## AJAY BHALLA, IAS



गृह सचिव Home Secretary भारत सरकार Government of India North Block, New Delhi

Dated: 30<sup>th</sup> May, 2020

D.O.No.40-3/2020-DM-I(A)

Dear Chief Secretary,

Kindly refer to the MHA order of even number, issued today, whereby lockdown has been extended in the containment zones upto June 30, 2020 with a phased re-opening of the prohibited activities. New guidelines have been issued for Unlock 1, keeping in view the suggestions received from the State Governments following the Video Conference held by the Cabinet Secretary on May 28, 2020.

**2.** As mentioned in the guidelines, there will be a phased re-opening of activities in areas outside Containment Zones, with the stipulation of following Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) to be prescribed by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MoHFW).

**3.** I would specifically like to draw your attention to Phase II, regarding reopening of schools, colleges etc., where States and UTs have been asked to have consultations at the institution level, with parents and other stakeholders. You are advised to send the feedback on the consultations held, so that a timely decision can be taken for opening up of the education institutions.

**4.** The guidelines also mandate that there shall be no restriction on inter-State and intra-State movement of persons. Therefore, no separate approvals or e-passes etc. are required in this regard. However, in case you wish to regulate such movement, you are required to give wide publicity in advance.

**5.** As emphasized in my earlier D.O. letters, I would like to reiterate again that States/Union Territories cannot dilute restrictions imposed vide the aforesaid guidelines issued by MHA. States/ UTs, based on their assessment of the situation, may prohibit certain activities in areas outside containment zones, or impose such restrictions as deemed necessary.

6. I would urge you to ensure compliance of the new guidelines, and direct all concerned authorities for their strict implementation. Further guidelines issued by MHA and consequent Orders issued by the respective State Governments / UT Administration should be widely disseminated to the public and to the field functionaries for the convenience of people.

With regards,

Yours sincerely

(Ajay Bhalla)

То

**Chief Secretaries of all States** 

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