Minutes of Meeting of the State Executive Committee held in the Forest Bhavan, on 31st March 2020

On 31/03/2020, 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 invitee:
1. Daulat A. Hawaldar, Secretary, Finance
2. Shri Subhash Chandra, PCCF
3. Shri Jaspal Singh, IGP
4. Shri Kunal, CEO
5. Ms. Nila Mohanan, Secretary, Health
6. Shri Shri PS Reddy, Secretary (Fisheries)
7. Shri. J. Ashok, Secretary, Tourism
8. Shri Parmadiya, DIG
9. Shri C.R. Garg, Secretary, Law
10. Ms. Isha Khosla, Secretary, Civil Supply.
11. Ms. Ankita Anand, Director, IT

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

1. The supply of essential goods in Goa has improved today. However those distributors, wholesalers, and retailers who are yet to start functioning, be asked to open their establishments. Director (Civil Supply), DMs, SPs, Executive officers of Municipalities and Panchayats to take all necessary measures to facilitate the opening of these establishments.

2. Secretary, Civil Supply shall also examine the inventory of distributors, wholesalers, and retailers to assess the bottlenecks and shortages. RCS raised the issue of shortage of goods vehicles. The SEC has already empowered the Secretary, Civil Supply to requisition any KTC buses or private transportation. Director, Transport and RCS shall report to her to remove any transportation weak links.

3. RCS also raised the issue of shortage of transportation vehicles to bring ration from other States. Goa has many goods vehicles but some of these vehicles do not have permits to ply across states. U/s 66(3)(n) of MV Act, the permit conditions can be relaxed for any transport vehicle used for such purposes as the Central or State Government may, by order, specify. Transport department shall take immediate measures and issue a suitable order as per law, which should be applicable during the lockdown period.
4. To strengthen the supply of dry ration, all groceries shops in Panchayats and Municipal buildings be kept open.

5. In Industrial Areas, labourers are moving out in search of ration due to inadequate number of open groceries shops. To overcome this difficulty, Secretary, Civil Supply shall coordinate the running of Mobile Groceries Shops by Market Federation/Cooperative Societies. SEC has earlier noted that coordination of adequate food supply in the Industrial Estates areas should be done by MD, GIDC. MD, GIDC was asked to provide a list of labour, manpower and assistance required to Secretary, Civil Supply.

6. IGP informed the SEC that 132 trucks entered Goa with essential goods in the six hour period during the night. This was likely to ease the supply bottlenecks that many shops/restaurants are facing in Home-delivery of groceries/food. It is expected that the movement of trucks will get better with time.

7. SEC asked Secretary, Panchayat and DMA to work out the modalities of allowing the sale of vegetable/fruits/eggs ensuring social distancing norms.

8. Secretary, Health informed that 200 ventilators are to be procured immediately at the cost of about Rs. 15 crore for the use at GMC or other health facilities. The SEC decided that the requisite amount be reimbursed from the DMF of North District.

9. After meeting their requirement, both Collectors should release any additional staff requisitioned for election purpose, especially of those departments who are providing essential services.

10. Secretary, Health also informed SEC that Goa would receive 10,000 N95 masks, and 1,000 PPE by air courier service of Gol. However, the supply of PPE is much less than what was asked for.

11. Director, Civil Supply shall ensure that all FPS shops are open. However, all necessary safeguards of social distancing to be followed.

12. SEC also directed to all concerned that permitted activities should be allowed including the operations of export oriented units functioning in Goa.

13. To facilitate inter-state movement of essential supplies, the SEC also decided to allow Chairman, MPT and Director, Airport, Dabolim to issue necessary Passes for their own staff and workers performing essential works/services.

14. Representatives of the Drugs and Chemist Association raised the concerns that a few transporters have brought the supply of medicines but are not further distributing the stock to retailers. SEC directed Director, FDA to take up with such establishments to ensure easy availability and free flow of medicines and other medical essentials.
15. Banks continue to function as banking is also an essential service. The SEC also decided that cooperative banks should also be open from tomorrow. However, the cooperative banks shall enforce all the prescribed safety measures of social distancing.

16. Some of the employees of Pharmaceutical employees are not coming to the factory due to fear and social pressure. However, Pharama industry of Goa is catering to the whole nation and has been kept as essential service. We may provide all help to these Pharma industries for ensuring the availability of the requisite workforce.

17. SEC also decided to start Groceries-on-Wheel and shall roll out in the South district on 1st April 2020. Secretary, Civil Supply will coordinate with the Collector, South. IGP will provide necessary support. The sale of groceries should also be undertaken in the North district, thereafter.

18. On www.goaonline.gov.in, the SEC has also decided to make a facility available for people to obtain limited duration Transit Passes to facilitate buying of groceries and medicines. The number of passes to be restricted and staggered to ensure the norms of social distancing.

19. Collectors and SPs shall facilitate the movement of Bank Staff/Banking Correspondents etc., so that cash transfer approved by the GoI and State Government can be availed by the people.

20. SEC also decided to permit Collectors to directly lift relief material from the Civil Supply godowns under the Open Market Sale scheme. Secretary, Civil Supply to facilitate the same.

21. The SEC also clarified that Milling is a permitted activity. The milling establishments are allowed to perform.

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