GOVERNMENT OF MEGHALAYA EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

No. EDN.7/2021/7

Dated Shillong the 27th January 2021.

NOTIFICATION

Consequent upon easing out of Covid-19 situation, while observing Health protocols as issued by the Government of Meghalaya and in consultation with Principals of various Institutions, the following advisory is issued for strict compliance by all Higher Educational Institutions in Meghalaya.

1. **Opening of Colleges-1**st February 2021 onwards, Classes are to be held in blended mode (online/offline) -This will include lesson transaction, assignments, on-line interaction, counselling, etc.

Academic Calendar for all Classes will be as per Academic Calendar to be prepared and circulated by NEHU.

The Generic preventive measures to be followed are:

- 1. Parental consent for attending offline classes is mandatory. Attendance must not be enforced and must depend entirely on parental consent.
- 2. College Administration shall consult with the stakeholders prior to reopening of Classes i.e. Parents, District Health Officials and Local Community.
- 3. The College authorities are empowered to take any decision pertaining to closure of offline classes in an event of any suspected COVID-19 cases in consultation with Health Officials.
- 4. The college authorities are empowered to design a daily plan and duration of classes conforming to Covid-19 protocols.
- 5. A Blended approach of 3 days classes (minimum) and 2 days for home assignment may also be considered to reduce the exposure.
- 6. Physical distancing of at least 6 feet to be followed as far as feasible.
- 7. Use of face covers/masks to be made mandatory.
- 8. Frequent hand washing with soap and use of alcohol-based hand sanitizers.
- 9. Respiratory etiquettes like covering one's mouth and nose while coughing/sneezing with a tissue/handkerchief/flexed elbow to be followed.
- 10. Prior to resumption of activities, all work areas intended for teaching/demonstrations etc., shall be sanitized with 1% sodium hypochlorite solution.
- 11. Colleges that were used as quarantine centres should be properly sanitized.
- 12. The Colleges should display State helpline numbers and also numbers of local health authorities etc. to teachers /students / employees to contact in case of any emergency.
- 13. Appropriate backup stock of personal protection items like face covers/masks, visors, hand sanitizers etc. shall be made available by management to the teachers and students.
- 14. Ensure availability of sufficient covered dustbins and trash cans and Provision for proper disposal of used personal protective items and general waste (available at: https://cpcb.nic.in/uploads/Projects/Bio-Medical-Waste/BMW-GUIDELINES COVID_1.pdf
- 15. Housekeeping employees to be informed & trained about norms for waste management & disposal.
- 16. Entrance to have mandatory hand hygiene (sanitizer dispenser) and thermal screening provisions. Multiple gates/separate gates, if feasible, should be used for entry and exit.

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- 17. Posters/standees on preventive measures about COVID-19 to be displayed prominently.
- 18. Proper crowd management should be followed, and entry of visitors should be strictly regulated/restricted.
- 19. Sharing of items like notebook, pens/pencil, eraser, water bottle, etc. amongst students should not be allowed.
- 20. Regular Cleaning and disinfection (using 1% sodium hypochlorite) of frequently touched surfaces Provision of soap in toilets and hand sanitizers in other common areas in sufficient quantity must be ensured.
- 21. Teaching materials, computers, laptops, printers, shall be disinfected with 70% alcohol wipes.
- 22. Students should not be involved in any of the cleaning activities for health safety reasons.
- 23. If a student, teacher or employee is showing Covid-19 symptoms, they should be advised to stay home and follow necessary protocols in this regard.
- 24. Hostel opening guidelines are being circulated separately.

This notification shall come into force with immediate effect till further order.

Sd/-

Shri D.P.Wahlang,IAS Addl. Chief Secretary to the Government of Meghalaya, Education Department.

Memo.No.EDN.7/2021/7

Dated Shillong the 27th January 2021.

Copy to:

- 1. P.S. to the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Meghalaya, for his kind information.
- 2. P.S. to the Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister of Meghalaya, for his kind information.
- 3. P.S. to the Hon'ble Minister of Education, Government of Meghalaya, for his kind information.
- 4. P.S. to the Chief Secretary, Government of Meghalaya, for his kind information.
- 5. P.S. to the Additional Chief Secretary, Government of Meghalaya, Home (Political), for her kind information.
- 6. The Commissioner & Secretary to the Government of Meghalaya, Health & Family Welfare Department, for information.
- 7. The Vice Chancellor, North Eastern Hill University, Shillong for information and necessary action.
- 8. The Director of Health Services (MI), Meghalaya, for information.
- The Director of Information and Public Relation, Meghalaya, with a request to publish this notification in all the leading newspaper.
- 10. All the Deputy Commissioners, Meghalaya, for information.
- 11. All Superintendent of Police, Meghalaya, for information.
- 12. Principals of all Colleges in Meghalaya affiliated to NEHU for information and necessary action.
- 13. Web Administrator, Education Department.

By Order, etc

Under Secretary to the Government of Meghalaya,
Education Department

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