No. 40-3/2020-DM-I(A)

Dear Chief Secretary,

Kindly refer to Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) Order of even number issued today by which guidelines for surveillance, containment and caution have been issued.

2. As you are aware, the number of active and new cases in the country, have been declining steadily over the last 4 months. However, there is a need for maintaining caution and strict surveillance so as to fully overcome the pandemic.

3. All activities have already been permitted except for a few which have been permitted with certain restrictions. In view of the improved situation in the country, and requests received from the stakeholders, those restrictions in the new guidelines are being removed subject to revised SOPs. With regard to social/ religious/ sports/ entertainment/ education/ cultural/ religious gatherings, guidelines for their regulation will be issued by State/ UT concerned. With regard to activities on cinemas and theatres, swimming pools and exhibition halls, revised SOPs will be issued by Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports and Department of Commerce respectively in consultation with MHA before 1st February 2021.

4. I would like to reiterate that the essence behind the graded re-opening and progressive resumption of activities is to move ahead. However, the SOPs prescribed for different activities, as updated from time to time, shall be strictly enforced by authorities concerned, who shall be responsible for their strict adherence. It is further reiterated that there shall be no restriction on inter-State and intra-State movement of persons and goods, including those for cross land-border trade under Treaties with neighbouring countries.

5. I would urge you to ensure the compliance of the aforesaid guidelines and direct all authorities concerned for its strict implementation. Further, guidelines issued by MHA and consequent Orders issued by the respective State Governments/UT Administrations should be widely disseminated to the public and to the field functionaries for implementation.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

[Ajay Bhalla]

Chief Secretaries of all the States
(As per Standard List attached)