



GOVERNMENT OF KERALA
GENERAL ADMINISTRATION (POLITICAL) DEPARTMENT

No. 103/Pol.5/2020/GAD

Dated, Thiruvananthapuram 07th August, 2020

CIRCULAR

Sub: National Day Celebrations- Independence Day 2020-
Adherence to the Guidelines- reg.

The Independence Day Celebrations 2020 shall be celebrated in a befitting manner. However, in view of spread of COVID-19 pandemic, while organizing various programmes or activities for the Independence Day celebrations, it is imperative to follow certain preventive measures such as wearing of masks, proper sanitization, maintaining social distancing, avoiding large congregations, protecting vulnerable persons, *etc.* and to follow all the guidelines related to COVID-19 issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs and Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India.

State Capital

The ceremony in the State capital would consist of unfurling of National Flag at 9.00 am by the Chief Minister, Playing of the National Anthem, Presentation of Guard of Honour by the Police, Para Military Forces, NCC, *etc.* followed by speech by the Chief Minister and singing of patriotic songs. The maximum number of invitees shall not exceed 150.

District level

A similar ceremony in the morning at or after 9.00 am should be held at the district level, which may *inter alia*, consist of unfurling of the National Flag by a Minister, playing of the National Anthem, Presentation of Guard of Honour with limited number of contingents, speech by the Minister and singing of patriotic songs. Total number of invitees shall be limited to 100.

Sub-divisional Level/ Block level

Ceremonial Hoisting of the National Flag at or after 9.00 am by a Sub divisional Magistrate/ Block Panchayat President accompanied by a speech by the dignitary, singing of National Anthem, Patriotic songs, etc. Total number of invitees shall be limited to 50.

Panchayat/ Municipality/ Corporation Head Quarters

Ceremonial Hoisting of the National Flag at or after 9.00 am by the Panchayat President/Municipal Chairperson/Mayor accompanied by a speech, singing of the National Anthem and patriotic songs, etc. Total number of invitees shall not exceed 75.

Public Offices and other Institutions

Ceremonial Hoisting of the National Flag at or after 9.00 am by the Heads of Departments/ Offices/ Public Sector undertakings/Autonomous bodies/Universities/Higher educational institutions/ health institutions accompanied by the singing of the National Anthem, speech by the Heads of the Offices/ Institutions, singing of patriotic songs etc. Total number of invitees shall not exceed 50.

General instructions:

In view of COVID-19 pandemic, large congregation in the ceremonies shall be avoided. Social distancing norms, wearing of masks, proper sanitization, etc. shall be followed scrupulously.

COVID-19 warriors like doctors, health workers including nurses and paramedics, sanitation workers, etc. shall be invariably invited to the ceremony as recognition of their noble service in the fight against the epidemic. Some persons cured from COVID-19 infection shall also be invited. However, the total number of above persons shall not exceed 12 in all, except for State level celebrations.

General public, Children and Senior citizens shall not be permitted to attend the function.

All contingents and invitees shall be subjected to thermal scanning at the entrance.

The audience shall stand in attention when the National Anthem is sung/played.

All officers in uniform shall salute when the National Salute is given.

MAKE/SUPPLY/SALE/USE of National flag made of plastic is a prohibited activity.

Green Protocol shall be observed during the celebrations.

The above instructions shall be followed scrupulously while celebrating Independence Day.

**K.R JYOTHILAL
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY**

To

All Additional Chief Secretaries/ Principal Secretaries/Secretaries/
Special Secretaries to Government

The Principal Secretary to Governor, Kerala Raj Bhavan
The Secretary, Kerala Legislative Assembly
The Law Secretary, Kerala
The Secretary, Kerala Public Service Commission, Thiruvananthapuram
All Heads of Departments/All District Collectors
The Private Secretary to Chief Minister and other Ministers
The Private Secretary to Leader of Opposition
The Registrar General, High Court of Kerala, Kochi
The Advocate General, Ernakulam
The State Police Chief, Thiruvananthapuram
All Departments/ Sections of Secretariat including Finance and Law
Heads of all Public Sectors Undertakings
The Registrars of all Universities in Kerala
The Special Secretary to Chief Secretary
The Director, Information and Public Relations Department (for wide publicity)
I&PRD, Web and New Media
P A to Principal Secretary (GAD)
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