic in the State. This order is in supersession of the 'Break the Chain' orders issued by the State Government and clarifications/ additions issued thereof to the tune of all clauses that have been mentioned in this order. For any other clause not specifically mentioned in this order the other 'Break the Chain' orders mentioned earlier prevail.

BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF MAHARASHTRA

13/4/21

(SITARAM KUNTE)
CHIEF SECRETARY
GOVERNMENT OF MAHARASHTRA

Copy to :

1. Principal Secretary to Hon'ble Governor of Maharashtra, Mumbai.
2. Hon'ble Chairman, Maharashtra Legislative Council.
3. Hon'ble Speaker, Maharashtra Legislative Assembly.
4. Additional Chief Secretary to Hon'ble Chief Minister, Government of Maharashtra.
5. Principal Secretary to Hon'ble Chief Minister, Government of Maharashtra,
6. Secretary to Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister, Government of Maharashtra,

7. Private Secretary to Leader of Opposition, Legislative Council / Assembly,
8. Private Secretaries of All Hon'ble Minister/Minister of State, Mantralaya,
9. All Additional Chief Secretaries / Principal Secretaries / Secretaries of Government of Maharashtra.
10. Director General of Police, Maharashtra State, Mumbai,
11. Principal Secretary, Public Health Department, Mantralaya,
12. Secretary, Medical Education, Mantralaya,
13. All Divisional Commissioners in the State
14. All Commissioners of Police in the State
15. All Commissioners of Municipal Corporations in the State
16. All District Collectors
17. All Chief Executive Officers, Zilla Parishad
18. All District Superintendents of Police in the State

Break the Chain Notification – April 14, 2021

Issued by DC - Industries, Govt. of Maharashtra

Version 1.0 - April 15, 2021

No. DI/Covid-19/Break the Chain/2021/
Directorate of Industries, Mumbai -32.
Date : 14.04.2021

CIRCULAR

Reference: GoM order vide No. DMU/2020/CR 92/DisM-1, dated 13th April 2021.

Vide order No. DMU/2020/CR 92/DisM-1 dated 13.4.2021, the GoM has issued the order for "Break the Chain" of Corona outbreak in the State. The various measures to "Break the Chain" are being enforced in the entire State from 8 pm on 14th April 2021 till 7 am 0n 1st May 2021.

The provisions as mentioned in para 5(d) of the order dated 13.04.2021, are mandatorily applicable to Manufacturing Sectors and those Manufacturing Units are allowed to operate during the said period on fulfillment of all the criteria and provisions as mentioned in the order.

Previously, Vide GoM Notification dated 25th March 2020 , the Essential Services and Continuous process industries were allowed to continue their activities, however within the framework of guidelines issued by Government of India (GoI) and State Government from time to time. Accordingly the permissions to Essential Services and Continuous Process Industries were granted to operate their manufacturing units after getting prior permission both online and offline form respective District Authorities. Vide DI circular dated 15.04.2020 and 20.04.2020, the validity of those permissions granted by respective District Authorities were further extended.

Now under the "Break the Chain" initiative of GoM, Essential Services, Export oriented units and Continuous Process manufacturing units other than net consumers of oxygen unless producing items needed for essential services as mentioned will be allowed to operate their units during the period 14th April 2021 to 1st May 2021 , with the strict adherence to all the provisions prescribed in the order dated 13.04.2021.

In view of this, Since the District Authorities had already granted permissions to essential and continuous process industries, those units will be allowed to continue production activities, without obtaining any new permissions, with the strict fulfillment of guidelines mentioned in the order dated 13.04.2021. Similarly

those units which were not covered for permission before, for such units the District Authorities shall take decision as per the guidelines dated 13.04.2021.

It is also to mention here that in case of any violation in adherence to the guidelines mentioned in order dated 13.04.2021, the units will be liable for appropriate action. Regarding any clarification on these issues , the units in MIDC area should contact respective RO, MIDC and units outside MIDC should contact JDI (MMR)/GM, DIC respectively.

