



## INSTRUCTIONS FOR SELECTED PUBLIC ACTIVITIES/WORK SETTINGS FOR THE PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF COVID- 19

The instruction notes are given for a range of public activities and work settings. Some sectors such as tourism, large shopping malls, event management, etc. would require reference to several instruction notes.

The Instructions are subject to overall permission given by the Ministry of Health to resume functions (totally/selected).

Each instruction note is issued by the Director General of Health Services, Ministry of Health and Indigenous Medical Services and are for the establishment/owner/ responsible authority to follow in prevention of transmission of COVID-19.



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TOWARDS A NEW NORMAL



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## 16. Prisons

Prisons are places where constantly mixing up of higher risk persons can happen. As there is high turnover, they also go back and mix with the general population.

### Instruction to prison authorities

- Awareness within the premises should be done. Staff should be given an orientation about the disease and training on measures to be adopted to prevent.
- Frequent awareness should be done through audio messaging to the prison population. Display COVID-19 control measures adopted in the facility in notice boards and other relevant places and request all prisoners to adhere to them.
- Take appropriate measures to detect persons with fever and respiratory symptoms early. Daily verbal inquiries of inmates on 3 key symptoms: fever, cough, difficulty in breathing. If positive – call 1390 or prison health officers. If COVID PCR is negative test for TB
- A quick screening with any contact history of COVID- 19 and inquiry into symptoms should be done before any mixing up of new inmates
- In case of any person being detected with fever there should be facilities for temporary isolation before medical attention is available
- Take all possible measures to avoid overcrowding and provide enough accommodation facilities for prisoners.
- Advice to maintain one-meter physical distancing always.
- Avoid giving mealtime to all prisoners at same time. Allocate meals for different sections at different times to avoid overcrowding and mixing up of inmates.
- Avoid sharing belongings such as cups and plates by prisoners as well as staff.
- All toilets must be maintained in a hygienic manner.
- Hand washing facilities with soap and water is to be provided outside the toilets, to wash hands after leaving the toilet. Promote daily bathing.
- Number of visitors should be restricted per person per month (recommend only 2 visitors per month)
- Check the temperature of all persons at the entrance to the prison and any person recording a temperature above 98.4 OF or 37 OC should not be allowed inside.
- All visitors should wear a mask.
- Hand wash facilities should be available for visitors entering premises
- Make sure the place is totally free from substances (tobacco and other substances)
- You are required to fill the provided Assurance form, indicating compliance with the instructions given. The original of the Assurance form should be submitted to the area Medical Officer of Health. A copy of the same should be sent to the local government authority (municipal council/ urban council/ pradeshiya sabha) and another copy should be kept with you. The head of institution is responsible to ensure that the above guidelines are strictly adhered to.

### Safety of the staff

- While on the duty all staff shall wear the appropriate protective gear. (Face masks, impermeable aprons, gloves etc.)
- They should wash or sanitize their hands thoroughly after each encounter.
- They also should always maintain one-meter distance with each other, and the management need to look into this.



Instructions for selected public activities/work settings for the prevention and control of COVID - 19

- Check the temperature of all the staff. Verify If the temperature is above 37.0 C or 98.4 F

**Kitchen and food service**

- All chefs and other supportive staff should wash their hands before handling foods.
- Thoroughly wash all raw fruits and vegetables before preparing.

**Methods of Instructions**

- Guidance note sent to all prisons - Standard audio messaging to be available, Display boards, signages to be used



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