



COVID-19 (nCorona) Virus Outbreak Control and Prevention State Cell

Health & Family Welfare Department

Government of Kerala

**COVID PROTOCOL FOR THE INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATIONS AT THE STATE
HEAD QUARTER AND AT THE DISTRICT HEAD QUARTERS**

No.31/F2/2020 Health 14th August 2020

The following advisory is issued for the safe conduct of the Independence day ceremony at the state head quarter and at District Head Quarters considering the importance of Independence Day during the COVID pandemic.

1. A detailed micro plan of the Independence day celebration is to be prepared bearing in mind the infection control and prevention measures for COVID-19 by the GAD (Protocol). The ceremony should be planned in a compact manner in open air spaces, reducing the time and contact of attendees.
- 2. Arrangements for the Hon Chief Guest of the function:**
 - a. The dais should be identified and prepared exclusively for seating the Chief Guest. No other officers/guests should be sharing the same dais.
 - b. As per the protocol only 2 officers shall receive the Hon Chief Guest of the function by maintain social distancing of 2 meter and taking all other precautions.
 - c. The guard of honour should be provided at a safe distance more than ten metres from the Chief Guest.
 - d. The Personal security officers shall also maintain safe distance of two metres without compromising on safety and security of the Chief Guest.
 - e. The Chief Guest may wear an appropriately fitting 3 layered mask.
 - f. The Flag hoisting rope shall be disinfected (sprayed) using alcohol based disinfectants after preparing the flag pole and just before the beginning of the ceremony.
 - g. The microphone and the stand is also to be disinfected before the beginning of the ceremony.
 - h. Adequate hand sanitisers to be made available on the dais
 - i. Compering and announcements are to be made from a separate dais.

3. Arrangements for the Hon elected representatives, invited Dignitaries and Officers:

- a. The list of attendees should be limited to the invited elected representatives and officers. The entourage should be limited without compromising security. Family members and children of invited dignitaries are not allowed to attend the function to avoid congregation.
- b. The seating should be arranged in a separate area/dais with a distance of at least two metres between the seats.
- c. All dignitaries who are symptomatic; fever, cold, cough, diarrhoea, loss of smell etc should not be attending the ceremony.
- d. The Drivers of the dignitaries shall remain in their respective vehicles after transporting the dignitaries and shall not congregate at the venue or outside.

4. General guidelines:

- a. Sweets and other eatables should not be distributed during or after the ceremony.
- b. Flowers and bouquets should not be used for welcoming the guests.
- c. All attending dignitaries and personnel shall practice social distancing, wear mask and practice hand hygiene frequently..
- d. Similar arrangements described above may be followed by other organizations for conducting the ceremony.
- e. Group photography should be avoided.
- f. All people who are allowed to attend the Independence day function, if symptomatic, should avoid attending the function voluntarily.


Principal Secretary