



COMMISSIONER, BRUHAT BANGALORE MAHANAGARA PALIKE

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No: COMM/CWR/ADVISORY-RWAs/2020-21

Date: 12-06-2020

**Advisory for Resident Welfare Associations (RWAs)
In the Context of Unlock 1.0**

To All the Concerned

In exercise of powers conferred under Section 24 of the Disaster Management Act, 2005 to Commissioner, Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) through Order No: RD158TNR 2020 dated 14.04.2020 of Government of Karnataka and as per National Directives issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, and SOP issued by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, the following advisory is issued for BBMP to contain the spread of COVID-19 pandemic at Resident Welfare Associations / Housing Societies / Residential Premises in the city.

This advisory is issued for necessary implementation during the Phased Reopening (Unlock 1.0) to contain the spread of COVID-19 pandemic at Resident Welfare Associations / Housing Societies / Residential Premises in the city.

At the outset, Resident Welfare Associations / Housing Societies / Residential Premises are areas with people living in houses/flats in close vicinity and they access many common facilities available in the society. Outsiders also enter the premises to deliver various goods and services to the residents of the society. The interactions being very dynamic makes residential welfare associations/housing societies for the spread of COVID-19 and hence should be strictly looked after by the RWA and the residents in the societies.

PROTOCOLS AND SOP FOR RESIDENT WELFARE ASSOCIATIONS / HOUSING SOCIETIES / RESIDENTIAL PREMISES:

Instructions to RWA President and Office-bearers

- ✓ No mass gathering on the premises should be held.
- ✓ Common area floor, railings, surfaces, etc. likely to be touched by residents to be cleaned using Sodium Hypochlorite, bleaching powder, or any effective disinfectant for maintaining the highest level of sanitation and hygiene.
- ✓ Care and attention need to be given to housekeeping staff and ensure to provide them with necessary soap/sanitizer / liquid soap dispenser for periodic hand washing.

- ✓ Common areas like walkways and parks used for walking or jogging can be used subject to the strict maintenance of social distancing (1 meter). These places should not get converted into socializing / meeting points defeating the purpose of preventive measures put in place.
- ✓ Residents to be screened before entering the campus using thermal Scanner by a designated person by holding the thermal scanner 3 to 15 cm away from the forehead. If the temperature is $>37.5^{\circ}\text{C}$ ($>99.5^{\circ}\text{F}$) and or with flu symptoms like cold, cough, sore throat, and headache such residents shall be isolated and referred to the nearest fever clinic/ hospital for medical checkup or call Apathmitra 14410.
- ✓ All outsiders like visitors, drivers and helpers should be screened on entry and handwash/ sanitizers are to be provided at entry and exit
- ✓ The housing societies should follow segregated waste disposal with one fixed place identified and used for dumping waste in separate bins by the residents
- ✓ Gymnasiums, Sports Facilities, Swimming Pools, Recreational and club facilities are to be closed.
- ✓ No summer camp activity / outdoor activities are allowed within the premises.
- ✓ Lifts are closed spaces and a potential source of infection to others, so the RWA should ensure the following:
 - Sanitization of the lift surfaces periodically
 - Sanitization of the Lift Operating buttons by regular cleaning
 - People using the lift to wash hand using soap water or hand sanitizer after every usage necessarily
 - Not to touch eyes or nose or face after touching these surfaces without washing hands.
- ✓ In case a positive case is detected in the locality, a "Containment Plan" will be put in place for which the RWA's co-operation would be required by the health authorities.
- ✓ Informative, Educative & Communicative materials approved by the Government shall be made available in soft copies, which can be printed and displayed on the premise to create awareness (don't print flex banners).



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- ✓ The associations or societies should not yield to any rumors creating panic and problems in the community and instead inform health authorities for any kind of necessary action required.
- ✓ It shall be the duty of the Resident Welfare Association (RWA)/Society to ensure that all those people who have been advised home quarantine stay indoors in their homes and do not move around in the society, community spaces or in the city casually.
- ✓ Health officials will stick the Home Quarantine posters for those who are recommended to do so. Any breach of quarantine of the suspect can cause an uncontrolled spread of the infection in the entire community.
- ✓ The RWA should ensure that any suspected COVID case is reported by the resident to the health/municipal authorities and cooperate with them to take the required action of transferring the resident to the hospital/ensuring home quarantine.
- ✓ The RWA should see that no COVID positive resident is stigmatized by others in the society and there is no abuse/harassment of the affected resident. Neighbors can keep in touch with the affected resident/family through mediums like phone, WhatsApp, video call, etc.

