



COVID-19 (nCorona) Virus Outbreak Control and Prevention State Cell

Health & Family Welfare Department

Government of Kerala

ADVISORY FOR PERFORMANCE ARTISTS AND PROGRAMMES (INDOOR AND OUTDOOR) IN THE CONTEXT OF COVID-19

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Performance arts like music, theatre, dance etc are an essential part of the culture and heritage of the society. The COVID-19 pandemic has disrupted the performance art industry, both as companies and as individuals and is one of the slowest industries to recover from the impact.

Performance arts, both indoor and outdoor attract large gatherings and may act as an amplifier for the transmission of COVID-19. Considering the necessity to revive the community in general and kick start the performance industry with measures to prevent transmission of COVID in these settings the following advisory is being issued.

COVID 19 transmission dynamics is closely related to the 3 Cs

1. **CLOSED SPACES** with poor airflow.
2. **CROWDED PLACES.**
3. **CLOSE CONTACT settings** with face to face contact.

In order to start the performance art, the following preventive measures should be put in place to ensure that the 3Cs which are closely related to COVID 19 transmission dynamics gets addressed.

To prevent the spread of COVID-19 infection, it is important to ensure that standard operating procedures at all indoor and outdoor venues are followed meticulously.

All the personnel involved in maintenance of infrastructure and conduct of art performance Cinema and artists shall take precautions such as prior COVID testing and subsequently, they may follow COVID appropriate behaviour and take following measures and precautions.

1. It is advisable that the performances and programmes of such artists are done outdoor where there is plenty of ventilation. The maximum attendance shall be restricted to 200.

2. If Indoor performances are being arranged, the organisers should ensure that there is plenty of ventilation in the indoor space. Fifty percent occupancy of the indoor space capacity should only be permitted subject to maximum 100 seats.
3. In both Indoor and outdoor performances, the following activities should be ensured:
 - a. Entry to the performance should be made with prior registration so as to plan the arrangements accordingly.
 - b. The gathering should observe physical distancing of at least 6 feet. They should wear face coverings/masks, observe respiratory etiquette and hand hygiene.
 - c. There should be more than 5 metres distance between the performers and the audience.
 - d. Screening for symptomatic persons at the point of entry should be done.
 - e. It is preferred not to serve food and beverages. If at all they are served, it should be served outdoors, if served indoors there should be adequate spacing between seats (6 feet). There should not be overcrowding at the dining table or while waiting in buffet queues. Sharing of food items should not be permitted.
 - f. Physical distancing should also be observed in bathrooms/wash rooms. There should also be adequate ventilation in bathrooms/washrooms. There should be adequate soap and water for hand washing. The bathrooms/washrooms should also be disinfected frequently.
 - g. Disinfection of seats, arm rests, hand rails door knobs should be done before and after each performance.
 - h. High touch surfaces like hand rails, door knobs etc should be disinfected frequently.
 - i. Performance artists and crew members should also observe physical distancing, wearing of masks and frequent hand hygiene. They should also do symptoms screening and get themselves tested if found symptomatic.
 - j. Transportation vehicles (both artists and crew and audience) should also observe COVID protocol of physical distancing, seating and disinfection of high touch services besides other infection prevention measures.
 - k. Performance equipment should also be disinfected using appropriate disinfectants. Technicians and handlers should observe frequent hand hygiene.

Hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette

- All staff, performance viewers to use sanitizer that contains at least 70% alcohol and cover their coughs and sneezes.

Masks

- Universal masking of all support staff, viewers are necessary. Everyone should wear masks.
- All should maintain physical distancing of 6 feet.

Symptom screening

- Those with symptoms of fever, cough, myalgia, headache, anosmia etc should not be allowed.
- Symptomatic staff also should seek medical attention or stay at home till symptoms abate.

Physical distancing

- Ensure that the adequate physical distance (at least 6 feet) is maintained
- Discourage huddling and coming in a group

Signages

- Signages with regard to SMS [soap, mask, social distancing] and SOPs to be followed should be displayed at all vantage points.

Cleaning and disinfection

- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces after each show using 1% bleach solution For example: handrails, slides, and structures for climbing; lounge chairs, tabletops, and door handles and surfaces of restrooms, handwashing stations and showers
- Consult with the company or engineer that designed the venue to optimize air flow.

Ventilation

- Ensure that ventilation systems of indoor spaces operate properly. Increase air turnover or outside air exchange before shows.
- Increase introduction and circulation of outdoor air as much as possible

Modified layouts

- Change layouts to ensure that in the seating areas, individuals can remain at least 6 feet apart.

Physical barriers and guides

- Ensure staff, program viewers stay at least 6 feet apart during ticketing , entering and coming out of the venue

Common spaces

- Stagger use of common spaces and clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces at least daily and shared objects before and after each time they are used.
- Discourage activities, such as eating in common spaces that require removal of masks.



Principal Secretary