--- sd/---
(Dr. Harshadeep Kamble, IAS)
Development Commissioner (Industries)

FAQ issued by MIDC – 15 April 2021

Post Discussion With Members of FICCI and Industry Associations

Version 1.0 - April 15, 2021

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1) **Are ancillary suppliers and support services of essential manufacturers/services allowed to operate without their supply chains being affected?**

   Yes. One of the cardinal principles behind the guidelines is that 'essential for essential is essential'.

2) **Steel processing and other such critical manufacturing items are required for essential services and goods, are they allowed?**

   Yes. One of the cardinal principles behind the guidelines is that 'essential for essential is essential'.

3) **Are units producing essential industry related construction equipment or electrical engineering equipment allowed?**

   Yes, subject to the terms and guidelines outlined in the government order.

4) **Will there be a pass or permission system?**

   No. No passes or permission letters will be issued by the state government to any company. ID cards of the respective organizations will suffice for any movement in accordance with the guidelines. In case the companies want to issue letters to their suppliers, they can do so at their will and convenience.

5) **Are Export Oriented Units and units having export obligations allowed to operate?**

   Yes, export and import units are allowed to operate according to the guidelines.

6) **Which kind of manufacturing activities are allowed and are there workforce restrictions?**

   - All manufacturing related to essential products and services (including raw material suppliers, ancillaries, packaging, etc.) listed in the guidelines can work with full capacity of workforce
   - Export oriented units can work with full capacity of workforce to meet their export obligations.
   - Units that are of continuous nature, which cannot be stopped immediately and cannot restart without considerable time requirement, may continue with maximum of 50% of workforce at any given point of time.
   - All the units that provide accommodation to their labour, either on the same campus or in an isolated facility from where movement may happen in an isolated bubble, with only 10% of managerial staff coming from outside may continue to work.
   - All these are units are subject to the time constraints and detailed guidelines for workforce on screening, testing, etc. as outlined in the Government Order.

7) **Are Cargo movements, export/import consignment movements, suppliers for transport sector allowed?**

Yes. They are allowed under the essential category.

8) **Are defence and aerospace manufacturing units allowed?**

Yes. Subject to the guidelines outlined in the government order.

9) **What are the norms for essential services manufacturing units producing or requiring oxygen?**

Manufacturing units producing oxygen for only medical or pharma services are allowed. Units which are net consumers of oxygen as raw material are not allowed. All industrial producers of oxygen shall reserve a percentage of their production (actual as well as capacity) for medical or pharmaceutical purposes as specified by Public Health Department. They should declare their customers and end use of the oxygen supplied from 10th April 2021 onwards.

10) **What are the norms for e-commerce?**

E-Commerce will be only allowed for the delivery of essential goods and services, subject to the time constraints under the guidelines. Example: All items that are needed for health or medical reasons, groceries, food items etc. as per the Q&A's released by the Disaster Management, Relief & Rehabilitation department.

11) **For delivery of essential goods to stores, is Rapid Antigen Test still required?**

No. This is in accordance with the Q&A's released by the Disaster Management, Relief & Rehabilitation department.

12) **Will food delivery be allowed and does the timing restriction of 8pm hold?**

Yes, home delivery is allowed since it falls under the essential services. As per the Q&A's released by the Disaster Management, Relief & Rehabilitation department, times of operations for establishments are decided by local bodies. Thus, if regular operations are beyond 8pm, home delivery will continue beyond 8pm. Local authorities, if so desired may vary these operation timings.

13) **What are the norms for Covid-19 testing for workforce?**

The norms for Covid-19 testing as outlined in the 4th and 5th April Break the Chain guidelines continue to hold. All units and organizations will ensure that their personnel are to carry a negative RT-PCR or Rapid Antigen Testing report valid up to 15 days.

14) **Do the companies have to bear the cost of testing of their employees?**

Yes.

15) **Does Food processing and packaging qualify as essentials services?**

Yes.

16) **Are soaps and shampoo units allowed to operate?**

Yes. All personal hygiene products are allowed.

17) **What are the norms for water supply processes, sewage treatment plants, maintenance of such activities?**

All these activities qualify under essential services, and therefore allowed to operate.

18) Are Agriculture and Agri-ancillary / support units allowed?

Yes, subject to the terms and guidelines outlined in the government order.

19) Are R&D units allowed?

Only if R&D units are an integral part of the manufacturing processes which are allowed by the government order.

General FAQ issued by Disaster Management, Relief & Rehabilitation Department, GoM-15 April, 2021

Version 1.0 - April 15, 2021

Questions about Maharashtra Covid Regulations

Sr. No.	Question	Answer
1	Can maids, drivers , cooks come to work ? Can they travel by local trains/ buses?	We have allowed local disaster management authorities to take a decision on it as various cities, urban and local areas have different situations and decision should be local.
2	Can people shift homes and use the services of movers & packers?	No. This is not in general a valid reason. What can be avoided and is not immediately essential must be avoided. If there is a very genuine reason and very essential, local disaster management authority may allow. This is expected to be very exceptional though.
3	Is travel within Maharashtra by private vehicle allowed?	Not without a valid reason, mentioned in the order. One may take a public transport - tickets are enough to move to and fro between stops/ stations of public transport vehicles and one's residence.
4	Will wine shops and cigarette shops be open?	No. No shops are to open unless a shop falls in essential category. These do not.
5	Will people be allowed to walk/jog/ cycle in the morning?	No
6	Will construction material stores like steel, cement , ready mix open available?	If a construction site is open as per orders, material movement is allowed in and out. Orders may be placed online/ telephonically and deliveries may be made to the location. But no shutters to be open for any material shop for conduct of business over the counter.
7	Will courier services be available ?	Only for essential services.
8	NGOs conducting relief work for people and animals, can they function?	Not without consent of local disaster management authority. These may approach local disaster management authority and authority may allow them after due verification.
9	Can textile/ garment factories be allowed to stay open?	No

10	Will Maharashtra university MBBS exams continue as scheduled on the 19th April?	Conduct of all the exams shall be decided by concerned department and will be separately notified. This order means that if an exam is being conducted, hall ticket is the document to prove movement of a student and an accompanying adult to be a valid reason during these restrictions.
11	What qualifies as essential E-commerce ?	All goods and services that qualify under the essential services mentioned in the order. For example all items that are needed for health or medical reasons, groceries, food items etc.
12	Can plumbers/ carpenters/ electricians work? Cleaning, disinfection, pest control? Refrigerators, AC and other home appliances repair technicians?	If it is unavoidable then water and electricity services by private people are also allowed. Similarly cleaning, disinfection, pest control, as well residential or home appliance repairs may be considered as essential. But it should reasonably be immediately needed. Principle is to discourage unnecessary movements while allowing necessary ones conveniently. It is expected that citizens will demand these services only if necessary today. Restrictions are not there for the sake of restrictions but to ensure safety of citizens as well as these service providers, and their families. If citizens use these allowance in right spirit, fellow citizens may get these services without any hinderance in the times of need. If these considerations are misused, we may have to control or deny it.
13	Will dental clinics function as essentials?	Yes.
14	Stationary, book shops, will they be open?	No.
15	Will travel agencies be open? Travel, visa, passport assistance be open?	Travel Agencies: Not open physically i.e. shutters are not going to be open. However they will continue to operate over internet. As far as visa/ passport assistance is concerned, we have allowed single window systems - like that of CSC-SPV in villages, Setu in collector offices, Visa/ Passport services, that are being run by government office's authorised agencies - to be considered a part of Government offices and thus these can operate on working days.
16	Are those ancillary Industries supplying to Essential manufacturers/ services allowed to operate as without their supply the production comes to a halt.	Principle has been enunciated as ' essential for essential is essential'. If there is any confusion industry department's decision shall be final.
17	Are only those workmen's / employee staying at walkable distance or same locality near factory allowed to work at the permitted units or can workmen from other municipalities or panchayats of Maharashtra can report to work. (eg. Workmen staying in kalyan going to work in thane)	In the case of industries producing essentials as per the Government Order dated 13th April, the workforce can travel. In case of other Industries, only those who provide accommodation to their labour either inside the campus of the facility or at an isolated facility from where travel to and fro to the facility happens in a isolated bubble can function.