1) Instructions to all Residents:

- ✓ If any resident or his/her family members have undertaken interstate travel and are under mandatory Home Quarantine as per the latest directive and strictly follow the quarantine guidelines.
- ✓ If any resident develops symptoms of Acute respiratory illness like Fever, Cough, Running Nose, difficulty in breathing, he/she should call immediately 104 helplines, further assistance for testing and arrangement for further care will be provided by Health Department at identified hospitals, the patient will be transported using Ambulance services.
- ✓ Details of all persons who had close contact with the suspected case shall be shared with the health department and who have to be subjected to Home Quarantine for observation.
- ✓ If any resident has COVID symptoms, he/she should self-declare the condition to the RWA or neighbors so that he/she doesn't get any visitor during such a period.

- ✓ If a resident comes into contact with a suspected/confirmed COVID patient and shows certain symptoms, he/she should go for self-quarantine till the lab results are negative
- ✓ All residents should not visit or come in contact with anyone who has a recent history of having travelled back from a new area/location.

2) Taking care of Children

- ✓ Kids should be discouraged from playing outside in a group
- ✓ Parents are requested to engage children with indoor creative activities
- ✓ Kids should be educated on Physical Distancing, Cough Etiquette, and Hand Hygiene to prevent the spread of illness to others in the community as well as to inculcate healthy practices in children.
- ✓ Nutrition plays an important role in the development of Immunity and the ability to fight diseases because of which it is advised to provide homemade food to children.
- ✓ Engage children through online educative/ recreational modules of learning.
- ✓ Parents are advised to counsel their children on the situation of COVID 19 and the importance of preventive measures so that children understand the reason behind the limits imposed on their activities.

3) Travelling

- ✓ Travelling to distant places must be avoided and undertaken only if necessary and you are the best judge on this.

4) Mass Gathering

- ✓ Mass Gatherings are places with high risk for the spread of infection and visiting such places poses a serious risk in spread and transmission of infectious diseases. The RWAs are advised to avoid gatherings.
- ✓ Do not organize/ attend birthday parties, kitty parties, social meetings, etc. and put risk on the health of your friends and family members.

5) Elderly Care

- ✓ Elderly people in the house (above 60 years), patients suffering from cancer, severe



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diabetes people with the weak immune system should be encouraged to stay indoors and take adequate precautions like hand wash, avoiding crowded places, taking their medicines regularly and consuming nutritious food.

- ✓ COVID-19 presents as mild diseases in the majority of cases and it is only the spread of disease that is a matter of concern for public health. Support and co-operation from the citizens are highly necessary to reduce the transmission of the infection in the community.

Persons above 65 years of age, persons with comorbidities, pregnant women, and children below the age of 10 years are advised to stay at home and avoid unnecessary movement/travel as much as possible.

For information of Bengaluru Citizens, the FAQs in connection with this advisory and other advisories issued by the undersigned in the context of Unlock 1.0 can be accessed at the link here: <http://covid19.bbmpgov.in/pages/faqs>. This advisory can be accessed on the BBMP COVID-19 Dashboard. The link to access is: <http://covid19.bbmpgov.in>.

The National Directives about Face Coverings / Physical Distancing / No spitting / No urinating in Public Places shall be followed as a matter of Social Responsibility and for Personal Safety. Your Health and Safety is our prime concern. Let us adapt to the New Norm to Stay Safe and strive sincerely to keep Namma Bengaluru Safe in this fight against the COVID-19 pandemic.

This is issued on 12th June 2020 for information on all Housing societies and residential premises in the city and also the citizens in the jurisdiction of Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike.

B. H. Anil Kumar
B H Anil Kumar IAS 12/6/2020
Commissioner,

Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike.

BBMP Bulletin <http://bbmp.gov.in/covid19bulletins>

FAQs <https://covid19.bbmpgov.in/pages/faqs>

Helplines 080 2266 0000 / 94806 85888



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