Media Bulletin of the Hon’ble Chief Minister for the Prevention and Control activities on Corona Virus Disease (COVID-19) in Tamil Nadu

After the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) was declared as Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC), the World Health Organization declared it as Pandemic on 11.03.2020.

Due to the intensive efforts undertaken by the Government of Tamil Nadu, there are no Positive cases of corona virus disease in the state. The Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu instructed to undertake the following precautionary activities to prevent the spread of infection to Tamil Nadu from neighbouring states.

- At present, passengers from foreign countries arrive in Tamil Nadu through four international airports, namely Chennai, Coimbatore, Madurai and Trichy. The Hon’ble Chief Minister instructed to identify suitable places close to the airports, for quarantining the passengers, if needed as provided by the guidelines circulated by the World Health Organisation.

- The Hon’ble Chief Minister also instructed the Revenue department, Police department, Transport department and Health department officials to immediately step up monitoring, prevention and cleaning activities in all the interstate border check points on war-foot basis.

- The Hon’ble Chief Minister announced holidays for all the Kindergarten school children (LKG & UKG) and Primary school children (Class 1 to Class 5) in Tamil Nadu till 31.03.2020.

- The Hon’ble Chief Minister also ordered closure of all the Cinema theatres and Shopping malls in the Taluks of border districts, which include Kanniyakumari, Tirunelveli, Tenkasi, Theni, Virudhunagar, Dindigul, Coimbatore, Tiruppur, Nilgiris, Erode, Dharmapuri, Krishnagiri, Vellore, Tirupathur, Ranipet and Tiruvallur districts and will remain closed till 31.03.2020.

- The Chief Minister ordered to allocate Rs. 30 crores to the Health and Family Welfare Department, Rs. 5 crores to the Transport Department, Rs. 4 crores to Greater Chennai Corporation, Rs. 6 crores to the Municipal Administration and Water Supplies Department, Rs. 5 crores to the Rural
Development, Rs. 2 crores to the Town Panchayats Department, Rs. 3 crores to the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments, Rs. 2 crores to School Education Department and Higher Education Department, Rs. 0.5 crore to Social Welfare Department and Rs. 2.5 crores to the District Collectors totalling Rs. 60 crores from State Disaster Management Fund to intensify the coronavirus disease prevention activities.

- The Hon’ble Chief Minister also directed to carry out disinfection and cleaning activities in all places of mass gatherings like cinema theatres, shopping malls, temples, churches, mosques, etc. and directed the Rural Development Department and Municipal Administration and Water Supplies Department to appoint Special Officers for monitoring the above activities.

- The Hon’ble Chief Minister also ordered the Commissioner of Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments to spread awareness among the people visiting temples, mosques and churches on the prevention of coronavirus disease and to step up measures to monitor and restrict people with symptoms of cough, fever and breathing difficulties from attending the events, with the assistance of Health Department.

- The Hon’ble Chief Minister ordered the District Collectors and district monitoring officers in the cadre of senior IAS officers to monitor all the prevention and control activities carried out in the districts.

- The Hon’ble Chief Minister ordered that funds for the all the above activities shall be met from State Disaster Management funds and National Health Mission funds.

- The Hon’ble Chief Minister also ordered the Commissioner of Revenue Administration to integrate all line departments and carry out the Coronavirus prevention activities in a co-ordinated manner.

- The daily reports of activities shall be submitted by the District Collectors to the Commissioner of Revenue Administration, who will compile and submit the reports every day to the Hon’ble Minister for Health and Family Welfare and the Hon’ble Chief Minister.

- The Hon’ble Chief Minister also instructed the Hon’ble Minister for Health and Family Welfare to frequently brief the Media about the preventive measures being undertaken by the Government.
The Hon’ble Chief Minister also requested the public to undertake the following precautionary measures.

- The general public are advised to refrain from travelling other states, participating in social/religious/mass gatherings for the next 15 days.
- Elderly persons, people with chronic illness, children, and those with poor immunity are advised to avoid travelling.
- All people should follow personal hygiene, especially washing their hands with soap and water after entering their house at frequent intervals.
- People are advised not to touch their face, mouth or nose without washing their hands.
- Parents are advised to restrict their children from playing in groups and to wash their hands frequently.

The Hon’ble Chief Minister requested the people to co-operate with the Government for all its preventive efforts and utilise all the services provided by the Government Hospitals for successful prevention of Coronavirus disease.