

## Sri Sathya Sai Seva Organisation-India

AIP Circular-47 Dated 02-06-2020

### **Sub: Further Guidelines for the Organisational activities**

Dear Brothers and Sisters

Sai Ram

It must be Divine will that India is still getting into Lockdown 5.0 with a gradual unfolding of Unlock 1.0 as per Central Government Guidelines. It is also a reality that several State Governments have issued different guidelines and as such there is no uniformity in terms of instructions. Each state is issuing guidelines which are appropriate to their local circumstances.

We have from the onset of the Lockdown given instructions to cease all activities of the Organisation which require the congregation of 3 or more persons as was required by law as enunciated at the beginning of the lockdown. I must appreciate that all states have fully cooperated and clearly followed the instructions with great discipline which is the hallmark of our Organisation.

As the situation unfolded and the need was felt we have commenced the Community kitchens in all states and more than a hundred kitchens have served the needy all along and are continuing to do so even today. We have been sharing the data with each other from time to time. Thousands of tonnes of food grains have been distributed by our Organisations in the various states in India. The most admirable fact is that all this was done without jeopardising the health of the Sevalal members and without exposing them to contamination at any time.

The Organisation with Swami's Grace and blessings stood the test of time. Now that there is a likelihood of a gradual opening of the lockdown and as such I need to share with you the following new guidelines for the members of the Organisation.

- 1) In anticipation of the Central Government and the respective State Governments permitting the opening of places of worship, we should initiate a proper disinfection of all Sai Centres and Samithi Centres before we permit devotees to enter these centres. This is to be done only if the concerned state government permits the spiritual and religious places to open up.

2) In continuation of point No 1 above, draw up detailed protocols for devotees who come for Darshan at the centre.

- a) For personal sanitization at the time of entry and exit of such centres.
- b) Set up protocols for social distancing during the visits of the devotees at the centre.
- c) All instructions in relation to sanitization and social distancing must be displayed in the local language at all such Sai Centres and Samithi centres where devotees are likely to access.
- d) There should be sufficient numbers of volunteers to enforce the instructions.
- e) Do not start Bhajan Centres where congregations are not permitted by law. Please check with the local authorities before you do so.

3) In cases where Seva activities are required in the light of the pandemic, we should allow only Sevadal who are less than 50 years of age to embark upon Seva projects in the area. Children and senior citizens will not be involved in any activities whatsoever. Such Seva Dal must have the permission of their families to step out for Seva. The District President and State President must ensure that there is real time concurrence of the family for the Seva Dal to step out for Seva. Sevadal must wear the scarf while stepping out for any Seva project in the village, town, city. We must emphasise that the scarf of the Organisation is a Divine protection of our Master. In the meantime let us continue with the Seva of distributing cooked food and Amrut Kalashams wherever it is required and necessary. I have to request you to diligently continue to spread the awareness of precautions in your state so that people can take care of themselves by practicing caution and face the new normal behavior patterns required to face the pandemic.

4) As far as the medical activities are concerned, please note that we shall start the activities if the Doctors and paramedics who are volunteers are willing to do so. The same protocols as mentioned above for Sevadal members will be strictly followed for these medical activities. These medical activities will also be commenced in those areas where the state government permits and without violating any law.

Other instructions in respect of cessation of sai activities will continue till further review of the situations in each state.

Finally you will have to inform me in advance in writing before you embark upon any of the above activities in your state, district or Samithis.

Please share with all in your local languages.

Loving Regards

Yours in His Service

Nimish Pandya,

All India President

Sri Sathya Sai Seva Organisations India

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