Minutes of Meeting of the State Executive Committee held in the Forest Bhavan, on 7th April 2020

On 07/04/2020, a meeting of State Executive Committee (SEC) was held under the Chairmanship of Chief Secretary (also Principal Secretary, PWD), Goa and all the following members attended:

1. Shri Puneet Goel, Principal Secretary, Science and Technology
2. Shri SK Bhandari, Secretary, Transport
3. Shri Sanjay Kumar, Secretary Revenue, Member Secretary, SEC & SDMA

The following officers also attended the meeting as special invitees:
1. Shri Jaspal Singh, IGP
2. Daulat A. Hawaldar, Secretary, Finance
3. Shri Subhash Chandra, PCCF
4. Shri Kunal, CEO
5. Ms. Nila Mohanan, Secretary, Health
6. Shri PS Reddy, Secretary, Fisheries
7. Shri J. Ashok Kumar, Secretary, Tourism
8. Shri Sanjay Grihar, Secretary, Panchayats
9. Shri C.R. Garg, Secretary, Law
10. Shri Kuldeep Gangar, Secretary, AH & Veterinary
11. Ms. Isha Khosla, Secretary, Civil Supply.

After deliberation on the current situation, the SEC noted and decided the following:

1. The SEC discussed the possibility of making the COVID-Relief Fund tax-free. The Secretary, Finance to take up the issue with appropriate authority.

2. The Secretary, Health informed that all test results received for the 29 cases in the past 24 hours were negative. The Secretary, Health informed that the new Rapid Testing Machines have been installed in GMC, new Asilo Hospital in Mapusa and Sub-district Hospital, Ponda. The new Rapid Testing Machines installed in Azilo and Ponda were also used simultaneously on some patients, to validate the test results vis-a-vis GMC machine test results for the same patients. One expert from NIV is now in Goa (he was got by a special flight organised by Naval authorities on 6th April) to handhold the GMC testing team for conduct of tests as per prescribed procedures.

3. The Secretary, Health also informed that all the positive patients are stable and are not showing any severe symptoms. She also shared that the Government of India had issued certain instructions on the use of ventilators for the best utilisation of the
resources. The SEC advised the Secretary, Health to follow the professional advice of the Ministry of Health, G.O.I.

4. The Secretary, Health informed that the planned House-to-House survey would start from 13th, till 15th April. The training for the staff engaged will be taken up this week. The SEC also asked the Secretary, Health to issue a press release to address any apprehension in the mind of Government servants or the public who are participating in the House-to-House survey which will be app based.

5. Secretary, Civil Supply informed the SEC that supply of essentials is normal. On the implementation of PM Garib Kalyan Yojana (PMGKY), the Secretary, CS informed that the free rice distribution would start from 08/04/2020. However, the pulses from NAFED would arrive by 10/04/2020. Secretary, Civil Supply was asked to get information about the LPG as per the scheme from the oil companies.

6. The Secretary, Finance informed that 73,000 Jan Dhan Accounts have received the first installment of Rs. 500 through DBT.

7. District Observers also informed the SEC that most of the grocery shops are open and people are following safe distancing norms. There is no rush at these shops.

8. Secretary, AH & Veterinary informed the SEC that the requisite sensitivity is being maintained towards animals whether they are stray or otherwise and all complaints are being attended to. NGOs and individuals have come forward and supported the cause wholeheartedly. The Secretary, AH & Veterinary further informed that non-governmental Veterinary doctors have agreed to augment the efforts of the Government.

9. Secretary, Agriculture informed that the supply of milk, availability of fruits and vegetables is normal. He has also informed that harvesting of crops has started. As per his knowledge, 19 Harvesters are available in the State, however, only two have sought permission which has been granted. The Horticulture Corporation is procuring fruits and vegetables from the farmers for distribution through its outlets. Parallely, the Agriculture Department is also distributing the seeds and fertilizers for the next crop. He observed that agriculture work has normalised.

10. Secretary, Civil Supply informed that the RCS has received complaints about overcharging for 2-ply and 3-ply masks. The SEC directed DFDA to take the necessary action.

11. The SEC reviewed the supply of water and electricity. Both essential services are satisfactory. CE (Electricity) informed that the current state’s electricity demand is around 30% less than the average demand.

12. The Secretary, WCD informed that the department is in compliance with the recent Hon’ble SC directions on the Orphanage and Juvenile Homes. The Counsellors are
visiting such institutions, regular medical check-up is being done and all requisite precautions are being taken. The SEC directed to take all requisite measures in this regard for this vulnerable group.

13. IGP informed the SEC that 5,865 violations of lock-down have been reported and legal action have been taken including filing of FIRs and that the Law and Order situation is in control.

14. Secretary Tourism informed that some of the Hotels have been identified in both the Districts which could be considered for declaring as paid Quarantine Facility. The SEC noted the same and desired that information of all such identified facilities be shared with the concerned Collector, who in turn shall get it inspected along with Health authorities to assess the suitability of the facility for Quarantine purpose.

Committee also conveys 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.

(Sanjay Kumar)
Secretary, Revenue
Member Secretary, SEC & SDMA