

Order under section 144 of the Code of Criminal Procedure 1973

Whereas it has been made to appear to me that there is likelihood of causing threat and havoc due to the prevailing Covid-19 outbreak. Covid -19 outbreak is affecting vast population irrespective of age and location. However the infection can be controlled with strict and timely precaution. The Government of India have issued specific and accurate guideline in social distancing, mass gatherings, treatment and quarantine of people who have returned to India from the countries where Covid-19 is declared to have transmitted locally. Apart from the general guideline, there are strict directions from Government of Kerala in connection with limiting the number of any gathering to 20 or below . Obedience of these orders are vital in controlling this disease.

Whereas, quarantine of the probable person is the key element in controlling the outbreak and it has to be strictly adhered to by the people as directed by health authorities. However, even after repeated intimation , directions are not being followed by quarantined people, thus making the disease control unmanageable. In this situation it appears to me that it is unavoidable to impose more restrictions as directed by the Central and State Governments to tackle the outbreak.

Whereas, as per GO (MS) 48 of 2020 , dated 21.03.2020, Government of Kerala have authorized District Magistrates to invoke provisions of section 144 Cr.P C , as and when required to prevent spread of Covid-19 epidemic.

Whereas, as per GO (MS) 54/2020 H&FWD ,dated 21.03.2020, Government of Kerala have notified Kerala Epidemic Diseases , COVID-19 Regulations 2020 and also authorized the District Administration to invoke necessary restrictions to prevent the spread of the epidemic.

Whereas, Wayanad District is sharing boundaries with Karnataka and Tamilnadu states and also with Kannur , Malapuram and Kozhikode districts of the state.

Heavy traffic flow to wayanad at this time causes serious threat to the general public in the event of outbreak.

Instruction were given from this office to the general public to refrain from public gatherings and to reduce the number of participants in such unavoidable events. But from the reports received from the District Police chief , District Medical Officer and Sub Divisional Magistrate , Mananthavady, it is revealed that in many occasions the above mentioned instructions are not complied with and also that such violation create panic in the society.

The gist of the reports received is that there were many huge gatherings of public at cultural festivals and ceremonial occasions , sports grounds ,markets ,shops ,place of worship etc .In many instances FIR's were filed against the violators. While social distancing is the most effective method to control spread of this disease ,violators of such institution has to be seen very seriously and it appears to me that stringent action have to be taken against those who violate the lawful directions issued in this regard.

Whereas I'm of the satisfaction that,immediate and speedy preventive action is essential to prevent the approaching imminent danger.

Hence ,I , Dr. Adeela Abdulla I A S , District Collector and District Magistrate, Wayanad in exercise of the powers conferred, upon me 144(1) ,(2) and (3) of Criminal Procedure Code 1973, do hereby prohibit the following activities in Wayanad District with effect from 23.03.2020.

- 1) Gathering of people more than 5 at any time in any public place
- 2) All cultural festivals, religious congregations,ceremonial functions
- 3) Gathering at all places of worship, all group competition and tournaments and playing in the ground
- 4) All types of processions
- 5) Entry to Tribal colonies
- 6) Non essential travel inside of the District
- 7) Marriages and housewarmings

8) All shops except those which provide essential commodities like food, medicine, healthcare, groceries, drinking water, fodder, farm fruits and vegetables, processed food items, fuel, milk, telecom, ATM, Bank, Post Office. However there should be social distancing between the customers arriving in these shops and it is the responsibility of the shop management to ensure it. In order to ensure that they can use the assistance of police if necessary.

In view of the emergent nature of the order, it is being issued ex parte and it is addressed to the public in general u/s 144(2) Cr.P.C. Henceforth, the police shall not give any permission for mikes or processions in anywhere in Wayanad District. The District Police Chief is directed to take necessary criminal action as per relevant sections of IPC and Cr.P.C, if anybody violates the above provisions. District Police Chief is also directed to take stringent actions against people violating quarantine directions issued by the health department.

This order shall be promulgated by affixing the copies in various Government Offices, public places in the locality and the site itself.



To
The District Police Chief, Wayanad
Sub Divisional Magistrate, Mananthavady
Copy to
All the concerned

Ad
23/03/2020

District Magistrate
Wayanad
District Collector &
District Magistrate, Wayanad