



**GOVERNMENT OF KERALA**

**Abstract**

Disaster Management Department - Covid19 - Rapid Antigen Testing of families Below Poverty Line and Front line Workers - Sanction accorded - Orders issued

**DISASTER MANAGEMENT (A) DEPARTMENT**

**G.O.(Rt)No.888/2020/DMD** Dated,Thiruvananthapuram, 04/11/2020

Read:- Minutes of the Crisis Management Group meeting held on 3-9-2020

**ORDER**

The Crisis Management Group meeting held on 3-9-2020 decided to authorize the District Collectors to identify and conduct rapid antigen tests for BPL( Below Poverty Line )in the State. It is also deemed necessary to routinely test the front line workers involved in Covid-19 pandemic management.

2) Accordingly, Government are pleased to issue the following directions . All District Collectors shall :

1. Identify Influenza like illness - fever, cough, sore throat, breathlessness, diarrhoea, loss of smell or taste, fatigue and conduct rapid antigen tests of families Below Poverty Line in the State. The members of the families need not pay the cost of testing
2. Conduct routine rapid antigen tests of front line workers - health care workers, ASHA, Revenue, Civil Supplies, Police & LSGD functionaries, volunteers involved in Covid-19 pandemic management in the State, on a routine basis to ensure the safety of front line workers. The front line workers need not pay the cost of testing.
3. Conduct at least 100 rapid tests per day per district from among the vulnerable (age) 60 years, persons with comorbidity, pregnancy, severe malnourished children) from BPL( Below Poverty Line) in the State and front line workers with rapid antigen test kits available in private sector without burdening the testing facilities and kits available in Government Sector.
4. If the Government Laboratories are having a time lag to do test and provide results, in such scenario the sample may be tested through state approved Antigen Lab at cost of Rs. 625/- only inclusive of all taxes for each test conducted for the families Below Poverty Line in the State and front line workers.
5. In the first phase the District Collectors shall take steps to adopt a fee-based (Rs.625/- per head) testing system at the testing centres arranged at Railway Stations and Check Posts.
6. The Collectors are permitted to utilize funds made available vide GO (Rt) No.

623/2020/DMD dated 15-7-2020 for the purpose.

7. Maintain a separate database of tests conducted for families Below Poverty Line in the State and front line workers and tests done through Government Laboratories and approved Private Laboratories and submit the daily report to Health Department and Disaster Management Department.

(By order of the Governor)

**DR. A JAYATHILAK IAS**  
**PRINCIPAL SECRETARY**

All Additional Chief Secretaries/ Principal Secretaries/ Secretaries

All Heads of Department

Commissioner, Land Revenue, Thiruvananthapuram

Commissioner, Disaster Management, Thiruvananthapuram

All District Collectors

The Principal Accountant General (Audit) Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram

The Accountant General (A&E) Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram

The Member Secretary, KSDMA, Observatory Hills, Vikas Bhavan P.O,  
Thiruvananthapuram.

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Digitally signed by JAYACHANDRAN K P  
Date: 2020.11.04 17:05:23 IST  
Reason: Approved

Section Officer