



Government of Odisha
Office of Special Relief Commissioner

No. 1339 / R&DM(DM), Dt. 25/02/2022

ORDER

Whereas, the Government of Odisha in Revenue & Disaster Management(Disaster Management) vide its Order No.64/R&DM(DM) dt.05.01.2022&Order No. 707 dated 31.1.2022 have specifically directed that congregations/ large gathering to social, religious, festivities functions will remain prohibited in the State till 28th February,2022;

And whereas,"Night Curfew" has been withdrawn/ lifted from all urban areas of the State with effect from 18th February, 2022vide Order No. 1156/R &DM(DM) dated 18.02.2022;

Whereas, a continuous decrease in the number of COVID cases is observed in the State and number of active cases has also decreased.

And whereas, the festival '**Mahashivratri**', one of the largest and most significant among the sacred festivals falls on 1st March,2022 and people usually congregate to worship '**Shivlinga**'and observe it by fasting and meditation and keep awake all night.

And whereas, large congregations on the festival of '**Mahasivaratri** 'have large potential for spread of COVID-19 infections;

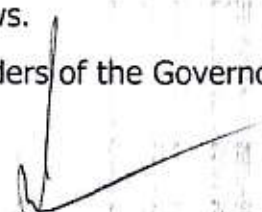
Now, therefore, in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 24(I) of the Disaster Management Act,2005 read with Rule 8(1) of the Odisha Disaster Management RuIes,2010, the undersigned hereby directs that While allowing for celebration of '**Mahasivaratri** ' on **1st March,2022** and its related rituals, the Collectors/ Municipal Commissioners may restrict conaregations/ aatherinas to such number as may

be felt appropriate in view of the prevailing pandemic situation considering local situations/ space available within such temples and its premises to enter into/ gather in temples strictly adhering to the COVID-19 safety protocols. **Further mela/ congregations outside/ within the temple premises may be restricted so as to avoid mass gatherings/ crowding.** The devotees in these places must ensure Covid-19 safety protocols such as wearing of face masks, physical distancing and hand washing /hand sanitizer.

Considering local conditions, District Magistrates/ Municipal Commissioners/ Police Commissioner, Bhubaneswar-Cuttack may impose appropriate restrictions on entry of devotees into temples/ religious places/ places of worship and in the celebrations in temples/ religious places/ places of worship. Collectors/ Municipal Commissioners may decide the number of persons to attend any religious ritual/ festival/Puja in their respective jurisdictions with strict adherence to Covid appropriate behaviour and norms.


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

By orders of the Governor


Chief Secretary, Odisha

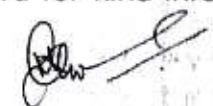
Memo No. 1340 /R&DM(DM) Date: 25/02/2022

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. 1341 /R&DM(DM) Date: 25/02/2022

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. 1478/Emg.

Dated 27.02.2022.

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.



Deputy Collector, Emergency
Collector, Bhadrak