

GOVERNMENT OF NAGALAND
DIRECTORATE OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
NAGALAND::KOHIMA

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No: DHFW/COVID-19/2020/6589-96

Dated Kohima the 18th Dec 2020

Guidance Note on COVID-19 Appropriate Behaviors during Festive Season

On account of the COVID-19 pandemic, and with a view to contain the risk of spread of COVID-19 during the winter & festive season which coincide with Flu season, the following guidance note is issued in consultation with various stakeholders, for dissemination to and adherence by all concerned.

2. The preventive measures to reduce the risk of COVID-19 have already been disseminated through various SoPs and guidance notes which are also available on the website <https://covid19.nagaland.gov.in/advisories> or <https://nagahealth.nagaland.gov.in>. It is reiterated that:-
 - a. Elderly, persons with underlying diseases, pregnant women and children are advised to stay at home, except for essential and health purposes.
 - b. Maintain physical distancing of 6 feet as far as feasible in crowded and public places.
 - c. Mandatorily use face covers/masks in crowded and public places.
 - d. Practice frequent hand washing with soap or hand sanitizers.
 - e. Follow Respiratory etiquettes while coughing/sneezing.
 - f. Do not spit in public places.
 - g. Monitor your health and report any illness at the earliest to nearest hospital or call state and district helpline.

3. The following measures are advised with regard to various activities associated with Christmas and New Year celebrations:-
 - a. To avoid caroling in groups and processions. These may be carried out in churches, open spaces and halls by observing safety protocols.
 - b. To avoid picnics, partying/clubbing and other entertainment events that involves crowding.
 - c. Organizer(s) and participant(s) attending Religious/ Social gatherings should strictly adhere to all safety protocols and physical distancing norms and comply to the limitation of gathering of 100 persons in closed space or 50% of the sitting capacity whichever is lower as per the SoPs. Further, the gathering should be staggered so that crowding is avoided.
 - d. Christmas and New Year Feasts may be avoided or if unavoidable, food should be served in take-away packages and all safety protocols should be strictly followed.
 - e. To defer or postpone conferences, jubilees, convocations, etc. scheduled during the festive season. In case these are unavoidable, laid down SoPs should be followed.
 - f. Travelling to other places, particularly from towns to villages, to attend religious/social events should be avoided. If unavoidable on account of emergent requirements, all safety protocols must be followed.
 - g. Food vendors should wear mask and gloves at all time and not entertain customer without wearing face mask. They should also ensure that there is no crowding around the stalls and to serve the food in take-away packages.
 - h. Public transport operators to adhere with the SOPs and authorized enforcing agencies to take strict action for violation of the SOPs as per legal provisions against the offenders.
 - i. Weddings to follow SOPs and preventive measures at all times.



4. It is further advised that people with Flu-like symptoms such as cough, sore throat and/or fever should isolate themselves and come forward for timely testing for COVID-19. Early testing and detection and treatment can lead to better management and thereby prevent debilitating complications and reduce deaths.
5. COVID-19 and its complications affect all age groups. Presently, maximum confirmed cases are between the age of 20-40 years and even if they don't develop symptoms or complications, they can become super-spreaders endangering the community particularly the elderly and people with co-morbidities. Further, symptomatic cases are also increasing among younger age groups. It is therefore of utmost importance that the safety protocols are followed by everyone.
6. It is also reminded that violation of the SoPs may attract prosecution and penalties by authorities.


(Dr. VIZOLIE Z SUOKHRIE)

Principal Director
Directorate of Health & Family Welfare

No: DHFW/COVID-19/UTP-JAIL/2019-20/6589-96

Dated Kohima, the 18th Dec 2020.

Copy To:

1. The Addl Chief Secretary to the Chief Minister, Government of Nagaland Kohima, for kind information.
2. The Deputy Secretary to the Chief Secretary, Government of Nagaland Kohima, for kind information.
3. The Director General of Police, Nagaland Kohima, for kind information.
4. The Principal Secretary, Home Department Nagaland Kohima, for kind information.
5. The Principal Secretary, Health & Family Welfare Department, Nagaland Kohima, for kind information.
6. The Mission Director (NHM)/ Director (H)/ Director (FW)/ Director (ME&RS)/ Director (Dental)/ SPO (IDSP), Nagaland Kohima for information and necessary action.
7. The Deputy Commissioner & Chairman DTF of all districts for information & necessary action.
8. The Chief Medical Officer/ Medical Superintendent of all Districts for information & necessary action.
9. Guard file/ Office copy.


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