

BANGALORE MEDIATION CENTRE

(An initiative of the High Court of Karnataka)

“NYAYA DEGULA”
H. Siddaiah Road No.
Bengaluru - 560 027

BMC/22/2020-21

Date: 28.05.2020

NOTIFICATION

BASIC PROTECTIVE MEASURES AGAINST THE COVID-19 DURING THE BMC HOURS IN BMC PREMISES

The COVID-19 is a pandemic and it requires to be contained. There are several measures which can be adopted by Judicial Officers, staff of Mediation Centre to get protected from being infected by COVID-19 during office visit, some of which are mentioned below:

The Central Government has extended the lockdown till 31.05.2020, still COVID-19 looms large. Keeping in view the interest of staff, mediator/coordinator, advocates, litigants, and public, the Bangalore Mediation Centre has resolved to resume mediation work online from 1.6.2020 with certain norms until the spread of COVID-19 is controlled / until further orders. The following norms will have to be strictly followed by all the stake holders:

1. Only 50% of Group-C employees shall be put on duty during the working hours on alternate days. The Director, Bangalore Mediation Centre (BMC), in case of any exigency, shall have discretion to call additional staff members in Group-C. However, all the staff members belonging to Groups-B and D shall be on duty.
2. All the members of the staff are directed to take a serious note of the advisory separately issued to the Judicial Officers and the members of the staff of the BMC. All the precautionary measures set out in the Advisory shall be scrupulously followed.

3. Judicial Officers, Staff, and Mediators entering the BMC premises shall mandatorily wear face masks and hand gloves all the time and shall use the sanitizer as indicated in the health Advisories already issued and web hosted (<https://karnatakajudiciary.kar.nic.in>) and social distancing to be maintained compulsorily. Further, Police and Security staff entering the BMC premises shall wear face masks compulsorily.
4. The Mediation proceedings will commence only through video conference.
 - a) On receiving the calls from BMC and on clicking on Video Meeting link / or any other mode, any device will be able to connect to the Video Meeting/Call initiated from the BMC for that matter. As the link will be sent to only the advocates representing the parties in the matter or / and parties. Only the advocates and concerned parties will join the meeting/call to participate in the mediation proceedings. The advocates and parties will ensure that the link is not forwarded to any other advocate/person not connected with the matter.
5. After fixing the date of cases for Mediation in phased manner, the concerned Advocates, parties and Mediators will be intimated by BMC.
6. Memo to takeup/advancing the cases for mediation, if any, in urgent matters shall be moved through BMC e-mail for online Mediation. Further, they will be communicated the date and time of online mediation.
7. The entry of litigants, advocates and visitors to the BMC precincts is completely prohibited, until further orders.
8. Use of masks in BMC premises is compulsory. The mask should be proper and clean. After entering the BMC premises / Nyaya Degula premises everyone is requested to wash their hands with liquid soap frequently and clean their hands by using an alcohol based hand rub products like gel or sanitizer, which shall be provided by the BMC.
9. The Staff and Mediators shall undergo thermal screening test before entering into BMC premises and anyone who is found to have fever or symptoms of COVID-19 at the time of inspection / screening will not be allowed to enter the BMC premises.

10. The staff/Mediators/Co-ordinators of BMC are hereby directed to download Arogya Sethu Application to ascertain the Corona infected persons around them. Self assessment has to be made every day. No one with symptoms of cough, fever, running nose etc., should be allowed entry in the Bangalore Mediation Centre. Only those who are asymptomatic will be allowed entry. Persons with such symptoms shall be immediately informed to visit the nearest Government Dispensary or Hospital.
11. Further the officers / officials who have been on any kind of leave and has left the Headquarters on or before 24.3.2020 while reporting to duty for the first time shall get examined themselves before the Doctors in the High Court Dispensary and as per the Medical Advise if necessary they must be ready to undergo compulsory Home Quarantine for a period of 14 days.
12. A written declaration be obtained from Mediators entering BMC for Mediation, indicating that in the recent past, they have not travelled to any other State or any other country or to any other District in the State of Karnataka which is notified as containment zone.
13. The unit head shall take steps to sanitize the BMC premises once in a week.
14. The first sanitization shall be done before the re-opening of the BMC, i.e., on or before 01.06.2020.
15. Canteens located at the basement of the Nyaya Degula Building shall be kept closed until further orders.
16. Any infraction or non-cooperation in implementation of the guidelines may result in immediate closure of the BMC as ordered by the Hon'ble Chief Justice, Patron-in-chief / Hon'ble Committee of BMC on the basis of the report furnished by Unit Head.

Note:

- a) Please remember that entrants to BMC are not only responsible for their own safety, but also for the safety of their family and colleagues at the workplace. Please note that if they do not take necessary precautions, the others may suffer.
- b) The safeguards prescribed above are not exhaustive. In addition to the above safeguards, all the stake holders shall be strictly adhered to follow other safeguards as prescribed in the High Court Notification dated 21.04.2020 and Advisory for High Court, District Courts and Trial Courts in the context of Covid-19 in Karnataka dated 16.05.2020; Version-2.

BY ORDER OF HON'BLE COMMITTEE, BMC

(Shubha Gowdar)
Director
Bangalore Mediation Centre