NOTIFICATION OF DISASTER MANAGEMENT ACT, 2005 – COVID-19 – DISCUSSION WITH THE MEDICAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH EXPERTS - HON’BLE CHIEF MINISTER PRESS RELEASE - DECISION TO INTENSIFY LOCKDOWN IN SELECT MUNICIPAL CORPORATIONS FOR SPECIFIED DAYS – ISSUED.

The following Government Order is Published:

[G.O. Ms. No. 207, Revenue and Disaster Management (DM-II), 24th April 2020, Chithirai 11, Saarvari, Thiruvalluvar Aandu–2051.]

Read:

1. G.O.Ms.No.172, Revenue and Disaster Management (DM-II) Department, dated 25-3-2020 and addendums issued thereon.
2. G.O.Ms.No.190, Revenue and Disaster Management (DM-II) Department, dated 13-4-2020.
3. G.O.Ms.No.193, Revenue and Disaster Management (DM-II) Department, dated 15-4-2020 and amendment issued.
5. G.O.Ms.No.203, Revenue and Disaster Management (DM-II) Department, dated 23-4-2020
6. G.O.Ms.No.204, Revenue and Disaster Management (DM-II) Department, dated 23-4-2020
8. From the Principal Secretary/ Commissioner of Revenue Administration, Letter No.OCI/563/ 2020, dated 24-4-2020
Based on the recommendations given by the Expert Committee formed by the Government and decision taken by the State Disaster Management Authority meeting held on 20-4-2020, orders were issued in the order fourth read above to extend the lockdown without any change till 3rd May 2020 and not avail of the entire relaxations which was provided for in the Rural areas and non-containment zones. Further certain relaxations were provided in the orders fifth and sixth read above.

The Principal Secretary/Commissioner of Revenue Administration has stated that Hon’ble Chief Minister reviewed the situation due to the outbreak of COVID-19 in the State and based on the discussion with the Medical and Public Health Experts a decision was taken on them by Hon’ble Chief Minister and issued as Press Release dated 24-4-2020. Though the spread of the Corona virus (Covid-19) has come under control in rural areas, there are possible chances for more spread of Corona Virus in the urban pockets particularly in the areas where people gather in large number and hence there is an increase in the number of Covid-19 cases in Corporations like Chennai, Coimbatore and Madurai.

During the discussion with the Medical and Public Health Experts, they have observed that the spread of Covid-19 could be brought under control only if the lock down is further intensified in Urban areas. Considering the current situation and the observations of the Medical and Public Health Experts, the Government have decided to further intensify the lock down measures in the Urban areas and ordered the following measures under the Disaster Management Act, 2005:

- To intensify the present lock down measure, a complete lock down will be implemented in the Corporation limits of Chennai, Coimbatore and Madurai from 26-4-2020 Sunday 6.00 A.M. to 29-4-2020 Wednesday 9.00 P.M.
- Complete lock down will also be implemented in Corporation limits of Salem and Tiruppur from 26-4-2020 Sunday 6.00 A.M. to 28-4-2020 Tuesday 9.00 P.M.

**During this lock down period the following essential services alone would be permitted**

1. Hospitals, Medical Labs, pharmaceutical shops, Milk supply, Ambulance and Hearse Vehicle Services and allied Medical related activities.
2. Departments involved in essential services viz., Secretariat, Health and Family Welfare, Police, Revenue and Disaster Management, Electricity, Aavin, Local Bodies, and Drinking Water Supply Departments with required staff only.
3. Central Government Offices and Banks for the maintenance of essential services with attendance not exceeding the 33 per cent of total staff.
4. Petrol and Diesel Bunks (8 AM to 12 Noon only), LPG, Gas agencies, Public Distribution System shops, connected Food Corporation of India and Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation Godowns and its transportation.
5. Amma Canteens, ATMs will function normally.
6. Only Home delivery of Parcel Foods ordered through phones from hotels / restaurants is permitted.
7. Homes for senior citizens / physically challenged/ orphans and caregivers of senior citizens residing in their homes are permitted.
8. The Community kitchens run by District Administration, Social Welfare and other local bodies for providing food to the destitutes will continue to function.
9. NGOs and Organisations helping the poor and needy would be permitted after obtaining prior permission from the concerned authorities.
10. Vegetable markets like Koyambedu will be permitted to operate with certain restrictions. Similarly, mobile units for sale of vegetables and fruits is permitted. The shops which were permitted hitherto are not allowed to open in these days.

Apart from the essential services permitted above, all other activities are not allowed in the above period. Other Government offices (including Registration Offices) shall not function. IT sector Staff may work from home and all private establishments will remain closed.

The existing restrictions/permissions imposed in the remaining areas other than the above Corporation Limits will continue.

During the lock down period, the restrictions in the containment zones would be further intensified. In these areas disinfectants would be sprayed twice a day. The movement of general public would be restricted in other areas of the Corporations completely. Severe action would also be initiated against the persons who violate the lock down conditions besides the seizure of the vehicles.

(By Order of the Governor)

K. SHANMUGAM,
Chief Secretary.