

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH

ABSTRACT

General Administration Department – COVID-19 – Commencement of Holy month of Ramadan –Restrictions on gathering of Musallies (Worshippers) for regular 5 times prayers, Friday prayers, Iftar and Taraweeh (special prayers) during night times – Orders – Issued.

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION (Pro.B) DEPARTMENT

G.O.Rt.No.721

Dated:24/04/2020

Read the following:

- Ref:-1. G.O.Rt.No.204, Health Medical & Family Welfare (B2) Dept., Government of AP, Dated:19.03.2020
2. Orders of the Secretary to Home, Ministry of Home Affairs, Dt:24.03.2020.
3. G.O. Rt. No 216, Health Medical & Family (B2) Dept., Government of A.P., Dated: 24-03-2020.
4. MHA Order no. 40-3/2020-DM-I(A), dated: 14-04-2020, Ministry of Home Affairs, GOI, New Delhi.
5. G.O. Rt. No 238, dated: 14-04-2020, Health Medical & Family (B2) Dept., Government of A.P.
6. Hon'ble chief Minister's Video conference with the Dist. Collectors, dated:20-04-2020.
7. Instructions of the Chief Executive Officer, A.P.State Waqf Board, dated: 22.04.2020 to all the District Collectors of AP.
8. From the CEO, APSWB, Letter No.E1/20/2019-AP, Dt.24-04-2020.

ORDER:

In the light of the orders issued by the Central Government and Government of Andhra Pradesh vide reference 4th & 5th cited, regarding observance of Lock down period in connection with COVID-19, all religious institutions / places of worship shall be closed for public. Religious congregations are strictly prohibited.

2. Further, during the Video conference held on 20-04-2020 with District Collectors and all the religious heads (Ulemas) of the Muslim Community of all the Districts across the State, it was decided to accept the suggestions which are feasible for implementation during these hours of crisis. Accordingly, the Chief Executive Officer, AP State Waqf Board, Vijayawada has issued the following instructions to all the District Collectors of Andhra Pradesh:-

a. Imam, Mouzzin and 3 other staff committee members (not exceeding 5 members) shall be allowed to perform 5 time prayers, Juma/Friday prayers and Taraweeh prayers during the entire month of Ramadan month. No other person shall be allowed at any cost.

b. All the musallies (Worshippers) / General Muslims shall be advised to offer 5 time prayers, Friday prayers, Iftar and Taraweeh prayers, etc. in their homes, during the entire month of Holy Ramadan.

c. The managements of Masjids can make use of available sound system for Azan (call of prayers) for 5 times prayers inclusive of giving siren for announcement of Saheri and Iftar timings.

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d. Announcement shall be made after every call of prayer that the community should strictly maintain the social / physical distance in their daily routine and avoid any type of congregation either at home or outside of their home to prevent the spread of pandemic COVID-19.

3. Accordingly, the concerned Departments are also directed to provide following required facilities and facilitate Musallies to observe Ramadan month without any hassles:-

- I. 24X7 power supply
- II. Adequate supply of drinking and general usage water
- III. Making sure the availability of Grocery Shops, Vegetable and Fruit and also shops Of essential commodities upto 10.00 a.m. every day
- IV. Making sure the availability of fruit and dry fruit shops in the market for Iftar at evening times.
- V. Allowing the donors of food and other eatables to move between 03 AM to 04.30 AM in the morning and between 05.30 PM to 06.30 PM in the evening at three / four specified points only as part of special relaxation during the month of Ramadan, duly maintaining social distance and other COVID-19 Protocols and by ensuring that there is no congregation and by encouraging home delivery in the containment clusters.
- VI. According permission to the identified hotels with Take Away facility only both at Sehri and Iftar times exclusively at three / four specified points.
- VII. Providing nutritious and quality food with fruits and dry fruits to the Muslims at Quarantine centers for both Sehri and Iftar at 3.00 A.M. and 6.00 P.M.
- VIII. Issue of passes to the Imams and Mouzzins to move from their residences to the respective Masjids during the month of Ramadan on due certification by the DMWO/Inspector-Auditor Waqf concerned.
- IX. Display of banner in all the Masjids indicating the restrictions in connection with COVID-19.

4. Therefore, Government is here by directed all the Heads of the Departments and District Collectors of the State to take necessary action to facilitate the public during the month of Holy Ramadan and it should be ensured that all necessary protocols of COVID-19 shall be followed scrupulously.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

NILAM SAWHNEY
CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVT

To
The Special Commissioner, Minorities Welfare, AP. Tadepalli, Guntur district.
The Chief Executive Officer, AP State Waqf Board, Vijayawada.
The HoDs of All Departments of the State.
All the District Collectors in the State.
All the District Minorities Welfare Officers in the State.

// FORWARDED :: BY ORDER //

SECTION OFFICER