



**Government of Odisha**  
**Office of Special Relief Commissioner**

No. 177 / R&DM (DM), Dt. 10/01/2022

**ORDER**

And whereas, the Government of Odisha in Revenue & Disaster Management (Disaster Management) vide its Order No.64/R&DM(DM) dt.05.01.2022, have specifically directed that congregations/ large gathering to social, religious, festivities functions will remain prohibited in the State till 1<sup>st</sup> February,2022;

Whereas, the State is passing through a critical stage of COVID-19 pandemic due to resurgence of COVID-19 in some parts of the State and it is necessary to strictly adhere to COVID-19 safety protocols for containment of spread of the infection;

And whereas, on the occasion of **Makar Sankranti/ Pongal (14.01.2022)** usually large number of people congregate at river banks/ ghats/ ponds/ sea shore or near other waterbodies to take holy bath and performing puja. **Also Makar Mela is organised/ celebrated in some districts. Such congregations have large potential for spread of COVID-19 infections;**

Now, therefore, in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 24(I) of the Disaster Management Act, 2005 read with Rule 8(1) of the Odisha Disaster Management Rules, 2010, the undersigned hereby directs following restrictions ;

- (i) Congregations at river banks/ ghats/ ponds/ sea shore or near other waterbodies to take bath on the occasion of Makar Sankranti/ Pongaland on the day following shall remain prohibited throughout the State.
- (ii) Organisation / celebration Makar Mela is strictly prohibited.

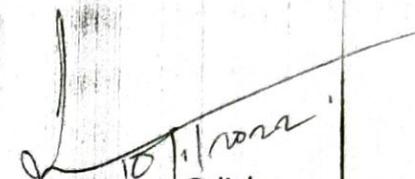
- (iii) All religious places/ places of worship shall be closed for public on Makar Sankranti/ Pongal/ Makal Mela day(s). **However religious rituals are allowed with bare minimum priests/ servitors and staff.**
- (iv) Religious congregations/ celebrations are strictly prohibited.

**People are advised to perform the rituals/puja on the occasion of Makar Sankranti/ Pongal (14.01.2022) at home with family members only** avoiding mass gatherings and adhering to the COVID-19 safety protocols such as physical distancing, use of face mask/ covering and hand washing/ hand sanitizer.

All the District Magistrates/ Municipal Commissioners/ Commissioner of Police, Bhubaneswar-Cuttack/ Superintendents of Police shall strictly enforce the above guidelines.

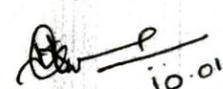
Any person found violating this order shall be punished under the provision of the Disaster Management Act, 2005 and other relevant laws.

By orders of the Governor

  
Chief Secretary, Odisha

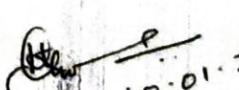
**Memo No. 178 /R&DM(DM) Date: 10/01/2022**

Copy forwarded to the Private Secretary to Hon'ble Chief Minister/ Private Secretary to all Ministers/ Chief Secretary/ Development Commissioner/ Agriculture Production Commissioner for kind information.

  
Special Relief Commissioner &  
Additional Chief Secretary to Govt.  
(Disaster Management)

**Memo No. 179 /R&DM(DM) Date: 10/01/2022**

Copy forwarded to the Addl. Chief Secretary/ Principal Secretary/ Commissioner-cum-Secretary of all Departments/ Director General of Police/ Director General of Police, Fire Services, C.G. Home guards and Director, Civil Defence/Police Commissioner, Bhubaneswar-Cuttack/ All RDCs/ All Collectors/ All Superintendents of Police/ All Municipal Commissioners/ Member Secretary, State Pollution Control Board for kind information and immediate necessary action.

  
Special Relief Commissioner &  
Additional Chief Secretary to Govt.  
(Disaster Management)

**OFFICE OF THE COLLECTOR & DISTRICT MAGISTRATE, BHADRAK  
(Emergency Section)**

Memo No. 274/Emg.

Dated 11.01.2022.

Copy forwarded to Superintendent of Police, Bhadrak for kind information and necessary action.

Copy forwarded to PD, DRDA & PD, DUDA, Bhadrak/ CDM & PHO, Bhadrak/ Sub-Collector and SDM, Bhadrak/ All Tahasildars/ All BDOs/ All Executive Officers of ULBs/ DLC, Bhadrak/ RTO, Bhadrak/ DIO, NIC, Bhadrak/ DI & PRO, Bhadrak for information and necessary action.

*11-1-2022*

 Additional District Magistrate  
Bhadrak