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Ministry of Health

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திகதி ) 31/06/2022  
Date )

## Guidelines for functioning of the industries adhering to new normal measures

### Apparel Industry

Considering the current situation of COVID-19 infection in the country, it has been decided to discontinue the measures stipulated in 'Operational Guidelines on preparedness and response for COVID-19 outbreak for Apparel Industry 15<sup>th</sup> October 2020' and 'Operational Guidelines on preparedness and response for COVID-19 outbreak for Apparel Industry, First Revision 28<sup>th</sup> April 2021) with immediate effect. Guidelines for functioning of the apparel industries adhering to the new normal measures in managing COVID-19 is outlined as follows.

#### 1. General measures to be followed

- Ensure good air circulation in all work areas.
- Encourage hand hygiene among all employees at all times.
- Temperature checking before entering the workplace is discontinued.
- Wearing masks inside the workplace is not mandatory as a measure of preventing COVID-19. However, considering the risk in work environments not only for COVID-19, but for any other respiratory infections, the management can decide on the protocol for masks for their organizations.
- Continue conducting symptom screening of employees, as one of the most important strategies for early detection of COVID-19 suspected employees

#### 2. Cleaning and disinfecting surfaces

Maintain regular housekeeping practices, including routine wiping/cleaning as per pre COVID-19 protocols

3. Guide for meal rooms and canteens

Arrangements should be made not to over crowd the meal rooms. The physical barriers recommended for meal room tables can be discontinued. Self-serving of meals arranged in buffet style is allowed to be practiced.

4. Transport of workers (if applicable)

Industries can revert back to pre COVID-19 transport protocols.

It is recommended to keep the windows of the vehicles opened when transporting the employees.


5. In person meetings and trainings are allowed.

6. Response measures in detecting an employee with COVID-19 suggestive symptoms

- It is advisable to keep the employee out of work till symptoms subside. May follow the existing protocol in dealing with sick employees.
- Conducting PCR/RAT for COVID -19 screening among employees at workplaces is not recommended as per the circular No. DGHS/COVID - 19/347/2021 dated 09.06.2022

7. Monitoring mechanism for apparel industry

- 'Workplace COVID-19 daily alert' Google form is discontinued.
- However, if a COVID-19 positive employee is identified ensure it is informed to the area MOH and Regional Epidemiologist, immediately.

  
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