PRESS NOTE

16th May, 2020

Police personnel are on toes to curb the spread of COVID-19: DGP

Gandhinagar, Saturday: Director General of Police Mr. Shivanand Jha said that the lockdown is being followed diligently in the third phase. The police have made proper arrangements to ensure social distancing at all places including those where relaxations have been given.

The fight against corona will be unsuccessful without the support of the citizens, hence it is necessary for people to adhere to guidelines issued by the Government for their safety. Grocery stores, vegetable and fruit vendors, etc. are functional with social distancing guidelines in all areas other than red zones as well as containment areas. Police are keeping a close watch on these places to ensure that social distancing is being followed. Sale of pan-masala and tobacco continues to be prohibited. All sales and services except emergency services will remain closed from 7 pm to 7 am. Legal action will be taken if shops are found to be functioning beyond stipulated. Citizens must not loiter unnecessarily and only step out for essentials.

Agriculture and allied activities have been exempted from lockdown to ensure that food supply is constant and farmers' crop is not wasted away. Also, industries are functioning with limited employees. Employees of both sectors are not being stopped by the police officers.

The state police condemn the misuse of passes and permissions. A case came to light wherein a wedding was allowed to take place with only 30 individuals who must follow social distancing. But on checking, the police found out that the wedding had 90 attendees and social distancing was not being followed. Legal action has been taken against the organizer.

Corona warriors including government employees, medical staff, revenue and municipal corporation employees, cleaners, police personnel, etc. are working day and night for the welfare and safety of the people. Hence, misbehavior and attacks on corona warriors will lead to strict actions being taken against them. Rather, citizens should appreciate them and boost their morale in this difficult situation.

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. 185 crimes have been registered through drones. A total of 23808 people have been arrested for 13235 offenses to date. Meanwhile, under the Smart City and VISWAS project, 106 individuals have been arrested for 101 crimes reported through the CCTV network tallying up to 4650 individuals for 3504 crimes. Additionally, 726 crimes have been registered so far and 1004 people have been arrested through CCTV surveillance in residential societies.

Similarly, for spreading fake messages and rumors through social media, so far 810 crimes have been registered and 1666 accused have been arrested. 771 accounts have been blocked so far. 7388 offenses have been registered so far through videography, automatic number plate recognition (ANPR) and camera mounted special 'Prahari' Van.
Cases that have been registered so far include 1829 of the violation of lockdown, 635 against those violating quarantine, and 293 other cases. 4987 vehicles have been seized in the state while 2,41,542 detained vehicles have been released so far.