

**Government of Jharkhand**  
**Home, Prison & Disaster Management Department**  
**(Disaster Management Division)**

3192  
10-11-2020

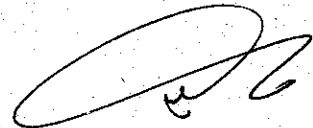
**ORDER**

Whereas, the Ministry of Home Affairs has issued lockdown orders vide Order dated 24.03.2020, Order dated 15.04.2020, Order dated 01.05.2020, Order dated 17.05.2020, Order dated 30.05.2020, Order dated 29.06.2020, Order dated 29.07.2020, Order dated 29.08.2020, Order dated 30.09.2020 and Order dated 27.10.2020 due to prevailing COVID 19 situation;

Whereas, in exercise of the power conferred under section 22(2) (h) of the Disaster Management Act, 2005, the undersigned in his capacity as Chairperson, State Executive Committee, vide Order no. 3185 dated 05.11.2020 extended lockdown related restrictions in the state of Jharkhand in the containment zone(s) up to 30.11.2020 due to COVID-19 and issued directions to all the Departments of Government of Jharkhand and all the District Administrations for the strict implementation of Guidelines and State Directives;

Whereas the festivals of Deepawali and Kali Puja are scheduled in the month of November. During Kali Puja Pandal/Mandap are erected and people gather in these Pandal/Mandap;

Whereas there is a case for permitting the performance of rituals related to the observance of these festivals by the people on one hand, on the other hand relaxations have to be graded and regulated because there also remains the overarching objective of curtailing the spread of COVID-19 infection so as to keep the mortality and morbidity rates as low as possible especially in view of the highly infectious and lethal nature of SARS-COV-2 virus;



Whereas after a careful review of the prevailing COVID 19 situation it is considered important to strike a balance between the permitting religious activities on one hand and ensure that there are checks and balances in place which could limit the spread of infection on the other hand;

Now therefore, in exercise of the power conferred under section 22(2)(h) of the Disaster Management Act, 2005 the undersigned, in his capacity as Chairperson, State Executive Committee (SEC), hereby issues directions to all the Departments of Government of Jharkhand and all the District Administrations for the strict implementation of the enclosed Guidelines in the course of observance of Deepawali and Kali Puja in the state of Jharkhand in November 2020.



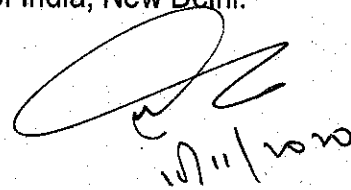
**Sukhdev Singh**  
**Chief Secretary,**  
**Jharkhand.**

Memo no. 3.1.92.....

Ranchi, Dated: 10.11.2020

Copy to – Principal Secretary to Chief Minister/All Additional Chief Secretary/Principal Secretary/Secretary/Director General of Police/All Divisional commissioner/DIG/DC/SSP/SP, Jharkhand for information and necessary action.

Copy to –Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, New Delhi.



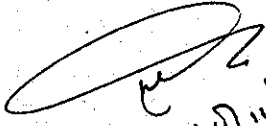
**Sukhdev Singh**  
**Chief Secretary,**  
**Jharkhand.**

**Guidelines to be followed for the observance of Deepawali and Kali Puja in the state of Jharkhand in November 2020.**

1. No bursting of firecrackers is permitted in public places.
2. Regarding bursting of firecrackers in private places a separate order shall be issued in accordance with the order of The National Green Tribunal, Principal Bench , New Delhi issued on 09.11.2020 in this regard.
3. Kali Puja may generally be performed at temples or privately at home by the devotees to the extent possible. Puja may also be performed in specially erected small Pandals/Mandaps, where it has been done traditionally.
4. Kali Puja Pandal/Mandap shall be barricaded on all the sides in a way to prevent the entry of public inside the pandal.
5. Only organizers up to a maximum strength of 15 are permitted inside the barricaded Pandal.
6. General public/devotees may do darshan from outside the barricade while wearing mask and maintaining social distance of 6 feet between individuals.
7. Specific markings six feet apart shall be made by those in charge of the Puja Pandal to ensure social distancing.
8. There shall not be any decoration by lighting in the area around the Puja Pandal/Mandap.
9. No welcome gates/Toran Dwar shall be erected in and around the Puja Pandal/Mandap.
10. Barring the area where idol is placed, rest of the Puja Pandal/Mandap shall be open to air.
11. The use of public address system may be permitted for live broadcast of chanting of Mantra/Paath/Aarti upto the limit of 55 decibels only during the day time( 07:00 AM

to 09:00 PM) outside of 100m vicinity of courts and hospitals. There shall be no broadcast of taped/audio/digital recordings via the public address system.

12. No fair/Mela shall be organized on the occasion.
13. No food stalls shall be opened in and around the Kali Puja Pandal/Mandap.
14. There shall be no immersion procession. The idols will be immersed at place(s) approved by the district administration for the purpose.
15. There shall be no musical or any other entertainment/cultural program.
16. No community feast/ Prasad or Bhog distribution function shall be organized.
17. No invitation shall be issued in any form by the organizers/Puja Committees.
18. No public ceremony/function shall be organized for the inauguration of the Pandal/Mandap.
19. Wearing of face cover/mask is compulsory.
20. Individuals shall maintain a minimum distance of 6 feet in public places.
21. All the District Magistrates/ Superintendent of Police shall strictly enforce the above guidelines.
22. Any person violating these measures will be liable to be proceeded against in accordance with the provisions of Section 51 to 60 of the Disaster Management Act, 2005 besides legal action under Section 188 of the IPC and other legal provisions as applicable.



15/11/2020

Sukhdev Singh

Chief Secretary,

Jharkhand.