

SRI AUROBINDO ASHRAM TRUST

Pondicherry – 605002, India (+91-413-2233628)

05.05.2020

EXTENSION OF LOCKDOWN – III

- 1) The Government has extended the Lockdown until 17th May 2020 in order to contain the spread of COVID-19.
- 2) At the same time, the Government has also permitted the opening up of various sectors of the economy under strict conditions and after implementation of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) to minimize the risk of contagion.
- 3) Unfortunately, the number of cases in neighbouring Tamil Nadu continues to rise. Over 170 persons have tested positive for COVID-19 yesterday in the two adjacent districts of Cuddalore and Villupuram.

Ashram Departments and Farms

- 4) In view of the potential risks involved, and the possibility of a further increase of cases in the coming days, it has been decided that there will be no significant change in the decisions conveyed in our earlier notices dated 08.04.2020 and 16.04.2020 (attached below).
- 5) Only a few additional departments are planned to be opened in a phased manner to address certain pressing needs of the community. These departments will only open after due medical sensitisation sessions are held for the Ashramites and employees involved. Such departments are being identified and the concerned Department in-charges are being contacted individually for SOP training.

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- 6) Hence, except for Departments and Farms which are currently involved in providing Essential Services, and a few additional Departments which are being contacted individually, all other Ashram Departments will remain closed until further notice.

Domestic Helpers

- 7) We strongly recommend that all Domestic Helpers be asked not to come to work. They will continue to be given paid-leave, and should be advised to stay in their homes for their as well as your safety.

Food Arrangements

- 8) With regard to food arrangements:
- a. Provisions have been distributed to all Ashramites for the month of May.
 - b. A number of Ashramites have been shifted to Ashram Guest Houses where cooked food is being provided.
 - c. Additionally, a few elderly persons who have been facing difficulties at home are being delivered cooked food.
 - d. Milk, Bread, Eggs, Vegetables, and Fruits will continue to be delivered twice a week to all Ashramites. An alternative plan to provide cooked food through “satellite” distribution centres will be implemented once the situation on the ground improves.
 - e. If anyone is having difficulties with cooking food, they should contact the Ashram Helpline (numbers below), so that a suitable solution can be worked out.

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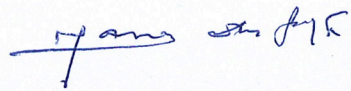
Miscellaneous

- 9) The Government has ordered that all persons below the age of 10 and above the age of 65 should remain at home, unless they are involved in providing essential services, or if they need to come out due to medical reasons.
- 10) Ashramites should stay in their place of residence and not venture outside needlessly.
- 11) The Government is enforcing a curfew between 7pm and 7am. Except for those involved in providing essential services, all others should remain strictly at home during this time.
- 12) Kindly note that wearing a face mask in public places is mandatory. Also, riding pillion on two-wheelers is prohibited. These are finable offences.
- 13) Abhipsa is the designated coordinator and point of contact for the Ashram's response to the COVID-19 crisis. All volunteering efforts should be routed through her.
- 14) Members of the community may call the Ashram Helpline numbers for any queries or assistance during this period:

95972-92595

94870-63008

95971-92595


MANOJ DAS GUPTA
Managing Trustee
SRI AUROBINDO ASHRAM TRUST
PONDICHERRY

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16.04.2020

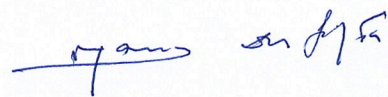
EXTENSION OF LOCKDOWN

- 1) The Government of India has extended the Lockdown across India until 3rd May 2020 in order to contain the spread of COVID-19.
- 2) Therefore, the decisions communicated vide our earlier notice dated 08.04.2020 (attached below) remain unchanged for now.
- 3) **Under the circumstances, it will not be possible to hold the usual Darshan Day program on 24th April this year.**
- 4) **A separate notice will be issued with details for downloading the the Darshan Message card, and the online links for the Darshan meditations.**
- 5) The system put in place for delivery of Provisions, Prosperity items, Medicines, and essential Food supplies will continue.
- 6) All are requested to continue to follow the Government's directives with regard to staying at home and maintaining social distancing whenever you need to step out to collect essential items.
- 7) Members of the community may call the Ashram Helpline numbers for any queries or assistance during this period:

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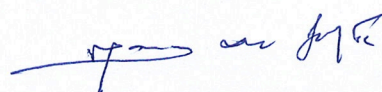
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08.04.2020

GENERAL INFORMATION UPDATE

In view of the ongoing efforts to combat COVID-19 across the country, please be informed that:

- 1) The Ashram Main Building will remain closed until further notice.
- 2) Ashram Guest Houses will remain closed and will not accept any new guests until further notice.
- 3) The Ashram Dining Room will remain closed until further notice.
- 4) Except for those providing essential services, all other Ashram Departments will remain closed until further notice.
- 5) Sri Aurobindo International Centre of Education (SAICE) will remain closed until further notice.
- 6) Further updates will be shared on the Ashram's official website:
www.sriaurobindoashram.org
- 7) For any other information or queries, you may contact:
Chaitanya: 98941 21244
Devdip: 98947 02595
Satya: 96774 28459


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