

No. CD-II-13/5/2020-CD-II (e-85466)  
Government of India  
Ministry of Women and Child Development

Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi  
Dated 03<sup>rd</sup> May, 2021

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

**Subject: Covid-19 related arrangements at Anganwadi Centres for Pregnant Women & Lactating Mothers and Children, AWWs/AWHs - regarding.**

In order to eliminate possibilities of spread of Covid-19 pandemic and for ensuring best possible safety from Covid for Pregnant Women & Lactating Mothers and Children, Anganwadi Workers and Helpers, ASHA and AXM, being run or supported by this Ministry with the help of State, UT and District Administrations, the following directions are hereby issued with request for ensuring their immediate and compliance:

- i. All physical spaces, furniture, furnishings, equipment etc. in Anganwadi Centres are to be sanitized regularly and on continued basis, with special attention and care towards such portions/ parts/ furniture/ furnishings/ equipment etc. therein which get more frequently physically touched, used or visited. Special care should also be taken for full Covid hygiene in cooking, eating, storage and toilet facilities in such set ups;
- ii. Hand sanitizers and soaps are to be kept readily available for use by all at such facilities/ institutions/ set ups;
- iii. Wearing of face masks is to be ensured in relation to all AWWs/AWHs/ASHA/AXM staying or working at Anganwadi Centres. In this regard it must be ensured that these face masks are of such design and are worn in such manner that they are able to effectively prevent spread of Covid-19, including by being suitably tight fitting, with adequate protective layering, and by way fully covering nose, mouth and the nearby area on a person's face;
- iv. Regular Covid testing of women and children and AWWs/AWHs is to be ensured, with special care and promptness if there are any symptoms, even if such symptoms are initial, so as to ensure timely detection and treatment where needed.
- v. All prescribed protocols and measures relating to quarantine, isolation, treatment etc. are to be necessarily followed in cases of persons who test positive or who show any symptoms of Covid, even if such symptoms are initial;

  
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- vi. All provisions as may be available for social security and well-being of beneficiaries and AWWs/AWHs are to be ensured to be made available to them on time. This should include providing of social security pensions, insurance cover etc. as available within the scope of various government schemes and programs.
2. It is requested that these directions may kindly be circulated for immediate compliance to all District Collectors/ District Magistrates and other concerned field authorities, (CDPOs and DPOs) for compliance with immediate effect.
3. Guidelines issued by Ministry of Home Affairs vide **OM No. 40-3/2020-DM-I (A) dated 23<sup>rd</sup> March, 2021** have also to be adhered to.
4. This issues with the approval of Competent Authority in the Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India.

  
03/05/2021  
(Dr Harmeet Singh)  
Director

**To**

1. Chief Secretaries/ Administrators. (All States/ UTs).
2. Additional Chief Secretary/ Principal Secretary/ Secretary, Women & Child Development/ Social Welfare/ Social Justice. (All States/ UTs).