

OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT MAGISTRATE DISTRICT HAMIRPUR (HP).

No. DCH/MA/2020-2421

Dated: 16<sup>th</sup> March, 2020.

ORDER UNDER SECTION 144 OF THE CODE OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE, 1973

Whereas the Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19), a highly contagious disease declared to be a pandemic by the World Health Organization, has spread throughout the country in the last few weeks in a rapid manner endangering the life of all citizens;

Whereas it is an established medical fact that the COVID-19 spreads to a person through contact with another person who is carrying the virus (with or without symptoms) and therefore the most effective measure for prevention of the spread of this deadly disease is curtailment of social/community contacts and quarantine of persons suspected of carrying the Coronavirus;

Whereas the Government of Himachal Pradesh has notified the Himachal Pradesh Epidemic Disease (COVID-19) Regulations, 2020 to contain the spread of (COVID-19) wherein it has been mandated to keep asymptomatic persons under home/institutional quarantine and surveillance and to segregate and isolate symptomatic persons for testing and treatment as per Standard Operating Protocol prescribed by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India;

Whereas the Chief Secretary to the Government of Himachal Pradesh vide letter no. HFW-A-A(3)1/2020 dated 14.03.2020 has directed all District Magistrates to take necessary measures for prevention of the COVID-19 in the respective jurisdictions;

Whereas I am satisfied that there is a real and imminent threat of possible outbreak of dangerous COVID-19 epidemic in District Hamirpur due to recent reporting of such cases in bordering/ neighboring States and heavy inflow of tourists/ travellers in the District and that there is sufficient ground for proceeding under Section 144 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 (CrPc) in the present case for averting the danger to human life, health and safety caused by the spread of COVID-19 ;

Whereas it is case of emergency and the circumstances are such that serving in due time of notice upon all persons residing in the jurisdiction of District Hamirpur is not practicable or possible and therefore it is necessary and expedient to proceed ex-parte under Section 144 of CrPC;


Therefore, in exercise of the powers vested in me under Section 144 (1) of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973, I, Harikesh Meena, District Magistrate, Hamirpur, direct that:

- (i) If there are sufficient reasons, cause or information to suspect or believe that any person(s), could be infected with COVID-19 or may have come in contact with a person suspected or believed to have been infected with COVID-19, then such person(s) shall be bound to immediately cooperate, disclose all requisite information, render all possible assistance to the notified Surveillance Personnel and comply with all their directions (whether written or oral) for surveillance, inspection, inquiry, physical examination, quarantine, isolation and treatment of such person(s) and all other person(s) who may have come in contact with him/her and that any person(s) refusing to take measures for prevention or treatment i.e. home/institutional quarantine/isolation, or refusing to cooperate with, or render assistance to, or disclose requisite information or comply with directions of the Surveillance Personnel shall be prosecuted under Section 270 of the Indian Penal Code, 1860 in addition to prosecution for breach of an order passed under Section 144 of the Criminal Procedure Code, 1973; &
- (ii) all owners/ person-in-charge/ occupier of any premises shall immediately report to the nearest health facility or telephonically to 104 (Health Department Call Center) or 1077 (District Emergency Operation Center) regarding any person residing in the Premises and believed or suspected to have COVID-19 or having travel history to COVID-19 affected countries or if any person residing in the Premises has been in contact with any person believed or suspected to have COVID-19 or having travel history to COVID-19 affected countries, and shall be bound to immediately cooperate, allow unrestricted access, disclose all requisite information and render all possible assistance to the notified Surveillance Personnel and comply with all their directions (whether written or oral) relating to surveillance, inspection, inquiry, physical examination, quarantine, isolation and treatment of such suspected person(s) and temporary closure, sealing, evacuation, fumigation, sanitization etc. of the premises and that any person(s) refusing to cooperate with, or render assistance to, or disclose requisite information or comply with directions of the Surveillance Personnel relating to the suspected persons(s) or the Premises shall be prosecuted under Section 270 of the Indian Penal Code, 1860 in addition to prosecution for breach of an order passed under Section 144 of the Criminal Procedure Code, 1973. It is clarified that the terms "Premises" in this order shall have the meaning ascribed to it under Regulation 2(c) of the COVID-19 Regulations and shall include all Government, semi-Government, quasi-Government or private facilities in District Hamirpur like hostel, hotel, inn, rest/guest house, inspection hut, Dharamshala, home stay, BnB, temporary tents, and private dwelling/house.

It is further directed that the Additional Deputy Commissioner-cum-Additional District Magistrate, all the Sub-Divisional Magistrates, all the Executive Magistrates, the Chief Medical Officer Hamirpur, the Medical Superintendent Dr. RKGMC Hamirpur, District Surveillance officer, in District Hamirpur, are hereby authorized to pass appropriate orders and take necessary coercive action against any person (s) as deemed necessary and expedient for enforcing this Order. In case of any minor, the coercive orders shall be directed to the parent/guardian or adult member of family of the minor;

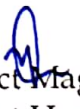
This order shall come into effect immediately for the entire area of District Hamirpur and shall remain in force till April 15, 2020;

Issued under my hand and seal on this 16<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2020.

  
(Harikesh Meena) IAS,  
District Magistrate,  
District Hamirpur (HP)

Endst; No.DCH/HMR/MA/-2422-48 Dated: 16<sup>th</sup> March 2020  
Copy is forwarded to the following for information & necessary action :-

1. The Chief Secretary to the Government of Himachal Pradesh.
2. The Additional Chief Secretary (Health) the Government of Himachal Pradesh.
3. The Divisional Commissioner, Mandi Division, Mandi (H.P).
4. The Superintendent of Police, Hamirpur (H.P).
5. The Additional Deputy Commissioner-cum-ADM Hamirpur.
6. The All Sub-Divisional Magistrates, District Hamirpur (H.P).
7. The All Executive Magistrates in District Hamirpur.
8. The Chief Medical Officer, Hamirpur (H.P).
9. The District Ayurvedic Officer Hamirpur.
10. The Medical Superintendent Dr. RKGMC Hamirpur.
11. The District Surveillance Officer, Hamirpur.
12. The DTDO Hamirpur, at Dharamshala.
13. The Deputy Director, Higher/Elementary Education, Hamirpur.
14. The DIO (NIC) Hamirpur with the request to upload the order on official website of The District Administration.
15. The DPRO Hamirpur for wide publicity.

  
District Magistrate,  
District Hamirpur (HP)