The regular meeting of the State Executive Committee was held in the Forest Bhavan yesterday under the Chairmanship of Chief Secretary Shri Parimal Rai.

Shri Puneet Goel, Principal Secretary, Science and Technology, Shri SK Bhandari, Secretary, Transport, Shri Sanjay Kumar, Secretary Revenue, Member Secretary, SEC & SDMA and other officers attended.

Secretary Health informed that no new Covid-19 case has been detected after 3rd April 2020. As on date, Goa has seven positive cases of Covid-19, out of which six patients have recovered and have been shifted to a Quarantine facility outside. All tests done during the 24 hours on SARI/ILI patients for Covid were negative.

The Nodal Officer for quarantine informed that 3 individuals were there in the quarantine facility at Mayem Residency, 4 at Acron Homes at Candolim and 3 in Old Goa Residency.

The SEC discussed the new MHA order and guidelines issued, on 15 April, 2020, by the Chairperson, NEC and it was directed that there should be strict compliance of the same. These guidelines would be applicable to States/UTs from 20 April, 2020, and the earlier order and guidelines would be applicable till then. It was brought to notice that there would be no relaxation beyond the guidelines, and if required the State could consider to not provide some of the relaxations in view of the local requirements and the situation existing in the neighboring districts of other States.

The Secretary, Health informed that as per the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare guidelines, Goa does not have any hotspot for Covid. Both the districts are falling under the category of non-hotspots districts. Therefore, from 20th April, the State can start the additional economic activities listed in the MHA's order.

The SEC highlighted that strict vigil be ensured at the entry points of the borders of the State to negate the possibility of people entering Goa without due authority. The SEC asked the IT department and DMA to work on a technological solution to monitor the movement of goods vehicles with their personnel. The SEC also directed the District
Observers and Incident Commanders to make regular visits to the Border for a supervision of this exercise at the border check posts.

Secretary Health informed the committee about the development of a rapid screening test by M/S Abbot, and that the same was under examination by ICMR for approval. This could possibly be used in future for screening at the borders. The SEC discussed the issue and decided that the feasibility of using such tests could be explored after its approval by ICMR.

The SEC noted that as per the new MHA guidelines, there was a compulsory requirement for wearing a face cover when in Public places and in work spaces. Therefore, there was a requirement to ensure that there are sufficient quantities of cloth masks available in the market at an affordable rate. The requirement for the masks in respect for the Government departments be made to Member Secretary, GSUDA by the HoDs/Secretaries. It was also decided that DMA would provide necessary support to Secretary WCD for ensuring sufficient availability of the reusable cloth masks.

The SEC asked the Collectors to designate and circulate an email ID on which the concerned department or institution could make their requests to seek permission for operation of their units, as per the new guidelines, with effect from 20 April, 2020. A detailed SOP would be put up on the website soon. Principal Secretary, Science and Technology will work out the modalities with the Collectors for the same.

The SEC directed that the concerned Secretary/HOD should ensure that staff is present in the offices as per the recent GAD circular and sufficient provision of sanitizers, thermal guns etc in the offices are made available to comply with the order issued by the MHA. The SEC decided that initially 1000 thermal guns would be procured. The department could send their requirements to Secretary Health who would do the procurement and distribution, based on the need of the departments.

The PCE informed that the position of water supply was normal except at Podocem (Sankhalim). The pump that was given for repair at Belgaum is ready and the installation process would be initiated. It was also informed that the pumps at Tuem had been replaced and supply has been restored.

CE (Electricity) informed that the supply of the electricity supply is normal and the process to start billing for the next season has started. The SEC directed that the meter readers should use proper face cover and should be provided hand sanitizers.

Secretary, Agriculture informed that agriculture activities are stable and the department is facilitating proper harvesting and sowing. SEC
directed Secretary Agriculture to ensure that a mechanism is put in place for procurement of these agricultural products at the source.

Secretary Civil Supplies informed the SEC that there were sufficient supplies in the market including Rawa, which was earlier reported to be in short supply.

The Nodal Officer (Foreigners) informed that Goa still has about 4500-5000 foreigners as per the information received from foreign embassies/missions. So far 23 special relief flights have flown from Goa with 4,239 foreigners.

The Commissioner (Excise) informed that various liquor manufacturing units in Goa have produced about 1.58 lakh litres of sanitizers of which 33500 litres of sanitizers was given to Goa government and defence authorities deployed in Goa.

The 42 buses of KTCL (which is subject to variation as per requirements) used for providing essential services and relief work will be without any charge to the user.

The members of the SEC tasted food to be provided to the labourers at the relief camps. The SEC was satisfied with the meal being provided and appreciated the efforts of the SHGs and the Director Education.

The SEC also put on record its appreciation to all the members of the various survey teams, supervisors, and others who completed the House-to-House survey in three days.

Committee also conveyed to all concerned that as per MHA orders, any person violating these containment measures or not complying with the above directions will be liable to be proceeded against as per the provisions of Section 51 to 60 of the Disaster Management Act, 2005, besides legal action u/s 188 of the IPC.

DI/NB/PN/ DSK /SSP/2020/1866

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DIRECTORATE OF INFORMATION AND PUBLICITY.
THIRD FLOOR,UDYOG BHAVAN,
NEAR AZAD MAIDAN, PANAJI GOA