

COVID-19 (nCorona) Virus Outbreak Control and Prevention State Cell Health & Family Welfare Department Government of Kerala

ADVISORY ON COVID APPROPRIATE BEHAVIOUR AND VACCINATION

No.12/31/F2/2020 HEALTH- 31st March 2021

In the background of change in trend of COVID-19 cases across the country, all the citizens are requested to adhere to COVID-19 appropriate behaviour to ensure that new transmissions are restricted to the maximum extent possible and the pandemic is brought under control.

The challenges that lie ahead are the infection prevention in election related activities and vaccination centres, summer travel and recreation, ceremonies and functions of the season etc.

The following advisory is issued in the best interest of public health to avoid transmission of COVID infection.

- 1. All the citizens are requested to adhere to the COVID appropriate behaviour (Break the Chain) like wearing mask, maintaining physical distancing, frequent hand hygiene, cough and sneeze hygiene at all times especially in public places.
- 2. Individuals who have been administered COVID vaccines are also advised to strictly adhere to COVID appropriate behaviour as mentioned above irrespective of the number of doses or time after vaccination.
- 3. Election related activities by candidates, campaigners and supporters shall take COVID appropriate measures and also followed by their followers to ensure the break of transmission of infection. The instructions issued by the CEO Election in this regard should be followed by all.
- 4. COVID vaccination centres shall also observe the infection prevention measures advised as per the guidelines.
- 5. All travel and tourist facilities (vehicles, accommodation and recreational facilities) shall ensure that the COVID appropriate

- behaviour is being observed by the tourists, agents, management and staff in their respective area of work.
- 6. Organisers of ceremonies and functions (marriages, gatherings, events etc) shall ensure that COVID appropriate behaviour is being observed by the participating members at all times. Physical distancing should also be ensured in dining facilities.
- 7. Strengthen surveillance for emergence of clusters and measures for early containment. The districts may analyse the epidemic and identify the Panchayath ward/ municipality ward/ corporation wards having new cases. In such Panchayath, Municipality and Corporation area, large scale testing and tracking to be done. All these areas, the vulnerable population above 45 years to be vaccinated.
- 8. All the organizers of festivals, functions including marriage functions may take initiative to mobilize all people above 45 years for vaccination and avail vaccination services from the Government as well as private COVID Vaccination Centres.
- 9. The beneficiaries of priority groups for COVID vaccination should be motivated to receive vaccination (especially in districts facing a surge) to ensure 100% coverage in the shortest possible time. Community based organizations (NGOs, Self Help groups, clubs etc) should be encouraged to facilitate this process.
- 10. The district teams may discuss with Confederation of Indian Industries (CII) and encourage the industries to arrange fix day fix time vaccination camps in their premises. They may also extend the vaccination to their retired staff. The health administration may properly work out the plans so that at all work places in an organized way vaccination can be done.
- 11. Similarly, discussion with Private Hospitals to be conducted encouraging relatives of the staff of hospitals above 45 years to get vaccinated.
- 12. All Medical Colleges including Private Medical Colleges, Nursing Colleges, Health courses running colleges should take part in vaccination by getting their Vaccination centre enrolled. They should appeal to their staff and students to encourage their relatives above 45 years to come forward and take vaccination from the respective institutions.
- 13. Mobile COVID-19 vaccination units are to be planned and organized so as to ensure primary care level of delivery of services, especially to elderly people.
- 14. District, Block, Panchayath level IEC campaign on COVID vaccination should be conducted.