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NOTIFICATION

Dated Kohima, the 18th March 2020.

No. H&FW -27/B-30/nCoV2020(Pt)/274 :: In exercise of the powers conferred under section 2, 3 and 4 of the Epidemic Disease Act, 1897 (No.3 of 1897), The Government of Nagaland, Department of Health and Family Welfare, hereby issues the following regulation regarding COVID-19 (Corona Virus Disease 2019):

1. These regulations may be called "the Nagaland Epidemic Disease (COVID-19) Regulations 2020.
2. They shall extend to the whole State of Nagaland.
3. They shall come into force from the date of publication in the Official Gazette.
4. "COVID-19" means the Coronavirus Disease caused by Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus 2 (SARS Cov 2) as defined by the World Health Organization (WHO) / Government of India.
5. "Epidemic Disease" in these regulations means COVID-19 (Corona Virus Disease 2019).
6. "Authorized persons" under this Act are Principal Director, Health & Family Welfare at State, Deputy Commissioners and Chief Medical Officer at District and Additional Deputy Commissioners in Subdivision and officers as authorized by the Department of Health and Family Welfare from time to time.
7. "Home Quarantine" means confining a person to a dwelling unit or part thereof with a purpose to minimize possibility of direct or indirect contact with other persons for the containment and better prevention of the spread of COVID-19.
8. "Designated Quarantine Facility" means any facility declared by the State Government for the purpose of quarantine of asymptomatic cases.
9. "Isolation Facility" means any facility declared by the State Government for the purpose of isolation of suspected or probable cases of COVID - 19.
10. "Health Facilities" under this Act means, all health care establishments of any system of Medicine (governed by state or central or PSU and Private) within the State of Nagaland.
11. All Health Facilities shall have a designated Flu/COVID-19 corners for screening of suspected cases of COVID-19.

12. It shall be mandatory for all Health Facilities to notify such person(s) to concerned District Surveillance Unit along with duly filled up self declaration forms, who, within their knowledge, are having travel history of COVID-19 affected countries as per the extant guidelines and are having complaints of fever or cough or respiratory difficulty or even without any sign and symptoms of COVID-19. In addition the history of coming in contact with suspected or confirmed cases of COVID - 19 shall be recorded.
 - i. In case the person has any such history in last 14 days and the person is symptomatic then the person must be kept in home/facility quarantine for 14 days from the day of exposure;
 - ii. In case the person has any such history in last 14 days and the person is symptomatic as per protocol and will be tested for COVID-19 as per protocol; and
 - iii. Information of all such cases should be given to Chief Medical Officer and Health Officer of the District immediately.
13. No person/institution/organization will use any print or electronic media for information regarding COVID-19 without prior permission of Health & Family Welfare Department, Nagaland. This is to avoid spread of any rumor or unauthenticated information regarding COVID-19. In case, any person/institution/organization is found indulging in such activity, it will be treated as a punishable offence under these regulations.
14. No private Laboratories have been authorized to take or test samples for COVID-19 in the State of Nagaland. All such samples will be collected as per guidelines of the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India and these will be sent to designated labs by the State Nodal Officer appointed by the Health & Family Welfare Department, Nagaland.
15. Any person with a history of travel in last 14 days to a country or area from where COVID-19 has been reported must report to nearest Government Hospital or call a toll helpline number 7005415243/ 7005539653/ 9856071745, so that necessary measures/action if required may be intimated by Health & Family Welfare Department.
16. All person with a history of travel to a country or area from where COVID-19 has been reported in last 14 days, but who do not have any symptoms of cough, fever, difficulty in breathing, should isolate themselves at home and cover their mouth and nose with a mask. Such persons must take precautions to avoid contact with any persons including family members for 14 days from the date of arrival from such areas.
17. Authorized persons as per Clause 6 of these regulations are authorized under this Act to admit a person and isolate the person if required in case he/she has a history of visit to an area where COVID-19 is endemic and the concerned person is symptomatic.
18. If a suspected case of COVID-19 refuses admission or isolation, the officers in section 6 of these regulations will have powers to forcefully admit and isolate such case for a period of 14 days from the onset of symptoms or till the reports of Lab tests are received, or such period as may be necessary.

19. If cases of COVID-19 are reported from a defined geographic area such as village, town, ward, colony or settlement, the Deputy Commissioner of the concerned District shall have the right to implement following containment measures but not limited to these, in order to prevent the spread of the disease.
- i. Sealing of the geographical area;
 - ii. Barring entry and exit of population from the containment area;
 - iii. Closure of schools, offices and banning public gatherings;
 - iv. Banning vehicular movements in the area;
 - v. Initiating active and passive surveillance of COVID-19 cases;
 - vi. Hospital isolation of all suspected cases;
 - vii. Designating any Government/Building as containment unit for isolation of the cases;
 - viii. Staff of all Government departments will be at disposal of District Administration of the concerned area for discharging the duty of containment measures; and
 - ix. Any other measures as it think fit to control/prevent the epidemic directed by Department of Health & Family Welfare Nagaland.
20. District Disaster Management Committee headed by Deputy Commissioner is authorized for planning strategy regarding containment measure for COVID-19 in their respective Districts. The Deputy Commissioner may co-opt more officers from different departments for District Disaster Management Committee for this activity under these regulations.
21. **Penalty:-** Any person/institution/organization found violating any clause of these regulations shall be deemed to have committed an offence punishable under section 188 of Indian Penal Code 1860 (45 of 1860).
22. **Protection to person acting under Act:** No suit or legal proceedings shall lie against any person for anything done or intended to be done in good faith under the Epidemic Disease Act, 1897 (No. of 1897) unless proved otherwise.
23. These regulations shall come into force immediately and shall remain valid for a period of one year from the date of publication of this notification.

Sd/-

WEZOPE KENYE

Secretary to the Government of Nagaland.