



No. 64820/BMC, BBSR

Dated. 9. 8. 2021

ORDER

The Govt of Odisha vide its Order No. 4290 / R&DM (DM) dtd.31.07.2021 have authorized the Municipal Commissioners to accord permission for opening of public worship in religious places / places of worship with appropriate COVID-19 restrictions with observance of COVID-19 protocol based on local assessment of the situation and in due consultation with relevant stakeholders.

A consultative meeting with relevant stakeholders of all religious groups was held virtually on 07-08-2021 & after detail deliberation, it was decided that religious institutions of all types will be allowed to open from 23-08-2021 subject to adherence of the following guidelines.

1. All the temples of Bhubaneswar within the jurisdiction of BMC will reopen with strict observance of COVID-19 safety protocols. However no devotee shall be allowed inside the Garva Griha of the temple area and will be allowed "Darshan" from a safe distance only. There shall be no offerings like "Bhoga" etc in the temple. As per specific instruction of Govt vide the aforementioned order, Shree Lingaraj Temple Administration, Bhubaneswar can take appropriate decision for opening of their temple on or after 23-08-2021.
2. At Lord Lingaraj temple at any point of time maximum of 100 nos. of devotees will be allowed from Singhadwar to Ada- Katha. Sahan darshan / Garvagraha darshan will be completely prohibited. Similarly no offering to the Lord shall be accepted by the Sebayats and only Darshan will be allowed. BMC will do the necessary barricading outside the temple and handover to Police for control and restriction on the movement of the public.
3. Similarly all other religious institutions like Mosque/Church/Gurudwara will also be allowed to open from 23-08-2021.
4. The religious institution authorities shall ensure that only that many devotees are allowed inside their premises so that social distancing of 6 feet among them is maintained. In no case social distancing norms should be allowed to be violated.
5. At any point of time not more than 25 person will be allowed to be congregated at any religious institutions like Temple/Mosque/Church/Gurudwara.
6. All Temple/Mosque/Church/Gurudwara authority shall ensure RT-PCR testing of their priests/sebayats and only RT-PCR negative and Final COVID vaccination certificate holder will be allowed to perform rituals. The Priests/Sebayats shall have to put on Mask at all times as per COVID protocol.
7. All devotees will have to wear mask and maintain social distancing of six feet from each other appropriately at all times.
8. The Temple/Mosque/Church/Gurudwara authorities shall make provision for hand washing / hand sanitizer for the devotees at the entry and Exit points.
9. Spitting inside & outside the premises and chewing of PAN /Ghutka is strictly prohibited.
10. The person with SARI / ILI like symptoms shall not be allowed inside. Other vulnerable group of people such as person with co-morbidities, old age persons, pregnant women or children below 18 years of age are advised not to visit religious institutions.
11. The above guidelines shall be followed scrupulously by all concerned until further order. Any deviation will attract withdrawal of this permission for that institution.


9/8/21
Commissioner

Memo No. 64821 /BMC, Dated. 9.8.2021 /

Copy to the Commissioner of Endowment, Bhubaneswar / Additional Commissioner, BMC / Secretary, BDA, Bhubaneswar / ADM, Bhubaneswar / Sub-Collector, Bhubaneswar / All ZDCs, BMC / for information and necessary action.


Dy. Commissioner (Covid-19)
Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation

Memo No. 64822 / Dated. 9.8.2021

Copy to Representatives of all religious institutions/ Executive Officer Lord Lingaraj Temple for information and necessary action with a request for strict adherence of the instructions contained above..


Dy. Commissioner (Covid-19)
Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation

Memo No. 64823 / Dated. 9.8.2021

Copy to DCP, Bhubaneswar for information and necessary action. He is requested to instruct all ACPs/IICs to keep coordination with the Zonal DCs and religious institution authorities for adhering to the instructions above.


Dy. Commissioner (Covid-19)
Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation

Memo No. 64824 / Dated. 9.8.2021

Copy submitted to the Addl. Chief Secretary & Special Relief Commissioner, Odisha for kind information.


Dy. Commissioner (Covid-19)
Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation