PRESS NOTE

12th May, 2020

Citizens must cooperate and adhere to decisions taken by the administration

Gandhinagar, Tuesday: Director General of Police Mr. Shivanand Jha urged citizens to cooperate and strictly adhere to the decisions taken by the administration. He emphasized on self-care and cooperation as one of the most prominent measures for preventing the spread of COVID-19.

Talking about the arrangements to ensure that people reach their homes safely, Mr. Jha said that the Railway Ministry has started special trains for migrant workers as well amongst other train services. The tickets will only be available online, hence only those with confirmed e-ticket will be allowed at the railway station as no tickets are available at the ticket counter. It is mandatory to wear a mask and maintain social distance.

For passengers arriving at the airports, Mr. Jha said that the Health Department has laid down several guidelines to be followed diligently. Citizens returning from abroad will have to complete the quarantine period under the vigilance of the police. Violation of quarantine will result in strict legal actions. Travelers are requested to stay in quarantine and complete the quarantine period before meeting their families and relatives.

The police have been on their toes to ensure strict enforcement of the lockdown but few cases have come to light where individuals who have been permitted to supply essential goods are engaging in smuggling of certain items. A case has been registered by police in Sola, Ahmedabad against one such individual for selling tobacco in lieu of milk. In another case, a person smuggling tobacco in a vegetable transport vehicle was booked in Rajkot. Similarly, two accused were arrested and their vehicle was seized for carrying liquor worth Rs.1.92 lakh at Songadh check post in Tapi district.

Throwing light on the significant use of drones and CCTV during the lockdown, Mr. Jha said that, the cities and towns are being thoroughly observed through drone surveillance. 201 crimes have been registered through drones. A total of 22803 people have been arrested for 12444 offenses to date. Meanwhile, under the Smart City and VISWAS project, 100 individuals have been arrested for 98 crimes reported through the CCTV network tallying up to 4,256 individuals for 3130 crimes. Additionally, 678 crimes have been registered so far and 944 people have been arrested through CCTV’s in residential societies.

Similarly, for spreading fake messages and rumors through social media, so far 768 crimes have been registered and 1584 accused have been arrested. 726 accounts have been blocked so far. 198 and 42 offenses have been registered through videography and automatic number plate recognition (ANPR), respectively. A total of 1,221 offenses have been registered with the help of mounted cameras on special 'Prahari' Van.

Cases that have been registered so far include 2,008 of the violation of lockdown, 752 against those violating quarantine, and 448 other cases. 5,794 vehicles have been seized in the state, added Mr. Jha. Police. So far, 2,23,266 detained vehicles have been released.