18	As all Exporters / importers of all commodities are allowed to operate, can those who manufacture goods & offer services to exporters allowed to operate as well.	No. It is expected that imports shall be disseminated to final market only if these are essential goods, else post import these will have to be stocked. Similarly export of already created goods is to be done. For manufacturing of the goods to be exported, manufacturing will happen only if it falls within the ambit of order. If there is any exigency, industrial department can be moved.
19	Is Fresh Permission required to be obtained or last years permission to operate is good enough as proof to show it to authorities if required.	For contuining operations, the industry/ manufacturing unit has to fall under the ambit of the Government Order dated 13th April, 2021.
20	For delivery of essential goods to stores is Rapid antigen test still required?	No.
21	Can delivery of essential items like food be done post 8 PM - either by restaurants themselves or through e-commerce sites?	There is no restriction for essential services and home delivery timings as per order dated 13/4/2021. Times of operations for establishments is decided by local authorities. Home delivery is correspondingly within these times.Thus if regular operations' timings are beyond 8 PM, home delivery is permitted beyond 8 PM. Local authorities may, if so desired, vary these operations timings.
22	What about roadside eatable vendors?	In these locations both parcels and home deliveries (though home delivery from these is very rare) are allowed between 7 AM to 8 PM.
23	For very large housing society should we have whole of society under micro-containment zone?	If we have more than 5 cases in a campus we have to declare it a micro containment zone. If a society is very large, local authority should decide whether all the cases are in such limited area that can be practically isolated (no porous boundary) they may declare that as micro containment zone. Principle is to cover the area where ingress and egress maybe identified well and controlled, as finally we are islanding it for interactions. SOP of containment should be strictly implementable.
24	About what issues can local authorities may take out further orders?	Order dated 13th April 2021 speaks about certain areas where local authorities have been specifically asked to take out orders. For example - 1(f), 14(e). These orders should be taken out immediately. This order also allows local authorities to include some services as essential and some services as exception services - these orders are to be taken out, if needed, at the earliest. These however should be taken out only after due deliberations and in exceptional circumstances. This order also asks local authorities to manage and supervise and even close down if so desired some special locations like under 3(e), 5(e) and 13(a). Orders under this should be as per need and information of breach. Strict supervision for these is required as these locations can very fast become spreader of the disease. For restaurants and bars, working hours are decided by local authorities. If it is required or desired for the purposes of containment of COVID 19, these hours may be revised by the local authorities. There may even be need to extend these hours for the convenience of citizens. 5. **If any local authority wants to take out any order implying further restrictions then mentioned in this order by GOM, it will do so only after consent of GOM.**

25	Whether working of petroleum supplies locations/ aviation stations/ LPG bottling plants in all three shifts covered under essential services?	Yes
26	Are manufactures of Pharmaceutical machineries and equipments allowed to work?	Yes.
27	Will essential services be allowed only between 7 am to 8 Pm?	These are allowed through out the day - 24/7. If these services are being provided by establishments that have been given timings of operations by local authority under some other act (like timings for restaurants in regular days) their operations may be allowed between those times. But there is no restriction under disaster management act.
28	Will general public be allowed to use local trains? What constitutes valid reasons?	Yes, if they have a valid reason to travel. Valid reasons are enumerated in the order - section (2).
29	Can private vehicles ply during the day time to work/ office? What constitutes 'valid reasons'?	If their offices/ works are allowed to operate in the order (essential as per section (2) or exemption as per section (5)), they can go by private cars and it constitutes a valid reason.
30	What about long distance trains?	These are essential services and will be on. Anyone may travel on it.

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