



GOVERNMENT OF KERALA

Abstract

Disaster Management Department - Covid19 - Rapid Antigen Testing of families Below Poverty Line and Front line Workers - Sanction accorded - Orders issued

DISASTER MANAGEMENT (A) DEPARTMENT

G.O.(Rt)No.888/2020/DMD Dated,Thiruvananthapuram, 04/11/2020

Read:- Minutes of the Crisis Management Group meeting held on 3-9-2020

ORDER

The Crisis Management Group meeting held on 3-9-2020 decided to authorize the District Collectors to identify and conduct rapid antigen tests for BPL(Below Poverty Line)in the State. It is also deemed necessary to routinely test the front line workers involved in Covid-19 pandemic management.

2) Accordingly, Government are pleased to issue the following directions . All District Collectors shall :

1. Identify Influenza like illness - fever, cough, sore throat, breathlessness, diarrhoea, loss of smell or taste, fatigue and conduct rapid antigen tests of families Below Poverty Line in the State. The members of the families need not pay the cost of testing
2. Conduct routine rapid antigen tests of front line workers - health care workers, ASHA, Revenue, Civil Supplies, Police & LSGD functionaries, volunteers involved in Covid-19 pandemic management in the State, on a routine basis to ensure the safety of front line workers. The front line workers need not pay the cost of testing.
3. Conduct at least 100 rapid tests per day per district from among the vulnerable (age) 60 years, persons with comorbidity, pregnancy, severe malnourished children) from BPL(Below Poverty Line) in the State and front line workers with rapid antigen test kits available in private sector without burdening the testing facilities and kits available in Government Sector.
4. If the Government Laboratories are having a time lag to do test and provide results, in such scenario the sample may be tested through state approved Antigen Lab at cost of Rs. 625/- only inclusive of all taxes for each test conducted for the families Below Poverty Line in the State and front line workers.
5. In the first phase the District Collectors shall take steps to adopt a fee-based (Rs.625/- per head) testing system at the testing centres arranged at Railway Stations and Check Posts.
6. The Collectors are permitted to utilize funds made available vide GO (Rt) No.

623/2020/DMD dated 15-7-2020 for the purpose.

7. Maintain a separate database of tests conducted for families Below Poverty Line in the State and front line workers and tests done through Government Laboratories and approved Private Laboratories and submit the daily report to Health Department and Disaster Management Department.

(By order of the Governor)
DR. A JAYATHILAK IAS
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY

All Additional Chief Secretaries/ Principal Secretaries/ Secretaries
All Heads of Department
Commissioner, Land Revenue, Thiruvananthapuram
Commissioner, Disaster Management, Thiruvananthapuram
All District Collectors
The Principal Accountant General (Audit) Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram
The Accountant General (A&E) Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram
The Member Secretary, KSDMA, Observatory Hills, Vikas Bhavan P.O,
Thiruvananthapuram.
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Section Officer